

COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL OF PATERSON

MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MARCH 27, 2025

The Board of Trustees of the Community Charter School of Paterson (the “School”) held a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 32 Spruce Street, 3rd Floor, Paterson, NJ 07501.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Tiffany McBride, Vice Board President, called the meeting to order at **0:00 pm**.

2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Dr. Tiffany McBride led all those assembled in a salute to the flag of the United States of America.

3. STATEMENT BY PRESIDING OFFICER

Dr. Tiffany McBride stated: “I hereby announce that adequate notice of this meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Community Charter School of Paterson was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was provided in a timely manner to the official newspapers, *The Herald News* and *The Record*. Copies of this notice were mailed to all persons who have requested that the Secretary of this Board do so.”

4. ROLL CALL

Board of Trustees:

Board President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Michael DeBlasio
Board Vice President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Tiffany McBride
Board Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Boris Zaydel
Board Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ms. Sophia Sample
Board Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ms. Marqweesha Guthrie
Board Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. David Gelman
Board Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ms. Sarina Acosta
CEO/Chief Advocate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Ira Griffith
School Founder Liaison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Robert Guarasci
SBA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Olugbenga Olabintan
Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Flavio Rivera
School Leader	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Andre Smith
Director of Community Schools	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mrs. Natividad Gomez
Assistant School Business Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ms. Sandra Orozco

5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jennifer Califano shared heartfelt gratitude for the CCSP community during one of the most difficult times in her life—the loss of her brother. She expressed that the love, support, and unity she received at CCSP helped bring her back. She gave special shout-outs to T. O’Grady (Assistant School Leader), Tiara Williams, and Andre Smith for being pillars of strength and support. Jennifer reminded us that what makes CCSP truly special is the people, the relationships, and the sense of community that uplifts everyone during both joyful and challenging times.

Holly Murphy, now in her third year at CCSP and her 18th year in education, was invited to speak by Andre Smith. She reflected honestly on her first year, sharing that she initially questioned if CCSP was the right fit. The lack of structure and discipline was difficult, and the overall environment felt overwhelming. But everything began to shift with the arrival of new leadership. Holly credited the new administrative team for bringing clarity, direction, and joy back to the school. She sees students who are excited to come to school, eager to learn, and truly feel valued. She gave a heartfelt shout-out to the administration for the turnaround and for reigniting the CCSP spirit.

Kiara Reels, who began working at CCSP right after high school, has been a dedicated campus aide for six years. She shared that her work brings her happiness every day, and she feels deeply fulfilled helping and supporting students. Under the leadership of Nafeesa Johnson, Kiara feels seen, encouraged, and empowered to grow. She is currently enrolled in college and uses her journey as a way to speak greatness into the lives of the scholars she serves. For the first time, she feels truly valued by her leaders—and that sense of recognition and purpose has fueled her drive even more. Kiara believes our scholars deserve the very best, and she's honored to be part of making that a reality at CCSP.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no report to present.

7. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There was no report to present.

8. CCSP SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Ira Griffith (CEO) and Andre Smith (School Leader) and Natividad Gomez presented a presentation that entailed curriculum, test preparations, academics, enrollment, and community schools updates.

9. TREASURER'S REPORT

No report was presented this month by Flavio Rivera.

10. SECRETARY'S REPORT

No report was presented this month by Olugbenga Olabintan.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Curriculum & Instruction** met on March 17th and discussed routine items included in the resolutions.
- B. Finance & Facilities** met on March 20th and discussed routine F&F items included in the resolutions.
- C. Personnel** met on March 18th and discussed routine personnel items including new hires, status changes and resignations.
- D. Policies & Procedures** met on March 18th and discussed the updated policies.
- E. Grievances** none.

12. RESOLUTIONS/ACTION ITEMS

A. Minutes

- I. FY2025-0327-M-010 Approval of Minutes 2/27/25 Regular Board Meeting**
The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution, as amended.

B. Curriculum and Instruction

I. FY2025-0327-C-009 Approval of Field Trips

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution, as amended.

II. FY2025-0327-C-010 Approval of 2025-2026 School Calendar

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution, as amended.

C. Finance & Facilities

I. FY2025-0327-FF-072: Operations Bill List for March 2025

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution, as amended.

II. FY2025-0327-FF-073: Food Account Bill List for March 2025

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution.

III. FY2025-0327-FF-074: Supplemental Bill List for March 2025

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution, as amended.

IV. FY2025-0327-FF-075: Approval of February/March In-Between Checks and Online Payments (Operational)

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution.

V. FY2025-0327-FF-076: Approval of February/March In-Between Checks and Online Payments (Supplemental)

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution.

VI. FY2025-0327-FF-077: Approval of February 2025 Payroll Reports

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution

VII. FY2025-0327-FF-078: Approval of Vendor Contracts

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution.

VIII. FY2025-0327-FF-079: Approval of 2025-2026 Budget

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution.

D. Personnel

I. FY2025-0327-P-041: Approval of New Hires

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution.

II. FY2025-0327-P-042: Approval of Status Changes

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution.

III. FY2025-0327-P-043: Approval of Resignations & Terminations

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution, as amended.

IV. FY2025-0327-P-044: Approval of Professional Development

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution, as amended.

E. Policies & Procedures

I. FY2025-0327-PP-020: Approval of HIB Report

The motion passed. The Board adopted the resolution.

II. FY2025-0327-PP-021: Approval of Updated Policies

The motion passed for the First Reading. The Board adopted the resolution.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion & Second to Adjourn

The motion passed. Executive Session started at **7:02 pm**

Moved: Mr. Boris Zaydel ▾ Second: Ms. Marqweesha Guthrie ▾ Roll Call:

	MR DeBLASIO	MS. GUTHRIE	MR. GELMAN	MS. SAMPLE	DR. McBRIDE	MS. ACOSTA	MR. ZAYDEL
YEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ABSENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ABSTAINED	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion to Come out of Executive Session:

Moved: Ms. Marqweesha Guthrie ▾ Second: Mr. Boris Zaydel ▾ Roll Call:

	MR DeBLASIO	MS. GUTHRIE	MR. GELMAN	MS. SAMPLE	DR. McBRIDE	MS. ACOSTA	MR. ZAYDEL
YEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ABSENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ABSTAINED	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The motion passed. Executive Session ended at **8:03 pm**

Motion to return to the Public:

Moved: Mr. Boris Zaydel ▾ Second: Ms. Marqweesha Guthrie ▾ Roll Call:

	MR DeBLASIO	MS. GUTHRIE	MR. GELMAN	MS. SAMPLE	DR. McBRIDE	MS. ACOSTA	MR. ZAYDEL
YEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ABSENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ABSTAINED	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion & Second to Adjourn

Moved: Ms. Marqweesha Guthrie ▾ Second: Mr. Boris Zaydel ▾ Roll Call:

	MR DeBLASIO	MS. GUTHRIE	MR. GELMAN	MS. SAMPLE	DR. McBRIDE	MS. ACOSTA	MR. ZAYDEL
YEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

NAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ABSENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ABSTAINED	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at **8:04 pm**