

Providence Englewood Charter School  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

At  
Zoom  
Saturday, July 9, 2022  
9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

DIRECTORS VIA ZOOM

Ellen Kollar, Board Chair  
Matt Bergmann  
Peg Cain  
Cheryl Crockett  
Caroline Degenaaars  
Rona Fourte  
Howard Isenberg  
Yolanda Lester  
Bernard Lilly  
Joan Maliband  
James Reilly  
Latasha Thomas  
Arlen Wiley

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Tim Dugan  
John Stevenson  
John Stoops  
Luis Velazquez  
Jason Zenner

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff

Angela Johnson-Williams, Principal, PECS  
Shinwe Shelton, Deputy Director of Operations, PECS  
Tahanni Ragland, Business Manager, PECS  
Jacinta Wallace, PreK Director, PECS  
Dr. Antoine Jones, Recruiter, PECS  
Jessica Lewis, PECS Promise, PECS  
Walter Matthews, Student Advocate, PECS  
Cynthia Helle, PECS Foundation Chair

I. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Mrs. Kollar.

II. Public Participation

No public participation currently.

III. Opening Comments and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. On motion duly made (Thomas) and seconded (Fourte), the Board unanimously approved the minutes of April 28, 2022.

IV. ACADEMICS

Mrs. Johnson-Williams shared the Semester 2 State of the School Report as well as metrics of the Strategic Plan. She reviewed in detail the achievements against each of the metrics, noting areas of celebration and areas of opportunity. Overall, the achievements were strong and the Board commended Mrs. Johnson-Williams and the PECS team for work well done. Mrs. Johnson-Williams then shared the Semester 1 Strategic Plan for 2022-23, highlighting all the metrics and actions identified to achieve them.

Mrs. Johnson-Williams shared details about 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation 2022. Due to Covid concerns, small groups of students and their families were invited to the gym in 15-minute intervals. Students were able to decorate their caps and stoles, so it was a festive and spirited celebration. The kindergarten celebration was held through Zoom. The students were dressed up and looking lovely!

Mrs. Johnson-Williams discussed Semester 3, which is up and running. There are 100+ students in the academic program and 50-60 students in the enrichment program. We also have SPED students receiving compensatory minutes. We are approaching the last week of Semester 3 and will analyze results thereafter.

Ms. Wallace the provided to the Board the Pre-K report. She noted that a transition ceremony was held for Pre-K with a live stream and all students were dressed in their best. They sang songs and displayed their sounds and letters of the alphabet and did a few dances. Looking back over the first year of the Pre-K program, Ms. Wallace reported that Ms. Livingston and Ms. Mingo were a phenomenal team and that, generally, all the children met their social and cognitive goals for the year; 17 of the 18 students will return for kindergarten and there are 20 families in the registration process for the upcoming year with 8 on the waiting list. Regarding Pre-K funding, Ms. Wallace has been researching many grant opportunities, but has not been having success. She also

reported that, regarding the childcare assistance program, many of our parents do not meet all of the requirements of the program.

#### V. FINANCIAL/OPERATIONS

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 then reviewed with the Board the proposed budget for the 2022-2023 school year. She reviewed the budget in detail, noting that is based on enrollment of 500 students with a split of 475 due to expected attrition. She also presented a proforma budget to showcase various scenarios regarding enrollment numbers.

On motion duly made (Thomas) and seconded (Isenberg), the Board unanimously approved the 2022-23 budget as presented.

Regarding Capital Improvement and building repairs, Mrs. Shelton noted that CPS began caulking the windows and next steps will be tuckpointing.

She also noted that the Finance Committee is working on the refinance with IFF and that rates may be higher than what we initially anticipated due to changes in the market.

Finally, Mrs. Shelton noted that PECS is 100% on time in the Epicenter.

#### VI. RECRUITMENT

Mr. Wiley reported to the Board regarding recruitment, noting that as of July 8<sup>th</sup>, PECS had 469 enrolled through the system and that the recruitment team is confidently working to reach our goal of 500 students. He discussed historic attrition rates and the need to drive re-enrollment as well as new recruitment. The recruiting team has built relationships with some potential feeder programs, such as SOS Village, YMCA, and Trinity United Church; we will also benefit from our own Pre-K program. These opportunities can continue to propel enrollment going forward. We also have an opportunity to build on the increasing Hispanic population of Englewood. Transportation for communities outside of Englewood may also provide opportunity to increase enrollment and is something the team will review during the coming year.

#### VII. PECS PROMISE

Ms. Lewis gave the report. She discussed efforts to engage our alums, as well as our high school readiness work. We aim to increase acceptance to private and selective enrollment schools for our students, which we will do by starting earlier in informing our

students of their opportunities and their options and also beefing up our test prep and tutoring opportunities.

#### VIII. DEVELOPMENT

Mrs. Degenaaers gave the report, noting that, sadly, one of PECS past Kenilworth volunteers and mentors, Dana Fallon, passed away recently. In her passing, she asked that in lieu of flowers and gifts, friends and family donate to PECS in her honor. To date, we have received over \$12K due to her most thoughtful action. The Board expressed its deep gratitude to the Fallon family for their incredibly generosity in this difficult time. Mrs. Degenaaers discussed the Development Committee's plans to host an annual fundraising event in person this academic year if possible. We, like many others, have seen the effects that COVID has had on our development efforts; hopefully, that will change this year and we are excited to think of new and creative ways to raise money. An in-person event will allow us to engage with new potential donors and reconnect with past donors who may have lost touch.

#### IX. GOVERNANCE

Mr. Bergmann provided the Governance Report. He noted that he is the only director scheduled to rotate off from active service to the Board this year. We will need to reset some committees and Classes of Directors. Mrs. Fourte has stepped forward for consideration as Governance chair. Ms. Thomas has graciously stepped forward to be considered as Board Secretary. We will discuss these items at length at the September Board Meeting.

#### X. ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made (Fourte), seconded (Isenberg) and unanimously passed, the meeting of the Board was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: September 8, 2022, 4:00 p.m., Water Street, 444 W. Lake Street-Suite1800