



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 9, 2020 – 4:00 PM

Zoom Video Conference

Meeting ID: 857 0857 6701

Password: 758083

Dial in: +1 646 558 8656

I. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting is being held in compliance with Open Meeting requirements of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act and is open to the public. Notices were duly posted and the meeting was advertised in The Philadelphia Daily News. Formal action will be taken.

II. ROLL CALL

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston Churchill	x		Sanjeev Midha	x	
Emily Ashe		x	Alexandra Panichello	x	
Ira Brind	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Paul Bucco		x	Tom Rebar	x	
Dana Dwirantwi		x	Renee Rosenbluth	x	
James Egan		x	Valerie Schwartz	x	
Charles Freyer	x		Gail Singer	x	
Robert Fox		x	Blair Stambaugh	x	
Valerie Hanraty		x	Wayne Weisman	x	
Esther Kaplin	x		Bonnie Young		x

Also present were John Amenda, Katherine Reinert, Ellyn Saft, Kevin Corcoran, Becca Chazin, Kristin Tini, and Luke Martinez, PICS intern.

III. DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Executive Director

- a Draft reopening plans- Mr. Amenda reviewed the reopening plan as circulated to the Board, noting the hybrid and rotating nature of in class and online instruction. He noted in answer to a question that all standardized testing for the second semester this year was cancelled, but no word on how that will be handled in Spring 2021 is yet available. He included in his report word of additional Chromebook purchases, and in answer to a question stated that the initial Chromebook purchase was reaching the device life term; the machines under the new lease have a \$1 buyout and essentially no market value; the lease was entered into to help manage the school's cash flow into the future. Mr. Amenda also briefly reviewed the extensive notes he had circulated to the Board from the call with Education Secretary Rivera to which he had listened.
- b Summer program overview- The Summer program will focus on newly entering students and run June 29-July 24 from 9-1, and emphasize math and reading, and promote student engagement under these difficult circumstances.
- c Equity and Anti-Racism Committee- The school will be holding equity forums and has formed a committee to promote healing and denounce racism by relooking at all aspects of the school program and curriculum to see how it could be improved to address the situation and give students a safe space in which to react to national and local developments.

- d Virtual Student Showcase- Thursday, June 11- Mr. Amenda strongly encouraged members of the Board to attend the Showcase virtually to demonstrate their interest in student work, and the Graduation Ceremony via Zoom if possible.

2. Finance & Audit Committee

- a Financial Summary- Mr. Corcoran reviewed the very positive numbers in the summary circulated to the Board, noting that he expected the school to end the academic year with an additional \$300K margin to add to the fund balance; the PA state Education budget calls for an increase in per pupil stipends for general education of 7% in the coming year, and 5% for SPED, although that can be changed by the legislature, as has happened in the past.
- b Financial Statements

3. Development Committee

- a 2020-21 Fundraising Materials- Ms. Saft spoke at length about plans for using the Kellogg Mission Tiger Grant as the basis for a fundraising challenge campaign, and if allowed, hosting small gatherings of key (over \$1,000) donors in the Fall. Fundraising packages are on the way to the members of the Board, and should be sent to any friends or colleagues with a potential interest in supporting the school.

4. School Performance Committee- Minutes of the Committee meeting on June 2 were circulated to the Board, rehearsing the overarching goals for the school over the next 3 years in advance of our next rechartering.

5. High School Admissions Committee- Mr. Churchill commented on the resignation of Mr. Dattilo, the college counselor. Mr. Amenda stated he planned to divide those responsibilities among several teachers and the athletic director, and have it become more of a Guidance Counselor role. The Board felt strongly that high school placement should remain a full-time position and spoke very highly of the outreach that Mr. Dattilo had pursued, and the strong results to which it had led.

6. Governance Committee- Mr. Churchill asked again for nominations to the Board

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- By unanimous vote, duly moved and seconded, it was *RESOLVED*, that the Board approve the Regular session minutes from the May 5, 2020 meeting.

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston Churchill	x		Sanjeev Midha	x	
Emily Ashe		x	Alexandra Panichello	x	
Ira Brind	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Paul Bucco		x	Tom Rebar	x	
Dana Dwirantwi		x	Renee Rosenbluth	x	
James Egan		x	Valerie Schwartz	x	
Charles Freyer	x		Gail Singer	x	
Robert Fox		x	Blair Stambaugh	x	
Valerie Hanraty		x	Wayne Weisman	x	
Esther Kaplin	x		Bonnie Young		x

V. MOTIONS FOR APPROVAL

1. Policy / Governance / Operations / Miscellaneous

- a. 2020-2021 Board Meeting Schedule
- b. FID Resolution
- c. Charter School Rent Reimbursement Resolution- Motion to approve the submission of the rental reimbursement forms for the 2019-2020 school year to the PA Department of Education when the forms become available.
- d. Adoption of Organizational Commitment to Anti-Racism
- e. Reopening guidelines and Health and Safety Plan authorization

By unanimous vote, duly moved and seconded, it was

RESOLVED that the 2020-21 Meeting Schedule, FID Resolution, Commitment to Anti-Racism and Reopening guidelines and Health and safety Plan were approved as presented, and that Mr. Amenda was authorized to execute and deliver the 2019-20 Charter School Rent Reimbursement forms when they become available.

VI. NEW BUSINESS- None

VII. OLD BUSINESS- None

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public wishing to address the Board of Trustees must state their name and are requested to limit their comments to three minutes. Please be aware that all Charter School employees retain the right of privacy and shall retain all rights against defamation and slander per the laws of Pennsylvania. The Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public. Each member of the public will be given one opportunity to address the Board.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was held to review the Data and Safe Schools Security Report as required annually

XIII. IMPORTANT DATES

1. Virtual Student Showcase- June 11, 2020, 4:30-6:00pm
2. Virtual Graduation- June 17, 2020, 5:00-8:00pm

XIV. MOTION TO ADJOURN- by unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 5PM

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston Churchill	x		Sanjeev Midha	x	
Emily Ashe		x	Alexandra Panichello	x	
Ira Brind	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Paul Bucco		x	Tom Rebar	x	
Dana Dwirantwi		x	Renee Rosenbluth	x	
James Egan		x	Valerie Schwartz	x	
Charles Freyer	x		Gail Singer	x	
Robert Fox		x	Blair Stambaugh	x	
Valerie Hanraty		x	Wayne Weisman	x	
Esther Kaplin	x		Bonnie Young		x