

**Providence Englewood Charter School  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**At  
6515 S. Ashland Ave  
Chicago, IL 60636**

**Friday, June 15, 2018  
11:30a.m.**

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE IN PERSON**

**Trustees**

**John Stoops  
Matthew Bergmann  
Peg Cain  
Leslie Holling  
Howard Isenberg  
Bernard Lilly  
John Stevenson  
Arlen Wiley**

**TRUSTEES ABSENT**

**Dick Burridge  
Caroline Degenaaars  
Rona Fourte  
Latasha Thomas  
Kelley Kalinich  
Walter Matthews  
James Reilly**

**TELECONFERENCE**

**Jason Zenner**

**OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON**

**Staff**

**Angela Johnson-Williams, Principal, PECS  
Shinwe Shelton, Deputy Director of Operations, PECS  
Tahanni Ragland, Staff Accountant, PECS  
Sonji Jones-Cooks, Development/PECS Promise Director, PECS  
Janelle Miller, Academic Dean, PECS  
Cynthia Helle**

**I. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

The meeting was called to order at 11:49a.m. by Mr. Stoops.

**II. Public Participation Period (none requested)**

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion duly made (Mr. Isenberg), seconded (Mr. Stevenson), and unanimously passed, the minutes of April 19, 2018 are approved.

**IV. FINANCE REPORT**

On the Balance Sheet, comparisons from May 2017 to May 2018 show cash increased, which is due to revenue payments and Foundation investments. Investment decreases are due to funds being used to cover operating expenses. Total Cash and Cash Equivalents is approximately \$600K more than in FY17. A/R increases are due to Title I receivable and Student Fees. The increase in Prepaid is due to advance payments. The decrease in Property and Equipment is due to retired assets.

A/P increases are due to timing. Accrued Payroll decreases are due to reduced labor costs due to unfilled positions. Deferred revenue increases are due to the new CPS funding model. Overall the combined total liabilities and Net Assets are \$605K more than in 2017.

The comparative Income Statement for May 2017 to May 2018 shows an increase in Charter School Funding, which is due primarily to the new CFS funding methodology. Grants and Contributions decreases are due to a decrease in private fundraising. Decreases in Other are due to the FSP rebate. Personnel cost decreases are due to elimination of support roles and unfilled positions. Direct Student Cost decreases are due to reduced expenditures. Admin costs increased due to the Charter School Funding Admin fee. As of 5/31/18, there is a combined \$570K surplus for the eleven month period.

PECS is 100% in Compliance with CPS reporting requirements.

There is still no FY18-19 budget yet from CPS. There is still conversation regarding signing an MOU. INCS has advised charters not to sign the MOU because it is more favorable for CPS than Charters. As it stands the MOU would mean anywhere between an 11 – 15% decrease in Charter school funding if CPS is unable to effectuate legislative changes it is seeking in Springfield. INCS is negotiating for the language to change to be more balanced to both parties. We will be guided by what other charters do and what INCS suggests.

PECS received a violation form the city of Chicago saying that we were out of compliance because we did not have a posted elevator inspection certificate. Mrs. Shelton and our attorney appeared in court regarding the matter. In the past, CPS as building Landlord held the inspection certificate. Although we moved quickly to get access to the certificate to show the elevator had passed inspection we still had to pay the \$52 fine.

**V. Building Operations and Maintenance**

During some repair and maintenance a few years back, exterior issues were discovered. We received a proposal of about \$250,000 to do repairs. We contracted with IFF to do a comprehensive assessment for a long term plan to help us budget or understand what it would take to make major repairs on every single item in the facility or to replace them at the end of useful life. General feelings are that the building is in overall good condition. The roof is probably nearing the end of its anticipated useful life. Costs to replace in about 8 years would be approx \$500K. We need to be aware of the ultimate life span of these areas and of their deficiencies. Some of these things we need to consider repairing in the coming year. Priority 1 is the mortar and masonry issues on the building. The estimated repair cost is \$250 - \$300K and the annual estimate cost is 4.4M. This estimate did not include contingency. Although expensive, these repairs need to happen expeditiously. Our lease states that CPS is responsible for making capital repairs only if the items are placed on their capital budget plan. Dr. Kalinich may know of some capital improvement grants. Does IFF provide financing on repairs? Mr. Stevenson will send copies of the analysis per request if anyone would like to review.

