

Providence Englewood Charter School  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Held via Zoom  
Saturday, February 26, 2022  
9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE IN PERSON/ZOOM

Directors

Ellen Kollar  
Matt Bergmann  
Peg Cain  
Caroline Degenaaars  
Rona Fourte  
Howard Isenberg  
Yolanda Lester  
Joan Maliband  
James Reilly  
John Stevenson  
John Stoops  
Latasha Thomas  
Luis Velazquez  
Jason Zenner

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Bernard Lilly  
Cheryl Crockett  
Tim Dugan  
Arlen Wiley

OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON/ZOOM

Staff

Angela Johnson-Williams, Principal, PECS  
Shinwe Shelton, Deputy Director of Operations, PECS  
Tahanni Ragland, Business Manager, PECS  
Jessica Lewis, PECS Promise, PECS  
Jacinta Wallace, Pre-K Director, PECS  
Cynthia Helle, Chair, PECS Foundation

I. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Mrs. Kollar.

II. Public Participation Period

No requests have been made for public participation in today's meeting.

III. Opening Comments and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

On motion duly made (Fourte), seconded (Zenner), and unanimously passed, the Board approved the minutes from the December 9, 2021 meeting.

IV. ACADEMICS

a. Academic Report

Mrs. Johnson-Williams reviewed the school report with the Board. In doing so, she reviewed a Semester 1 State of the School presentation that she had reviewed with PECS teachers. She noted in particular that: 78% of classrooms are meeting academic metrics in both Reading and Math; 97% of classrooms are meeting culture and behavior metrics; and first semester average attendance was at 87.8%. In addition, 67% of teachers met the blackbelt teaching metrics in the first semester. Ms. Johnson-Williams discussed with the Board the teachers reflections and action commitments resulting from her review of this presentation with them.

The Board celebrated the fact that all faculty and staff, with one exception, have stated their intent to return for next school year. In light of the high teacher turnover nationwide, the Board commended Ms. Johnson-Williams, and PECS teachers and staff, for maintaining such high levels of engagement.

b. Pre-K Updates and Academic Excellence

Ms. Wallace reported to the Board regarding the PECS Pre-K Program. She noted that current enrollment was 16 students of 20 available slots and average attendance is 80.8%. She reviewed the curriculum in use as well as the process being used to observe and evaluate students and the involvement of students' parents in this process. She also noted that the program is in the process of becoming DCFS licensed so that public childcare funds can be received.

V. OPERATIONS/FINANCE

a. Mrs. Shelton reviewed with the Board in detail the Financial Report, noting year-to-date actual results, on their own and compared to the budget. She noted in

particular PECS's enrollment levels, which have a significant financial impact: first semester 20<sup>th</sup> day enrollment was 432 and the second semester 20<sup>th</sup> day enrollment was 407 (the PECS budget is based on 460 for the first semester and 448 for the second due to the hold harmless funding arrangement with CPS). She emphasized that enrollment must increase or we will face decreased funding next year. Ms. Shelton also discussed the status of the \$457K in ESSER funding which PECS received this year. Finally, she also reminded the Board that the IFF loan will mature in the fall and that she is working with the Finance Committee to determine the recommended actions in that regard.

- b. Facility and Operations – Ms. Shelton reviewed the ongoing issues with the HVAC system and discussed communications she has been having with the Facilities contact at CPS about our roofing issues. She reviewed the application of ESSER Operating funds toward new HVAC Units and air purifiers in the classrooms.
- c. Compliance – Mrs. Shelton noted that PECS is 100% on time with its reporting.
- d. COVID-19 – Mrs. Shelton noted that; PECS has contracted with Stream Lab Solutions for on-site weekly Covid testing; changes to the in-school mask mandate are in effect, but with little/no change in behavior at PECS so far (all are generally still masking); and, notably, PECS is arranging for on-site COVID vaccinations for our students for two separate dates.

#### VI. RECRUITMENT

Ms. Lewis provided the Board with a recruitment report. She noted that the recruitment team is highly motivated to achieve enrollment of 500 students. Pastor Matthews has come on board at PECS and is driving new connections with influential community members. In addition, Ms. Lewis noted that recruitment and retention have become year-round goals, with re-enrollment already under way and heightened focus on retention to prevent transfers wherever possible. There is also increased focus on our "Parents of PECS" to increase word of mouth advertising and personal recruitment.

#### VII. LONG-TERM PLANNING

It was noted that the UChicago Booth Fellows are on schedule to deliver a presentation at the April Board meeting.

#### VIII. DEVELOPMENT

Mrs. Malliband and Mrs. Degenars provided the Board with the development report. They noted fundraising results to date and discussed the plans for this year. In lieu of the annual fundraising event, which will not be held again this year, the Development Committee intends to reach out to past donors on an individual basis; they will bring

materials to the April Board meeting so that each Board member can make personal solicitations as well.

IX. PECS PROMISE

Ms. Lewis provided the Board with a PECS Promise report. She noted that the Class of 2022 is still awaiting High School admittance results and that PECS has one student who has received the HFS scholarship and will be applying to St. Rita. A PECS Promise Survey was sent to current 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents and Ms. Lewis will be pushing to pair mentors at the end of this school year for next year's 8<sup>th</sup> grade scholars.

X. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Governance committee will work with Board Members to complete training.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made (Zenner), seconded (Fourte) and unanimously passed, the meeting of the Board is adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 28, 2022, in person at Tim Dugan's office, Water Street Healthcare Partners (4:00 – 6:00 p.m.)