

APPROVED



Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School

Minutes

Finance Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday April 4, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Location

PVPA Charter Public School
Room 304
15 Mulligan Drive
South Hadley, MA 01075

Google Meeting ID

meet.google.com/zkg-vctu-ikb

Phone Numbers

(US) [+1 240-532-3788](tel:+12405323788)

PIN: 783 984 031#

Committee Members Present

Keith Black, Michael Davey (remote), Neil Hede (remote)

Committee Members Absent

None

Committee Members who arrived after the meeting opened

Keith Black

Guests Present

Shannon Materka

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

Keith Black arrived at 5:09 PM.

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Neil Hede called a meeting of the Finance Committee of Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School to order on Tuesday Apr 4, 2023 at 5:01 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

Michael Davey made a motion to approve the minutes from Finance Committee Meeting on 02-07-23.

Neil Hede seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Neil Hede Aye

Michael Davey Aye

Keith Black Absent

II. Finance

A. FY22 Tuition - 3rd Quarter Projection

3rd quarter DESE tuition projection was reviewed. Biggest obstacle for PVPA is the above foundation funding (ABF) - schools in red show a drop in ABF. Change in tuition from the 1st to 3rd quarter is -\$320,317. Fortunately the Finance Committee exercises a conservative approach and the change compared to budgeted tuition is \$120,712. PVPA is still on track to meet the language of the CBA that guarantees staff a retroactive pay increase in June.

B. FY23 P&L Budget Overview 3rd Quarter

The P&L Budget Overview for the 3rd quarter was reviewed:

Revenue Areas of note/concern:

- Auxiliary Revenue - bus contracts may not be as high as currently reported and will be determined by collection activities.
- Fundraising - overall contributions down, no activities planned.
- Miscellaneous Revenue - not typical, received funds from a payroll error.

Expense Areas of note/concern:

- Education Other - seems low at only 26.7% of budget spent. What is the cause?
- Technology - Will not use all of budgeted funds a grant monies were used to purchase Chromebooks for students.
- Board of Trustees Expense - awaiting reimbursement for legal expenses, should be closer to budget at end of year.
- Auxiliary Expenses - 58.2% of budget spent. Transportation and food service - invoices forthcoming from bus company and no charge for food this year.

C. FY24 Tuition Budget

How do we determine the tuition budget for FY24? Committee discussed continuing a conservative approach given the unknown adjustments to above foundation funding that may continue into FY24 due to ESSER funding (FY24 is the last year of the ESSER III funds). If sending districts use ESSER funds to supplant rather than supplement their school budgets it has a negative effect on above foundation for charter schools.

The last two years the tuition budget has been set at +4% of the current year 3rd quarter tuition as projected by DESE rather than projections from the legislature on the upcoming state budget. So far, the Governor's budget and the House Ways and Means budget include the 1/7 funding for the Student Opportunity Act. Management is recommending a 4.5% increase over the 3rd quarter tuition projected by DESE. \$6,836,702 + 4.5% increase = \$7,144,354.

Recruitment efforts for the 2023-2024 school year have brought the PVPA wait list back to pre-COVID levels. PVPA will enroll 72 seventh graders - all offers are currently out to prospective families and there are 56 students still on the wait list. At this time last year there was no wait list for the seventh grade and we held three supplemental lotteries to keep enrollment near 400. At this point there may be a need to a supplemental lottery for the tenth and eleventh grade. PVPA's good media coverage is partially attributable to the increase in applicants - Valley Advocates Best of the Valley and students from Pop R&B playing at the Shea Theater opening for Haley Reinhart. A lot of good things happening!

The Committee acknowledged the difficulty in determining the tuition budget when the numbers continually change. Through the COVID years the 4% increase on the prior years tuition has been successfully conservative and kept the financial health of the school strong.

Neil Hede made a motion to set the FY24 tuition budget at a 4.0% increase over the FY23 third quarter tuition projected by DESE for a total of \$7,110,170.

Keith Black seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Keith Black Aye

Roll Call

Neil Hede Aye

Michael Davey Aye

III. 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 5:51 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcy Conner

Documents used during the meeting

- FY23 3rd Quarter Projection - DESE 3-21-23.pdf
- PVPA P&L Budget Overview FY23 3rd QTE 3-30-23.pdf
- FY24 Tuition Budget 3-21-23.pdf