



**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
Annual Board Meeting  
February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees (the “Board” or “BoT”) of the Mott Hall Charter School (the “MHCS”) was held on the above date beginning at 5:40 p.m. local time pursuant to notice duly given.

**Attendance**

- The following Trustees were present via video conference: Karen Bhatia, Francesca Weindling, Dr. Patrick Awosogba, Sandra Lugo, Don Mabrey, and Lyne James Turnbull.
- The following Trustees were absent: Luis Quan and Jason Caldwell.
- The following school staff and guests were present: Connie Lobdell, Principal and Executive Director.

**Call to order, Public Comment and Board Discussion**

- After noting that a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m.
- No public comments.
- The motion was made for approval on January 17th, 2025, minutes
- Renewal Update –
  - Connie Lobdell will send the state report to the Board members for their review and any corrections and/or editing.
  - Connie Lobdell asked Dr. Johnson about the impact on CAP and the representation of ELLs. She said it would have no effect.
  - Recommendations will be made by March via letter.
  - Parts met were reviewed by Connie Lobdell.
- Patrick Awosogba –
  - Issues will be addressed
  - We will review benchmarks at the March Board meeting
- PTA –
  - Had first meeting
  - Had the first fundraiser
  - Had a vote and an agenda
  - What PTA should look like
  - PTA on Recruitment Committee
  - Ambassadors for Board meeting
  - Patrick Awosogba asked what the difference was between DOE and MHCS PTA
  - Connie Lobdell informed us that instead of PTA, it is referred to as PAC (Parent Advisory Committee), and parents work alongside students. A good relationship is maintained with PAC.
  - Immigration Town Hall, with legal counsel at this time, elicited commitment to parents’ participation.
  - Don Mabrey asked if PAC members would attend board meetings, and Connie Lobdell informed us that they would participate in the meetings except for the executive sessions.
  - Parents are invited to Board meetings.
  - Parents need to be allowed to speak with board members and ask questions.
- Enrollment –
  - Maintained at 166 students
  - Competition from other schools

- o Reaching out to 6th-grade parents as to their needs
- o Seeing movement to attend MHCS
- o PAC will assist
- o Asked parents what brought them to MHCS
- o Need to find out or communicate what sets MHCS apart from other charter schools
- o Parents are applying to all charter schools, hoping to get into the one they want
- o Luis Quan's school is setting up meetings
- o Reaching out to other schools
- o Patrick Awosogba asked if it is possible to reach out to other DOE schools
- o Connie Lobdell informed that DOE schools remove them because they don't want charter schools in their buildings
- o There is a lot of competition
- o Students are making presentations
- o Right now, it is about how MHCS stands apart from other charter schools
- o Those charter schools have a lot of suspensions, and many students are not being accepted
- o Parents say MHCS communicates well
- o We need to create an identity that MHCS is a gem in the South Bronx
- o Patrick Awosogba will be glad to get involved and provide support with enrollment. Will work with Luis Quan and Lyne James Turnbull.
- Summer Boost Grant –
  - o Has been offered to MHCS
  - o Around \$65,000
  - o Application for the grant has been sent out
  - o Expecting to be awarded
- Professional Development –
  - o Hiring someone to come in
  - o What will be in place?
- New Hires –
  - o Connie Lobdell met with Josh Moreau regarding teacher replacements
  - o Updating job descriptions
  - o Once the "Intent to Return" letters go out in April, we will have a better idea of how many teachers want to return.
  - o Patrick Awosogba will meet with the Education Committee.

### **The board moved to Executive Session**

### **Board Motions and Approvals**

1. Motion to approve January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, minutes made by Don Mabrey and seconded by Francesca Weindling - Board reviewed and unanimously approved.
2. Don Mabrey moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Karen Bhatia. The board reviewed and unanimously approved it.

### **Adjournment**

1. With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Lugo, Secretary

APPROVED:

Sandra Lugo

Name



Signature

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Date

*All trustee meetings for Mott Hall Charter School are open meetings subject to the NYS open meetings law. While we encourage public participation and provide a designated time for public comment, individuals are limited to two minutes total of public comment each, unless the Board asks for additional feedback. All trustees and members of the public must abide by norms around professionalism and civility in their comments. Complaints against a specific employee or public comments that may reveal confidential information will, consistent with the open meetings law, be handled through our dispute resolution process or may be heard in the executive session.*