



Regular Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, May 3, 2022 – 4:00 PM
 Zoom Video Conference

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 J. Churchill	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Emily Ashe	x		Tom Rebar		x
Ira Brind	x		Valerie Schwartz		x
James Brown	x		Gail Singer	x	
Dana Dwirantwi		x	Blair Stambaugh	x	
Valerie Hanraty		x	Wayne Weisman	x	
Esther Kaplin	x		Josephine Wang	x	
Sanjeev Midha	x		Bonnie Young		x
Alexandra Hay		x			

Also present- John Amenda, Becca Chazin, Katherine Lamilla, Kristen Tini, Kevin Corcoran

III. BOARD DISCUSSION TOPICS

Topic	Facilitator(s)	Committee Connection
<p>Open Discussion of Q&A re: Executive Director Narrative Update- John Amenda reviewed key details with the board on the following topics: PSSA updates, talent updates, summer programming, curriculum, culture and special education staff committees (PD intersection), building updates and renewal. The school has a 95% staff retention rate for next year and is now focused on hiring for 9 open positions with the redesign of the schedule/program to meet the needs of students and to create a more sustainable environment for teachers. Staff committees in Curriculum, Culture and Special Education are meeting to refine systems, identify resources and to develop trainings for staff once they return in August. The school team is currently preparing the renewal application which is due by July 15.</p>	All	
Committee Updates:	Various Chairs	All

<p>High School Admission & Alumni Engagement- A list of high schools where students are attending next year was shared with the Board.</p> <p>School Performance & Curriculum- John Amenda reviewed the dashboard with the Board.</p> <p>Development- Win Churchill discussed the Fall event. It is being held on September 28th. A save-the-date is being sent and the school team is currently searching for a keynote speaker.</p> <p>DEI- John Amenda talked about how the committee and school team will be working together next year on a scope and sequence for Black Lives Matter Year of Purpose.</p> <p>Governance- Ira Brind and John Amenda introduced the Student Attendance Policy that will be up for approval at the next board meeting.</p> <p>Planning & Property- The school is awaiting a response from Curtis Wilkerson, Chief of Staff for Council President, and Darrell Clarke on its' interest in the adjacent lot and next steps. The school team is beginning to prepare an RFP for project management services on the project.</p>		
<p>Financial Summary and Statements- Kevin Corcoran gave an update on the school's finances. Finances are looking good on all measures. It has been a very healthy financial year and the school is in a healthy cash position, The school is meeting every ratio and metric that the school district tracks.</p>	<p>Kevin Corcoran Tom Rebar Wayne Weisman</p>	<p>Finance</p>
<p>Board Self-Evaluations: Board members were asked to fill out a Board self-assessment in BoardOnTrack.</p> <p>Student Attendance Policy up for first review: Board members will review this policy and it will be put forward as a motion for approval at the next board meeting.</p>	<p>John Amenda Ira Brind</p>	<p>Governance</p>
<p>Teacher Appreciation Note Writing, Discussion of appreciation initiatives: The Board discussed ways to show staff appreciation for their hard work during this challenging year.</p>		

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- The following resolution was made, duly seconded and approved:

Resolved that the Board approve the Regular session minutes from the March 22, 2022 meeting.

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston J. Churchill	x		Lois Pressman	X	
Emily Ashe	x		Tom Rebar		X
Ira Brind	x		Valerie Schwartz		X
James Brown	Abstained (absent from 3/22 meeting)		Gail Singer	X	
Dana Dwirantwi		X	Blair Stambaugh	X	
Valerie Hanraty		X	Wayne Weisman	Abstained (absent from 3/22 meeting)	
Esther Kaplin	X		Josephine Wang	X	
Sanjeev Midha	X		Bonnie Young		X
Alexandra Hay		x			

V. MOTIONS FOR APPROVAL

- a **Policy / Governance / Operations / Miscellaneous- The following documents, after suitable presentation by Mr. Amenda and discussion, were approved unanimously on a motion duly made and seconded:**

1. Flexible Instruction Days (FID) Application Board Affirmation
2. Letter of Intent for Renewal Application
3. Public Participation in Board Meetings Policy- 2nd and final reading
4. Service Animals in School Policy- 2nd and final reading
5. Trauma Informed Approach Policy- 2nd and final reading
6. Student Attendance Policy- 1st Review

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston J. Churchill	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Emily Ashe	x		Tom Rebar		x
Ira Brind	x		Valerie Schwartz		x
James Brown	x		Gail Singer	x	
Dana Dwirantwi		x	Blair Stambaugh	x	
Valerie Hanraty		x	Wayne Weisman	x	
Esther Kaplin	x		Josephine Wang	x	
Sanjeev Midha	x		Bonnie Young		x
Alexandra Hay		x			

VI. NEW BUSINESS- None

VII. OLD BUSINESS- None

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT- No members of the public participated in 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- The Board went into Executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

XIII. IMPORTANT DATES

1. Next Board meeting- Thursday, June 2, 2022
2. 8th Grade Graduation- Wednesday, June 15, 2022

XIV. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston J. Churchill	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Emily Ashe	x		Tom Rebar		x
Ira Brind	x		Valerie Schwartz		x
James Brown	x		Gail Singer	x	
Dana Dwirantwi		x	Blair Stambaugh	x	
Valerie Hanraty		x	Wayne Weisman	x	
Esther Kaplin	x		Josephine Wang	x	
Sanjeev Midha	x		Bonnie Young		x
Alexandra Hay		x			