

APPROVED



# Breakthrough Public Schools

## Minutes

### BPS and School Board of Directors Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Wednesday May 22, 2024 at 5:00 PM

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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, B. Schlang (remote), D. Eisenberg, J. Howard, J. Johnson, P. Harris, S. Vyas (remote)

#### Directors Absent

A. Lee, C. Tancer, L. Mimura, L. Zucca, S. Steinhouse

#### Guests Present

A. Haughton, A. McRae, A. Rudd, C. Farmer, H. Chama, J. Ferguson, J. Kaye, M. Barbessi, M. Rado, M. Woerner, S. Ertle

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### I. Opening Items

#### A. Call the Meeting to Order

D. Eisenberg called a meeting of the board of directors of Breakthrough Public Schools to order on Wednesday May 22, 2024 at 5:20 PM.

#### B.

## **Record Attendance**

### **C. BPS and School Boards Vote to Approve April 17, 2024 Joint Board Meeting Minutes**

A. KOPIT made a motion to approve the minutes from BPS and School Board of Directors Meeting on 04-17-24.

J. Howard seconded the motion.

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

## **II. Public Comment**

### **A. School Boards Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **III. FOB Update**

### **A. FOB Updates**

Materials were shared in the board packet.

Susan the FOB President gave an update. Here's a summary of the key points:

#### **Fundraising:**

- Achieved the fundraising goal for the year.

#### **BASH Event:**

- The event went well overall.
- Revenue was lower than last year due to decreased attendance.
- Planning for FY25 BASH is underway, scheduled for May 2, 2025.

#### **Staff Update:**

- Kelly Berg was promoted to Chief Development Officer last week.

#### **Team Goals:**

- Both teams are actively working on their goals.
- There is enthusiasm about the current team structure.

#### **Woodland Hills Gym:**

- Proposals for the Woodland Hills gym are currently under review.

## **IV. CEO Update**

## **A. CEO Update**

Martha Woerner was introduced as the new Chief of Staff. Her background, experience, and the strategic vision she brings to the organization were emphasized.

The CEO highlighted the items that will be reviewed at the June Board meeting and those that will be the focus of discussion at the June 21 Board Retreat.

## **B. Board Metrics & FY25 Readiness**

A full set of board metrics was shared in the board packet.

Juliet spoke to material shared in the board packet and shared the following highlights;

- Net Promoter Score is slightly down from last year, hence affecting this year's goal of a 5% increase.
- 5% increase in teachers and a slight decrease in leaders committing to stay with the network for more than 2 years.

Racial & Ethnic Balance: BPS vs. CMSD

- All BPS schools serve 100% economically disadvantaged students.

Health & Safety

- a consultant was hired in the Spring to conduct an Operational Excellence Audit.
- Safety & Security audit being conducted this summer.

SY24 Teacher Retention

- In April, return offer letters were sent to current staff in good standing, 94% of teachers and 88% of intervention specialists accepted.

SY25 School-based Vacancies

- Proud and feel good about where we are.
- There are fewer vacancies for teachers than last year at this time.

## **SY24-25 Enrollment & Re-Enrollment**

- At a similar pace to last year
- Re-enrolled 330 scholars since our April board meeting
- Teams are tracking towards academic capacity for each school

## **Current Financials**

### FY25 Budget

Celeste reviewed the board packet materials, noting that the network is performing better than the revised budget approved in October despite ongoing variances. Additionally, the total BPS Network cash balances have increased compared to the previous year.

### **Overall surplus/(Deficit) Compared to Budget**

The Finance team is collaborating with school and network leaders to refine financial projections and find opportunities to reduce expenses.

### **Projected Net Surplus/(Deficit by Entity**

As of the end of April, 5 out of 6 network entities are projected to end FY24 with net income exceeding the Board Approved Revised Budget.

### **Financial Metric: Budget**

Current projections indicate that 4 out of 6 entities are expected to end the year at or below budgeted expenditures. Efforts to refine projections and reduce expenses will continue to ensure this metric is met.