**VI. SCHOOL/ACADEMIC REPORT**

Regarding the Charter Renewal, we submitted an application in February proposing that we raise our student enrollment cap. Mrs. Johnson-Williams attended a public hearing to show support for our position. CPS leadership decided not to move forward with the proposed changes to our application. One of the reasons was that our enrollment dropped in comparison to previous years. Overall applications are down. Recruitment is in full swing. A recruitment ad campaign is set to launch on 6/25. Recommendations for 2018-19 staffing, add another social worker. Discipline has been challenging this year. Board suggested adding another social worker to be more proactive instead of reactive. Also would like to add back another custodian. Cuts were made last year in anticipation of a cut in the CPS per pupil SBB rate, which ended up not happening.

Dean Miller gave the end of year NWEA results. There were many challenges this year. Most of the information is preliminary and from our Data Strategists and not CPS. In comparison to 2016-17, test scores have decreased overall. Reading and Math growth scores, as well as attainment has decreased. Some reasons for the decline include volatility in Middle School. Ms. Johnson-Williams and her leadership team will develop a comprehensive school improvement plan, that will include personnel changes.

Mrs. Johnson-Williams and PECS have been accepted into the Accelerator Program for principals. It is a 3 year commitment.

Semester 3 begins June 25th and ends July 19th. Families will come on next Wednesday to meet their students' forward teacher. They will also be able to sign up and preview our Semester 3 programming. We have about 100 students already registered.

#### **VII. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

NWEA scores are down significantly from last year. Regarding merit compensation, it has been difficult finding successful back up to support this process. Merit Compensation is more relatable to for profit organizations. There is a need to change our overall compensation plan. It is too soon to have a new compensation scale in place for the 2018-19 school years. It has been really hard to find a model for merit pay that is meaningful across the country. The Finance committee should work with the Academic Excellence Committee to recommend revisions to our compensation program.

#### **VIII. PECS PROMISE REPORT**

100% of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class has been accepted to PECS Preferred schools. Our summer intern program will resume again this year. We will hire 10 alums for summer internship. They will work on a project yet to be determined over the course of their internship. College students were very vocal on wanting to connect. Of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders... 2 students selected non-PECS preferred high schools. We have one High Sight Scholar and he is also a PECS Foundation scholar. Seven students will be attending private schools. PECS promise 2.0 programs to roll out soon.

#### **DEVELOPMENT**

The bulk of \$22k In-Kind Donations have come from teacher's crowd funding efforts from platforms like Donors Choose. This speaks to their commitment to our program. We held a donor luncheon in May that was very successful. Trained student ambassadors led tours around the building. Our 12th Annual Event is slated for February. The date will be forthcoming.

**IX. PECS MARKETING AND BRANDING UPDATE**

We are in Phase 1 of the PECS Re-Branding project. Overall, reception to the new branding and logo are positive.

**X. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. **GOVERNANCE** –John Stoops’ second term as Chair expires June 30, 2018. He has decided to step down as Chair and pass the torch to a successor. One of the primary reasons for his decision is that he will reach his 9-year Board term limit in 2020, at which point he will need to cycle off but plans to still be a non-voting participant. Mr. Bergmann will bring us all up to speed with this transition. Mr. Stoops, Mr. Isenberg and Mr. Bergmann will work together as an ad hoc committee to help find a successor, along with Tim Dugan. Mr. Stoops will stay on as Chairman until a replacement is found. If there is interest or thoughts about replacements, please feel free to share them with the search committee about potential candidates. There will be more to come on this topic.

b. **FINANCE**-No report at this time.

**XI. CLOSED SESSION**

On motion duly made (Ms. Cain), seconded (Mr. Stevenson) and unanimously passed, the Board will enter closed session to review individual student discipline matters.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

On motion duly made (Mr. Bergmann), seconded (Ms. Cain) and unanimously passed, the meeting of the Board is adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 13, 2018, 4 p.m. (Water Street – 444 W. Lake St – Suite 1800)**