



*Nuestro Mundo Public Charter School*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

April 28, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Remote Virtual Meeting: Available via Zoom

Present: Board Members: Heather Allcock, Ph.D.  
Nuria Alonso García, Ph.D.  
Steffy Molina  
David Moscarelli  
Lydia Pérez  
Carmen Rolón, Ed.D.  
Seth Zeren  
Absent: Ana Barraza

Also Present: Katie Cardamone, Program Director  
Joseph Maruszczak, Ed.D., Supt/Executive Director

7:00 pm Call to Order by N. Alonso García

7:01 pm Approval of Agenda/Minutes Unanimously approved (motion by C. Rolón, seconded by L. Pérez)

7:03 pm Superintendent/Executive Director's Report

*Update- Enrollment*

Enrollment is going well, Dr. Maruszczak explained that we had 256 applicants and we are now getting in touch with families on the waitlist. We may still have to do some recruitment for first and sixth grade. We have two orientation nights, the first tomorrow evening. And another one May 13th.

*Update- Hiring*

NM is reaching out to many places to recruit teachers. Two teachers have been hired: a first grade teacher who is in the NYC public schools, and a 6th grade teacher who is currently teaching in the Boston Public Schools. Mrs. Cardamone added that we also are working on additional hiring possibilities due to the difficulty of finding bilingual opportunities, such as the Visiting Teachers Program. Work being done with Nuria and her graduate students also resulted in four interns from PC working with NM during the spring and summer.

*Final Approval May 11th*

A vote will be taken at the Council meeting on May 11th. We have a meeting with the OAG tomorrow morning. We are working with George Steere, an accountant and former charter school business manager on the five year projected budget. We also must submit the updated executed lease for approval. Sage Environmental continues to take samples and has found the source of the VOCs and we can work with SAGE and DEM on a mitigation project.

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Also, the timeframe for each topic is a general guideline and may not be strictly adhered to.

<http://nuestromundopcs.org>



## *Nuestro Mundo Public Charter School*

### *Community Outreach Activities - SPNA*

NM collaborated with the South Providence Neighborhood Association to hold two events for neighbors of the proposed school facility, 17-21 Gordon Ave. One was in person and one will be virtual on May 6th to give residents of South Providence the choice of which to attend. President of the SPNA, Dwayne Keys, organized the events and facilitated a Q and A for neighbors to ask Dr. Maruszczak, Mrs. Cardamone and Kite Architects questions on the facility. Members of our Family and Community Engagement Committee also attended in support. Thank you to Lydia and Ana for attending the in-person event. It was very positive with neighbors interested in the opportunities NM would provide. Councilman Pedro Espinal also spoke in favor of an opportunity for dual language English Spanish education and that NM had shared data with him that showed many families from South Providence are enrolled in the school.

7:30 pm        New Business

### *Featuring NM Board of Directors - Steffy Molina*

Steffy shared her templates for a social media campaign: 'Get to know the Board Members'. Once the Board approves the design and the photos and shares a bio, Steffy will put these on the Nuestro Mundo Instagram, FB page, and our website.

### *Nuestro Mundo Community Engagement Project- Nuria Alonso García*

All are invited to a culminating project of the students in Nuria's *English Applied Linguistics* course at PC that was co-taught by Katie. The Community Engagement Project is a storytelling project that students in the course put together by curating cultural and linguistic biographies based on interviews of the founding group and prospective parents of Nuestro Mundo. Hope to see you at the Exhibition on Monday, May 10th!

### *Final Construction Plans of 17-21 Gordon Avenue*

Dr. Maruszczak shared the screen to show the final stamped construction plans. Kite Architects has been wonderful to work with and we look forward to seeing the plans take shape and having a wonderful educational space.

Steffy shared about her tour of the building and the use of the different spaces and utilizing nearby parks for PE. We have flyers up at the building announcing 'the future home of the Nuestro Mundo PCS.

Discussion was held on connections with the Met, Alvarez High School, two public city parks, and reaching out to Jill Plain on the use of the city parks for physical education classes.

### *Approval of Amendment to Lease for NMPCS*

Some changes and updates were made to the lease, some at the request of the Office of Auditor General (OAG) and some by the landlord and we have worked with our lawyer, landlord, and architects to complete the shared exhibits.

Seth asked about the building permits and Katie answered that the owner and architects are managing that. He asked about the Landlord/Tenant Work Scope and items such as furniture. Katie answered that although that is typically not associated with construction costs, the owner is supporting us in all areas, including his staff of designers, etc.

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Also, the timeframe for each topic is a general guideline and may not be strictly adhered to.

<http://nuestromundopcs.org>



*Nuestro Mundo Public Charter School*

Dave asked a question on a plan B if the construction is not ready. Joe answered that we would have to develop a delayed start to the school year.

Carmen asked about our responsibility to pay for the ramp. Katie answered that since there is already a lift that meets the code for a disabled entrance, the addition of the ramp was in the tenant scope of work.

Seth asked about playground equipment and Katie answered the landlord has committed to donating the equipment.

*Approval of Amendment to Lease for NMPCS: Unanimously approved (motion L. Perez, seconded by S. Zeren)*

8:00 pm      *Community Comments*  
No community comments

8:00 pm      Future Agenda items

- Funds from the American Act that we may be eligible for.

8:15 pm      Adjourn (motion by C. Rolon, seconded by N. Alonoso Garcia)

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Cardamone

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Also, the timeframe for each topic is a general guideline and may not be strictly adhered to.

<http://nuestromundopcs.org>