APPROVED

F.W. Parker Charter Essential School

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday March 20, 2025 at 6:45 PM

Location
Parker School

http://parker.school/boardoftrusteesmeeting

Trustees Present
C. Beasley, C. Soderman, E. Sturgis, J. Fredericksen, L. Hayner, M. Beam, M. Edgar, M. Lindsey, M. Turnbull, N. Odekirk Hatlevig, P. Gordon, S. Razzetti, S. Reinhorn, T. Testa

Trustees Absent
E. Moura, F. Fernau

Guests Present
B. Harrigan, K. Tedstone, Kofi Williams, M. Beganski, M. McKenna, Mary Beth Martin, Mary Simboski

I. Opening Items

A. Record attendance and guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

P. Gordon called a meeting of the board of trustees of F.W. Parker Charter Essential School to order on Thursday Mar 20, 2025 at 6:53 PM.

C. Approve minutes

C. Soderman made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 02-13-25.
E. Sturgis seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

C. Beasley	Abstain
M. Turnbull	Aye
C. Soderman	Aye
M. Beam	Aye
T. Testa	Abstain
P. Gordon	Aye
S. Reinhorn	Abstain
L. Hayner	Aye
S. Razzetti	Aye
M. Lindsey	Abstain
E. Sturgis	Aye
N. Odekirk Hatlevig	Aye
E. Moura	Absent
F. Fernau	Absent
J. Fredericksen	Aye
M. Edgar	Aye

II. Updates from Head of School, Enrollment, Development, DEI, and Facilities

A. Head of School Report

Following the lead of state leadership with regards to DEI. Cultural competency training. Center around students and their lived experience. Faculty will read Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain. Did not get Teacher Diversification grant. We are committed to all students.

Trustees encouraged join Looking at Student work next week (3/26), Parker Exhibition Evening (4/14), and Graduation (6/4).

Annual fund currently at $140K. $13K raised so far from gala fundraising.

B. Enrollment

Enrollment season going well. 289 total applications. Students with offers or low waitlist number have been shadowing.

C. 30th Anniversary Gala

30th Anniversary Gala coming up on 4/5. 8 tickets left. Working on seating chart. Cocktail hour, buffet, testimonials, raffles, and dancing. Fun and festive attire.

D. School-wide discussion about antisemitism

Rabbi Josh coming to visit. Students leading the movement.

E. Front walkway

F. Principal search

Search is going well. 20 applicants in all. Starting second round of interviews. Hoping to wrap up in April.

III. Bylaws

A. Draft changes to the bylaws

Changing Head of School to Executive Director and language to allow for current or former family participation on BOT. Other minor edits. Will vote today on changes and submit to DESE and then vote in June following Commissioner feedback and approval.

IV. Strategic Planning

A. Fundraising audit with Changing Our World

Reintroduced Mary and Mary Beth. Focus on what's next. Go through findings and give recommendations and why. Objectives were to review and develop recommendations.

Sustainability of support is critical. Reviewing national giving data shows individuals are largest source of donations. Education receives about 14% of gifts. Majority of Parker gifts are from current and graduate families. Donors see value in Parker program. Challenges exist around culture of philanthropy, development resources needed, lack of board engagement, and student population is not considered disadvantaged. Continue Parker Fund and focus on what we are. Wealth study looks positive for increased fundraising. Foundations and grants are limited. Best future sources of support come from Parker Trustees and families. Recommendations include training board, build staff to support the work, and implement a development strategy for broad sustainable appeal. Next step is to create a written development plan.

Add person to utilize current system better and to support more intentional asking of current pool.

V. Finance

A. FY26 Budget

Process and timeline reviewed. Goal is sound budget that supports school's mission, long-term financial viability, and strategic objectives of board. Budget is not overly conservative and uses any surpluses to meet goals of closing gap and adding back staff. Expect not to end FY26 with surplus. Budget built on 390 students and 3.75% per pupil tuition increase. Maintain student-teacher ratio. Adding 6.75 FTE of teachers, new Principal, and new development. Reserve funds will decrease due to sidewalk project. Tuition is biggest source of revenue and state budget is significant unknown. Expenses adjusted for inflation and expected changes. Continue to adjust compensation to model

sending districts. Five year projections look good but salaries will be an area of concern if we want to continue to close the gap. If approved, contracts will go out next week.

VI. Other Business

A. Comments from the public

None.

B. Vote - Draft changes to the bylaws

M. Lindsey made a motion to approve changes to the bylaws.
M. Turnbull seconded the motion.
with edits of he/she to they
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Moura	Absent
J. Fredericksen	Aye
M. Edgar	Aye
S. Reinhorn	Aye
F. Fernau	Absent
T. Testa	Aye
M. Lindsey	Aye
P. Gordon	Aye
M. Turnbull	Aye
C. Soderman	Aye
C. Beasley	Aye
M. Beam	Aye
S. Razzetti	Aye
N. Odekirk Hatlevig	Aye
E. Sturgis	Aye
L. Hayner	Aye

C. Vote - Suspend second read of FY26 Budget

M. Turnbull made a motion to suspend second read of budget.
E. Sturgis seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Fredericksen	Aye
M. Edgar	Aye
F. Fernau	Absent
C. Beasley	Aye
S. Reinhorn	Aye
M. Lindsey	Aye
E. Moura	Absent

Roll Call

C. Soderman	Aye
T. Testa	Aye
N. Odekirk Hatlevig	Aye
M. Turnbull	Aye
P. Gordon	Aye
L. Hayner	Aye
E. Sturgis	Aye
M. Beam	Aye
S. Razzetti	Aye

D. Vote - FY26 Budget

C. Soderman made a motion to approve FY26 budget as presented.
L. Hayner seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Sturgis	Aye
M. Turnbull	Aye
F. Fernau	Absent
J. Fredericksen	Aye
E. Moura	Absent
C. Beasley	Aye
M. Beam	Aye
C. Soderman	Aye
S. Razzetti	Aye
M. Lindsey	Aye
T. Testa	Aye
L. Hayner	Aye
S. Reinhorn	Aye
P. Gordon	Aye
M. Edgar	Aye
N. Odekirk Hatlevig	Aye

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Lindsey

Documents used during the meeting

- 2025 March Head of School Report.pdf
- Parker Audit Executive Summary March 20, 2025.pdf
- Parker Audit FINAL February 2025.pdf
- FY26 budget presentation Board.pdf