



Reach Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees

Minutes

Reach Cyber Charter School

Date and Time

Wednesday October 16, 2024 at 9:00 AM

Location

800 East Park Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17111

Trustees Present

Anthony Alexander, David Taylor, Gail Hawkins Bush, Leigh Kraemer-Naser, Marcella Arline, Matthew Ryan, Paul Donecker

Trustees Absent

Ralph Woodard

Guests Present

Alex Lewis (remote), Alicia Swope, Andy Gribbin, Brandie Karpew, Cody Smith, Devin Meza-Rushanan, Gregory McCurdy, JD Smith, Jackie Hershey (remote), Jane Swan, Karen Yeselavage, Kelly McConnell, LeeAnn Ritchie, Lisa Blickley, Michael Garman, Patricia Hennessy, Rachel Graver, Scott Shedd, Stephanie Lane

I. Opening Items

A. Roll Call

B. Call the Meeting to Order

David Taylor called a meeting of the board of trustees of Reach Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees to order on Wednesday Oct 16, 2024 at 9:00 AM.

II. Public Comment

A. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public at this time.

III. Routine Business

A. Approval of Agenda

David Taylor, Board President, asked the board to review the agenda distributed prior to the meeting and asked if any changes were needed.

Marcella Arline made a motion to approve the agenda.

Gail Hawkins Bush seconded the motion.

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

IV. Oral Reports

A. CEO's Report

Jane Swan, Chief Executive Officer, shared an update about recent events that have occurred since the beginning of the school year particularly highlighting the Back To School events across the state, the annual week of STEM, and completion of the school year's first benchmark.

Current enrollment is 5,773 students, with 106 of those being new enrollments within the last 14 days.

B. Human Resources Update

Michael Garman, Director of Human Resources, reviewed current staffing levels with the Board highlighting the 874 current staff members and 83% of staff who are 10-month staff. There are currently 29 unfilled positions, 7 of which are posted and/or pending, and 22 on hold.

There have been 27 new hires this school year and 22 departures.

C. Financial Report

Karen Yeselavage, Director of Finance, reviewed the school's financial statements with the Board. She reviewed the revenue and expense statements, advising on changes since the previous months' statements. Ms. Yeselavage further reviewed with the Board the school's balance sheet and current forecast.

V. Consent Items

A.

Approval of Consent Items

Mr. Taylor asked board members to consider the items from the Consent Items. No questions or concerns were noted.

- Approval of Minutes from the September 18, 2024, Board Meeting
- Approval of Staffing Report
- Approval of Renewal with ABC Keystone

Leigh Kraemer-Naser made a motion to approve the Consent Items and the minutes from Reach Cyber Charter School on 09-18-24.

Gail Hawkins Bush seconded the motion.

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

VI. Action Items

A. Approval of Agreement with Fabric 1-9-6-8 for Middle School

JD Smith, Director of Career Readiness and EDIB, shared details of an agreement with Fabric 1-9-6-8, a sewing workshop course, for Middle School age students.

Anthony Alexander made a motion to approve the agreement with Fabric 1-9-6-8.

Marcella Arline seconded the motion.

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

B. Approval of 2025 Benefits Renewal

Lisa Blickley provided an overview of the benefits renewal highlighting key data relevant to the renewal.

Marcella Arline made a motion to absorb the cost of the employee program within the school budget for the next year while educating staff about increased future employee contributions.

Anthony Alexander seconded the motion.

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

Matthew Ryan made a motion to approve the 2025 Benefits Summary.

Paul Donecker seconded the motion.

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

C. Approval of Agreement with Westmoreland Hospital

Mr. Smith shared information about a partnership to introduce students to careers in the medical field. The program had previously been paid for with grant funding, but the grant has now expired so Mr. Smith is asking for school funding. The offered programs include:

- Nursing

- Psychology
- Radiology
- EMT
- Behavioral Health
- Social Work

Anthony Alexander made a motion to approve the agreement with Westmoreland Hospital.

Marcella Arline seconded the motion.

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

D. Approval of Clinical Agreement with Western Governors University

Lee Ann Ritchie, Chief Academic Officer, requested approval of an agreement with Western Governors University.

Marcella Arline made a motion to approve the agreement with Westmoreland Hospital.

Anthony Alexander seconded the motion.

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

VII. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

The Board entered into an Executive Session at 9:55 a.m.

The Board entered into an Executive Session upon a motion being made, seconded and confirmed via roll call vote of all Board members present.

The Board cited the following for entering into the Executive Session: Pursuant to 65 Pa. C.S. §§ 708(a) (1) – to discuss any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee and 65 Pa. C.S. §§ 708(a)(5) – To review and discuss agency business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of information or confidentiality protected by law.

Board members present were: David Taylor, Paul Donecker, Marcella Arline, Matt Ryan, Gail Hawkins Bush, Leigh Ann Kraemer-Naser and Anthony Alexander. Guests present at the request of the Board were: Jane Swan, Lee Ann Ritchie, Michael Garman, and Karen Yeselavage. All others left the meeting at this time.

No action was taken during Executive Session.

The Board resumed open Session at 10:21 a.m.

VIII. Strategic Planning

A. Strategic Planning Retreat (detailed agenda to be provided separately) – Full Board

School staff provided an update to the Board regarding the status of the school's 2024-25 SY Strategic Goals.

IX. 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 3:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brandie Karpew