Evergreen Charter School
Virtual Meeting of the Board of Trustees
605 Peninsula Blvd, Hempstead, NY 11550
February 26, 2025

8:00 pm

The meeting was held at 605 Peninsula Boulevard

Members:

Mr. Gil Bernardino	**Present**
Dr. Sarah Brewster	**Present**
Ms. Nancy Iglesias-Gillen	**Present**
Ms. Yvonne Mowatt	**Present**
Ms. Gladys Rodríguez	**Present**
Mr. Luis Ras	**Present**

Also present:

Dr. Elena Litescu, 2-4 Principal, Superintendent
Ms. Lisett Knox, Director of Finance and Operations
Ms. Christine Weigand, Principal K-1
Ms. Atia Pasha, Principal 2-4
Ms. Emma Collado, HS Principal
Mr. Nicolas Agosti, DCI/MS
Ms. Christine Civitano, HS AP
Ms. Temeka Godbolt, MS Principal
Mr. Brian Hill, DCI ELA 6-12
Mr. Sabato Torres, DCI STEM 6-12
Mr. Shaun Skariah, Director of Special Education

Note: As always, the Board Meeting was conducted in English and Spanish.

I. Call to Order
By President, Mr. Gil Bernardino

Mr. Bernardino welcomed everyone.

III. Superintendent's Report By Superintendent, Dr. Elena Litescu

Benchmark 1: Student Performance

- The Subsequent Diagnostic of i-Ready for Math and Reading was completed and ended on Friday, February 14, 2025.
- The HS Seniors started making group visits to colleges nearby.

Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning

- Classroom observations continue to be conducted, formal, informal, and walkthroughs. The outcomes are recorded on the Teachboost platform and the feedback is provided promptly by the Administration to the teachers whose lessons were observed.
- On 2/14/25 the entire district hosted in all four schools a ½ day of professional development. The topics presented were:
  - Elementary School – Purposeful Playing
  - Intermediate School – Closing the Academic gaps and Tiered Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms
  - Middle School – Increasing students engagement in the classroom and implementing Higher Order Thinking Questions & Discussions.
  - High School – Regents' teaching, planning, and prepping and setting Regents specific SMART goals.
- Celebrations of Read Across America Day will take place on 3/3/25;
- Staff will celebrate Spirit Week and Dress like a Book Character Day, the same week.
- Interim assessments for ELA and Math were conducted in the MS and HS.
- The DCIs created a testing schedule.
- SpEd teachers generated a schedule to ensure all testing accommodations are provided as per IEP and 504 plans.
- Based on the data collected from scoring the intermediate assessments, practice exams, and i-Ready 2nd diagnostic the small groups will be readjusted to ensure our students get a high level of customization of instruction.
- Small groups instruction continues as scheduled in all schools.
- ES and IS students made trips to the local library.

Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement:

School Climate and Culture Evaluation

- Students in K-5 grades celebrated National School Choice and they generated a nationally recognized video. The PE teachers handed out gifts to the students.
- At the MS PBIS points are used to promote student's positive behavior.

Behavior Management and Safety

- ECS staff has been showing their dedication on Safeguarding of the Rights of our Immigrant Students.
- No Nonsense Nurturing and Restorative Justice practices continue to be implemented for correcting students' behavior.

Family Engagement

- Several ceremonies, i.e. Purple awards at the ES and IS levels, at the HS a concert for celebrating BHM, at the MS Student and Teacher of the month, and at all four schools the Perfect Attendance ceremony and families were invited to attend these events.
- Events and any changes in the schedule had been communicated to all families through School Messenger.

School Clubs

- Evergreen continue to participate as planned in athletics activities which the Athletic Director oversees.

McKinney-Vento & Unaccompanied Minors

- Evergreen is launching a collaboration with Ideal uniforms to increase the support provided to the students in these circumstances.

SEL

- The Kids Heart Challenge fundraiser began on 2/3/25.
- National School Breakfast week will be celebrated the week of 3/3/25.

Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity

School Leadership

- Administrative and faculty meetings took place as scheduled.

Professional Development

- DCIs provide guidance and coaching to MS and HS teachers to implement various teaching techniques and strategies.

Staff Feedback

- Teachers in all schools participated at the end of the ½ day of PD in a survey providing their feedback.

Contracted Services

- ELA and Math consultants continue to provide professional development and coaching in person to the teachers.

Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design

- Students and staff are reminded daily during the Morning Assemblies of the ECS mission.
- Evergreen will apply to participate in the Tree Planting Program provided by the Long Island Re-leaf Committee.
- In all schools staff continues to enforce the ECS nutrition policy. Students are provided daily breakfast and lunch. Evergreen recognizes that healthy nutrition plays a critical role in increasing the cognitive function, their energy levels, and the their ability to learn effectively.

- Black History Month was celebrated in all four schools throughout the month of February, celebrating individuals for their contributions, traditions, and heritage. These celebrations culminated with a celebration hosted at the HS and attended by the Hempstead Mayor, Mr. Hobbs, Dr. Brewster, and Mr. Bernardino.
- All teachers detail when creating their lesson plans, how they'll implement the mini-workshop model.

There were none.

IV. Questions and Comments from the Public related to Principal and Directors reports:

None.

V. Director Finance and Operations Report
By Ms. Lisett Knox, Director of Finance and Operations

Benchmark 4: Financial Condition

- Tuition billing 3 of 6 for this current school year was sent out on December 20, 2024. No payments have been received for this billing yet and we have received all tuition payments for billing 2 of 6 with the exception of 2 districts. Those districts that are late paying us are Uniondale and Copiague.
- We have submitted all claims for meals served to students from September through January to The Child Nutrition Administration totaling $447,051.00 and we have received all reimbursements totaling the same amount.
- We are still waiting for a response from NYSED regarding the Title IIIA application submitted in August of 2024 in the amount of $48,167.00.
- Our IT department is in the process of completing a survey related to our e-Rate program application for next year.

