



# MOTT HALL CHARTER SCHOOL

RISE TO THE CHALLENGE  
AN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE CANDIDATE SCHOOL

## Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes October 13th, 2016

A regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees (the "Board" or "BoT") of the Mott Hall Charter School (the "MHCS") was held on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 beginning at 5:30 p.m. local time pursuant to notice duly given.

### Attendance

- The following Trustees were present at the meeting: Jesse Margolis, Natalie Thompson, Karen Bhatia, Matthew Haicken, Emily Harrington (formerly Chepiga), Richard Cohen, Cynthia Lewis
- The following members were absent: Kamoy Smalling, Sarah Calderon
- The following school staff members participated: Bob Lesser, Executive Director
- Bob Lesser recorded the minutes.

### Call to order and Public Comment

After noting that a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 5:40pm.

The Board meeting was held coinciding with the charter renewal public hearing administered by the NYCDOE on behalf of the NYSED. Parents and students from Mott Hall expressed their support for the charter renewal and Board vice-chair Jesse Margolis made the following statement on behalf of the Board:

"As Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees, I would like to say that the Mott Hall Charter School looks forward continuing to serve the Morrisania community by providing a high quality middle school option for families who live here. In Mott Hall, the community has a middle school that is safe. Last year 94% of students on the DOE survey said they feel safe in the hallways, bathrooms, and cafeteria, one of the highest percentages of middle schools in NYC (and well above the citywide average of 83%). We have a middle school that helps students get into top high schools, which on average send 71% of their students on to college (far higher than the Bronx average of 43% or the NYC average of 53%). And, we have a school that is on the upswing academically, with math test scores that exceed the district average and – in 8th grade – even exceed the state average. But, there is much work to be done. We look forward to working in closer partnership with parents, community leaders, and elected officials to ensure that all students who attend Mott Hall continue on to great high schools and are college and career ready when they graduate."

### Board Motions and Approvals

1. The Board reviewed and unanimously approved the September 2016 meeting minutes.
2. The Finance and Audit Committee presented the Audit findings to the full Board and recommended that the Board approve the findings. The Board unanimously approved the Audit findings.
3. The Board reviewed a new slate of officers and unanimously approved the following slate to take effect immediately:
  - Board Chair - Natalie Thompson
  - Vice Chair - Karen Bhatia
  - Treasurer - Jesse Margolis
  - Secretary - Richard Cohen

**Forward Agenda**

1. Revisions to the school's compensation policy
2. Board strategic planning process

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Lesser, Executive Director

APPROVED:

Richard Cones  
Name *Richard Cones* Date 11/21/16  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_