

Providence Englewood Charter School
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

At

Virtual Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86360638630?pwd=S05FbFZtNGdmb0FSQXZlZUY4YWkwZD09>

Meeting ID: 863 6063 8630

Passcode: 5awZTE

Saturday, June 12, 2021

9:00a.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE VIA ZOOM

Directors

Ellen Kollar
Matt Bergmann
Peg Cain
Cheryl Crockett
Caroline Degenaaars
Tim Dugan
Rona Fourte
Howard Isenberg
Yolanda Lester
Bernard Lilly
Joan Maliband
Walter Matthews
James Reilly
Latasha Thomas
Luis Velazquez
Arlen Wiley
Jason Zenner

DIRECTORS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff

Angela Johnson-Williams, Principal, PECS
Shinwe Shelton, Deputy Director of Operations, PECS
Tahanni Ragland, Business Manager, PECS
Jessica Lewis, PECS Promise, PECS
Dr. Antoine Jones, Recruiter, PECS
Cynthia Helle, PECS Foundation Board Chair

I. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Mrs. Kollar.

II. Public Participation

No public participation at this time.

III. Opening Comments and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. On motion duly made (Dugan) and seconded (Cain), the Board unanimously approved the minutes of April 22, 2021.

IV. ACADEMICS

a. Review Remote Learning and Academic Report

Mrs. Johnson-Williams gave the report. She discussed with the Board the progress made against PECS' year-long goals, which was generally strong. She also discussed the key learnings from her three-year program with Accelerate Institute. Ms. Cain noted for the Board that the feedback reports that the Accelerate Institute has provided about the school and Ms. Johnson-Williams were very positive; the feedback from teachers and staff with regards to Ms. Johnson-Williams was particularly impressive and speaks well to the work that she has put in to driving the culture, transparency around goals/expectations, and support for all teachers and staff. As an example, Ms. Cain noted that the survey stated that: "100% of staff surveyed feels that they like the way that things are run at PECS."

b. Mrs. Johnson-Williams called to the Board's attention that the Academic Calendar that the Board had approved at a previous meeting failed to add the Wednesday half days. Changes were made to the calendar to reflect those days.

On motion duly made (Cain) and seconded (Fourte), the Board unanimously approved the ratification of the revised Academic Calendar.

c. Academic Excellence – Pre-K updates – Mrs. Johnson-Williams updated the Board with respect to the development of the Pre-K program, noting in particular that interviews for the Director have begun, and that fundraising for the program was at around \$205K of the \$300K goal.

V. FINANCIAL/OPERATIONS

a. Mrs. Shelton provided a review the PECS Financials, noting in particular the Executive Financial Summary to highlight PECS's financial position. She noted, as she had at the prior meeting, that PECS is operating comfortably within its annual budget and that the school should not need any funding from the Foundation, including not needing to access funds raised during the current school year.

- b. Compliance – Mrs. Shelton noted that PECS currently stands at 99% on time reporting.
- c. Budget – Mrs. Shelton reviewed with the Board the budget for the upcoming school year. It was noted that the budget calls for investment in positions that had been eliminated in prior years (such as an Academic Dean) and that this will result in a deficit if not offset by significant fundraising and/or use of cash reserves. The Board discussed the budget and confirmed its support of the addition of the positions. On motion duly made, (Fourte) and seconded, (Bergmann), the Board approved the budget as presented.
- d. Finance Committee – Mr. Dugan noted that he will reach out to the PECS Foundation regarding increased investment and also to try to secure a better rate on PECS’s outstanding loan.

VI. Board Committee Reports

- a. Recruitment –Mr. Wiley discussed the efforts being made to increase enrollment. Recruiting as a whole has had its challenges in these unprecedented times.
- b. PECS Promise –Ms. Lewis provided the Board with a report regarding PECS Promise. She highlighted the wonderful graduation celebration – by trolley to each student’s home. She also reviewed the high schools that PECS students will be attending and noted that many students stated that the test prep class that PECS Promise provided this year helped tremendously with the performance on selective enrollment and private school acceptances. She also discussed the opportunity for PECS to participate in a high school bridge program through Chicago Jesuit School, thanks to a connection made by Holly Wallace. PECS will pursue this opportunity as an enhancement to the PECS Promise program.
- c. Development –To date \$205K has been raised for Pre-K and over \$190K has been raised via the general annual appeal (without the ability to have a fundraising event).
- d. Governance – Mr. Bergmann gave the report. At the September meeting we will focus on annual governance housekeeping around sabbaticals and rejoining of the Board. Pastor Matthews is focusing on his health and is unable to perform the duties of an active board member at this time. It is proposed (Thomas) and seconded (Kollar) that we approve a leave of absence 9/1/2020 to 9/30/2021 based on medical reasons. We will address the leave again when the term has expired.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made (Kollar), seconded (Fourte) and unanimously passed, the meeting of the Board is adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 9, 2021@ 9:00am (Virtual Zoom Meeting)