Benchmark 5: Financial Management

- All financial reports through January 2025, including all bank reconciliations for statements received, have been submitted to our Board of Directors and School Administrators.
- The ECS Parent Association accounts show the following balances based on the statement received January 10, 2025. Savings $50.64 and checking $2,799.98.

Benchmark 9: Enrollment

- We currently have 1173 students enrolled and attending our school and 2 students going through the registration process to reach full enrollment of 1175 students.

VIII. Approval of Minutes

Resolved the Board of Trustees approves the minutes January 29, 2025

Motion: Trustee Sarah Brewster
Second: Trustee Yvonne Mowatt
Vote: 6:0

IX. Reading of the Resolutions:

The resolutions were read in English and Spanish. Resolutions were explained.

X. Questions and comments from the public related to resolutions:

There were none.

XI. Voting of the Resolutions:

Benchmark I:

1. **Be it therefore resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the following proposals under Teaching and Learning:**

	Who Proposes	What	When
a	Ms. Nanci Graff	Institute for Educational Development one day seminar, *"Strengthening Your Pre-K to 2nd Grade Students' Executive Function Skills"*	Fri 4/4/25
b.	Ms. Atia Pasha	Requesting an Summer School in person Program for grade 2.	Summer of 2025
C.	Ms. Temeka Godbolt	Requesting approval for an in Person after school tutoring program for students in 5D.	March TBD

Motion: Gladys Rodriguez
Second: Luis Ras
Vote:6:0

Benchmark VII: Organization Capacity (include new staff here, improvement of systems and protocols)

2. **Be it therefore resolved**, the Board of Trustees approves the following new staff:

(Some of these were approved earlier this month. This resolution ratifies their approval).

Name	Position	Building	Effective
Edison Campana	Custodian	Peninsula	TBD
Bergany Edouard	Facilities Maintenance Manager	Business Office	02/14/2025
Robert Collazo	Facilities Maintenance Director	Business Office	TBD
Rosa Lanas	Receptionist	Peninsula	TBD
Raquel Hernandez	Kitchen Assistant	Peninsula	03/01/2025
Patricia Espinoza Lopez	Chef/ Home Ec Teacher	HS-Laurel Ave	TBD
Doris G. Bonilla	Lunch Aide	Peninsula	TBD
Norma Salguero	Kitchen Assistant	HS-Laurel	TD
Alima Sanogo	Business Office/Payroll Specialist	Office Building	TBD
Yu Chin Hsieh	Senior Staff Accountant	Office Building	TBD
Alejandra Pinto	Receptionist	Office Building	TBD

Employee position and Salary Changes:

Employee Position and Salary Changes:

Name	Current Position	New Position	Effective
Marina R. Guardado Serrano	Part-Time Kitchen Cleaner	Full-Time Kitchen Cleaner	03/01/2025
Krystallee Perez	Payroll Coordinator	Business Office/Payroll Assistant Director	02/16/2025
Maria E. Trevino	Administrative Assistant	Fiscal Office Assistant	02/16/2025
Jesus Garcia	Full-Time Custodian	Full-Time Maintenance Sup.	02/16/2025
Jorge Garavito	Full-Time Maintenance Sup. Same Position		02/16/2025

Motion: Yvonne Mowatt
Second: Gladys Rodriguez
Vote: 6:0

3. **Be it therefore resolved**, the Board of Trustees approves the opening of 33 Laurel Avenue, Hempstead, New York, as the site for its new secondary school.

   The site will open for school operation pending completion of all inspections including local and NYSED Charter School office approvals.

   This property is the site of Evergreen Charter School's new Secondary School that is made up of two properties formerly known as 27-33 Laurel Avenue and 37 Laurel Avenue, Hempstead. These sites previously approved by the Board of Trustees and the New York State Education Department Charter School Office.

Motion: Trustee Gil Bernardino
Second: Trustee Luis Ras
Vote: 6:0

4. **Be it therefore resolved** that the Board of Trustees approves the follow conference for Samuel Laloi:

   Request to attend a Data Privacy and Security Conference hosted by RICOne and NASTECH.

   The conference is in Albany and is scheduled or March 26-27.

Motion: Yvonne Mowatt
Second: Nancy Iglesias
Vote 6:0

XII. Questions

There were none.

XII. Additional Reports By Vice President Dr. Sarah Brewster

School Construction:

Trustee Brewster provided an update on construction. The building is nearing completion. We are conducting inspections with the fire marshal this week. An additional inspection with the fire marshal will need to be completed when furniture is moved into the building prior to opening. The floors for the cafeteria on the first floor are being completed. The wood floor in the One World Room on the 4th floor was installed. Tiling for the serving area will be completed over the next weeks. Tiling for bathrooms and grouting is being completed. We are planning the move in the next month and will be working

with administrators to schedule a smooth transition. We will organize tours with students and their families to see the space once we have passed all inspections.

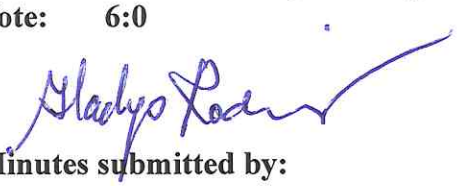
XIII. Old Business/New Business

Mr. Bernardino announced that we will organize tours with students and their families to see the space once we have passed all inspections. We are also planning a community open house.

XIV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at: 8:38 pm

Motion: Trustee Yvonne Mowatt
Second: Trustee Gladys Rodriguez
Vote: 6:0



Minutes submitted by:

Gladys Rodriguez
Secretary