

APPROVED



## Breakthrough Public Schools

### Minutes

#### BPS and School Board of Directors Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Wednesday December 6, 2023 at 5:00 PM

**Location**

Breakthrough Public Schools  
3615 Superior Avenue  
3rd Floor, Suite 4403A - Bldg. 44  
Cleveland, OH 44114

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**Meeting of the Boards of Breakthrough Public Schools, Citizens Academy Southeast, Citizens Leadership Academy East, Village Preparatory School Cliffs, Village Preparatory School Willard, and Village Preparatory School Woodland Hills.**

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**Directors Present**

A. KOPIT, A. Lee, B. Schlang, D. Eisenberg, J. Johnson, L. Zucca, P. Harris, S. Steinhouse, S. Vyas

**Directors Absent**

C. Tancer, J. Howard, L. Mimura

**Directors who arrived after the meeting opened**

J. Johnson, S. Vyas

**Guests Present**

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H. Chama, J. Kaye (remote), L. Wilkins-Valentine, M. Johnston, M. Rado, S. Ertle, S. Wernet, Victoria Stansberry

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## I. Opening Items

### A. Call the Meeting to Order

S. Steinhouse called a meeting of the board of directors of Breakthrough Public Schools to order on Wednesday Dec 6, 2023 at 5:01 PM.

### B. Record Attendance

Danielle called school board to order at 5:02 PM.

J. Johnson arrived at 5:04 PM.

S. Vyas arrived at 5:06 PM.

### C. BPS and School Boards Vote to Approve October 18, 2023 Joint Board Meeting Minutes

A. KOPIT made a motion to approve the minutes from BPS and School Board of Directors Meeting on 10-18-23.

B. Schlang seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Danielle requested a motion to approve the school board meeting minutes. Linda motioned, Alan second. All in favor.

## II. Public Comment

### A. School Boards Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Sam and Danielle spoke briefly on their time as co-CEOs. They shared it was an honor and that it gave them great insight into how the organization operates.

## III. FOB Update

### A. FOB Updates

Susan shared highlights from the FOB report that was shared in the board packet.

Donor relations continue to be strong. Susan is confident in the team's ability to meet the fundraising goals.

The alumni team has been working in our schools on alumni focused initiatives.

## IV. CEO Update

## A. CEO Update

Andrew shared his vision as the new CEO of Breakthrough Schools, which is rooted in our core values. We need to be truly student and family centered and we will strive for joy, love and academic excellence.

He spoke to the most urgent and enduring challenges to our organization. He has confidence in the leaders and the sense of urgency to address the challenges.

The SY24 priorities and milestones document in the board packet is Andrew's 90 day plan to learn and address challenges. He will be holding listening tours across the network with a variety of stakeholders.

Andrew's leadership philosophy is that staff's ultimate loyalty is to kids, and that there are no secrets.

## B. Board Metrics & Financial Reports

Juliet highlighted the following;

- In-year scholar retention is slightly higher than last report.
- Scholar attendance outpacing last year due to intervention and support practices implemented this year
- In-year staff retention remains high across all entities.
- Seeing net gains in family satisfaction
- Net promoter score has increased from last year.

SY24 Scholar Population

- Remain slightly ahead of current financial projection
- A more robust family survey presentation will be shared at the next board meeting.
- The focus is on retaining the scholars we have and building a culture that promotes scholar retention throughout the year.

Financial Reports

Celeste highlighted the following;

- Finance continues to work closely with school and network leaders to refine projections and identify opportunities for expense reduction.
- 1 of 6 entities is projected to end the year at or below budgeted expenditures per current projections
- Health insurance – network switching to a different vendor as of January 1st, 2024

A full financial report is shared in the board packet.

### **C. NLT Reports**

Board Reports - materials from the leadership team were shared in the board packet.

## **V. Committee Updates**

### **A. Academic Excellence**

Danielle Eisenberg spoke to the materials that were shared in the board packet. Highlighted that the committee met last week and discussed Special Education Support Services. Encouraged board members to visit the School Health Effectiveness Dashboard and use it as a tool to stay up to date.

### **B. Finance**

L. Zucca made a motion to Approve Schools Board October 2023 Financials.

A. KOPIT seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

S. Vyas made a motion to Approve BPS Board October 2023 Financials.

P. Harris seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

### **C. Governance**

Brad gave an update and shared the highlights from the committee meeting held on December 6, 2023.

- Look at governance differently
- Carry out a thorough analysis of the board
- Look into other centers of influence for Board additions

## **VI. School and BPS Boards Approve Consent Agenda**

### **A. School Board Vote to Approve Consent Agenda**

L. Zucca made a motion to Approve the Schools Consent Agenda.

A. KOPIT seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

### **B. BPS Board Vote to Approve BPS Consent Agenda**

A. Lee made a motion to Approve the BPS Consent Agenda.

S. Vyas seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

## **VII. Sponsor Updates**

### **A. CMSD Updates**

Matt Rado and Lesley Wilkins-Valentine spoke to materials shared in the board packet on the CMSD Annual Sponsorship Report and gave feedback on the annual renewal visits that took place in October 2023.

The full reports were shared in the board packet.

### **B. Buckeye Updates**

Emily represented Buckeye. She reported that two classroom walkthroughs were completed and everything looks good.

## **VIII. 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 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
S. Steinhouse