



Nuestro Mundo Public Charter School

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

July 11, 2022

Present: Dr. Heather Allcock, Steffy Molina, Lydia Perez, Ray Watson, Chris Sanford, Ana Perez

Also Present: Katie Cardamone, Joe Maruszczak, Patty Lavoie, Erick Pagan, Danira Ortiz

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm

The agenda for the meeting was approved unanimously (motion by S. Molina, seconded by L. Perez)

Interview of Principal/Head of School Finalist Candidates & Deliberations

The NMPCS Principal Search Committee selected two finalists, Danira Ortiz and Erick Pagan. Both candidates went through an initial interview with the committee and then were asked on a separate occasion to respond to a performance task. Both candidates have done very well through the process and each has distinct leadership qualities.

H. Alcott started with the first question for Erick. Erick shared his background which can also be found in the packet attached. He shared that as a person of color, Puerto Rican, he can identify with our students and he has extensive experience with Dual Language.

A.Perez asked the next question on Erick's background and experience as a leader. Erick shared he has 12 years of experience and that he is a warm demander. He mentioned his experience with MTSS, SEL and SPED.

C. Sanford asked the next question and asked Erick to explain MTSS to a parent who might not be familiar with it. Erick explained the acronym and the tiers of MTSS. The follow up was where would he keep current with DLE best practices. Erick answered he is a professor at Lesley University and will be up with

R. Watson asked a question on empathy which Erick related to NM's vision of global citizenship and DLE.

S. Molina asked a question about building community. Erick answered that he knows the community, speaks the language and would engage parents as a part of the learning community and give them a space to sit at the table. As well as leverage to the Spanish language in communication. S. Molina asked a follow up question on what would be the specific plan. Erick discussed committees

H. Allcock asked a question on the school's budget. Erick discussed curriculum materials and programs he has directed and to look at investing in instructional decisions that work best for students.

Dr. M concluded the questions and asked if Erick had any questions for the Board. Erick asked what the Board was looking for in a leader. R. Watson shared that we are looking for a leader that provides innovative experiences that you might not normally have in this neighborhood. Connections with community, professional and political role models. H. Allcock would like a continued level of transparency around decision making- fiscally, facilities, and instruction.

Danira joined early at 6:55 and introductions were made again. The same questions were asked and Danira shared her greatest passions are family engagement and dual language. She partners with a lot of community organizations/resources in supporting families in life and language opportunities. She would follow up with monthly meetings. She likes to do home visits, uses class dojo to connect with 100% of families. She has experience running the budget as a principal in Woonsocket. She sent a remaining balance email every two weeks, she never went over budget and she would also work on fundraising. Teamwork with teachers and families is important to her, she would collaborate on how to spend the budget. Fair isn't always equal, so she would distribute the budget where it was needed more. In terms of academics, Danira would continue NM practices (she was very aware and did her HW on what was already being done) as well as add to this support and make common planning time consistent and sacred.

Danira's questions for the Board were only that she apologized for her poor internet connection.

S. Molina started the deliberation with the fact that Danira had more action items instead of just theory. H. Allcock appreciates Erick's experience, expertise, but Danira had more substantive and actionable answers that were more relevant to NM. A. Perez agreed with the above statements and thought Danira spoke to the level of Board members/parents and had better communication skills. R. Watson thought especially in the area of empathy, Danira was stronger in that she understood empathy and gave concrete examples of what that looked like in a school and with her own children. It was not clear that Erick understood empathy. H. Allcock agreed.

A formal motion and vote for appointment of Danira Ortiz for Principal/Head of School was approved unanimously (motion by H. Allcock, seconded by R. Watson and L. Perez)

Board Chair and Officer Positions for the 2022-23 School Year

Heather has indicated that she will be stepping down as Board Chair as of last June 30. The Board will reorganize on an annual basis. For the coming school year, the Board will need to nominate and vote on the following positions:

- Chair- TBD
- Vice Chair - TBD
- Treasurer - D. Moscarelli continues
- Secretary - C. Sanford

A.Perez will also be a signer on the Navigant Credit Union account.

A formal motion and vote for appointment of C. Sanford as secretary was approved unanimously (motion by H. Allcock, seconded S. Molina)

H. Alcock asked what the budget implications are of Dr. M coming on as a consultant. He answered that covering hiring and employee salaries, there would be money in the budget for his position.

A formal motion and vote for appointment of Dr. M as a consultant was approved unanimously (motion by H. Allcock, seconded by R. Watson and L. Perez)

A motion and vote for approval of Tara Craft as a new Board member was approved unanimously (motion by H. Allcock, seconded L. Perez)

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 pm. (Motion by A.Perez, seconded by R. Watson)

Respectfully submitted,
Katie Cardamone

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