### **Resolutions review:**

The following appointments and approvals were made:

- Dr. Andre Haughton was appointed as Chief School Officer to Superintendent, Primary Schools' Signator, and BPS Additional Signator.
- An Annual Fiscal Officer Waiver was granted.
- CMSD contracts were approved for Cliffs, Glenville, Southeast, and Willard.

## **C. NLT Reports**

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

## **V. Committee Updates**

### **A. Academic Excellence**

Danielle Eisenberg discussed the contents of the board packet, noting that during the last meeting, the committee reviewed the Spring 2024 BPS TNTP Insight Analysis results and discussed the FY25 Learning Team Priorities.

### **B. Finance**

Celeste has provided an update on the April financials, however, the formal vote will take place at the June Board meeting.

### **C. Governance**

Brad provided an update on the following:

**New Board Members:**

- The five primary candidates have not been finalized.
- The finalists will be presented at the June board meeting.

**June 21 Board Retreat:**

- Discussion items are aligned with CEO items of focus.
- Board members were encouraged to send suggested discussion items to be added to the agenda.

**D. CEO Evaluation & Support**

Paul updated that the committee met on April 3rd to discuss the timing and structure of Andrew's evaluation. The evaluation form will be launched after the June retreat and will be an easy-to-use tool.

Today's meeting was Paul Harris's last Board meeting. It was marked by a celebration, honoring and thanking him for his contributions throughout his tenure.

Key points of the celebration included:

Acknowledgement of Contributions

- Highlighted Paul's significant impact and achievements.
- Mentioned his strategic insights, leadership, and dedication as invaluable to the Board's success.

Expressions of Gratitude

- Board members and friends expressed personal gratitude and shared anecdotes about working with Paul.
- Speeches and messages underscored his influence and the positive changes he brought to the organization.

Celebratory Moment

- A token of appreciation was presented to commemorate his service.

Farewell Wishes

- Warm wishes for his future endeavors and personal well-being were extended.

- Emphasized that Paul will always be considered a valued member of the organization's history.

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

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

A. KOPIT made a motion to Approve Consent Agenda 05.22.2024.

J. Johnson seconded the motion.

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

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

The BPS Board vote to approve the BPS Consent Agenda was tabled for the June board meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

## **VII. School Resolutions**

### **A. Fiscal Officer Waiver**

J. Johnson made a motion to Approve Fiscal Officer Waiver.

A. KOPIT seconded the motion.

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

### **B. Authorized Signer & Designated Superintendent**

J. Johnson made a motion to Approve to remove Megan Johnson and add Dr. Andre Haughton as Authorized Signer & Designated Superintendent.

A. KOPIT seconded the motion.

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

### **C. Sponsor Contracts**

J. Johnson made a motion to Approve Sponsor Contracts.

A. KOPIT seconded the motion.

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

## **VIII. Sponsor Updates**

### **A. CMSD Updates**

Matt Rado represented CMSD and reported the following:

- Survey collection has been closed out, and spring site visit reports are being finalized for the June board meeting.
- Reminded everyone that Sunshine training is due by June 30.

- Visits with Michele from the Mayor's office occurred last week and are scheduled for next week.
- **CMSD Reorganization:**
  - Lesley Wilkins-Valentine is now the Director of Elementary Education.
  - A plan for charter office work for the next school year is currently being developed.

## **B. Buckeye Updates**

Maureen Barbessi, representing Buckeye Hope, sponsor of Village Prep Woodland Hills, highlighted the following:

- Buckeye is pleased to donate the top prize for this year's top scholar dollar earner.
- There is a 97% compliance rate year to date, with no concerns.
- The upcoming leadership conference for Principals/Directors and Assistant Principals will be held on June 5th and 6th in Columbus, Ohio..

## **IX. Executive Session**

### **A. Executive Session**

No executive session was held.

## **X. 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 6:36 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
D. Eisenberg