

Providence Englewood Charter School
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
444 W. Lake Street, Suite 1800
Thursday, April 25, 2024
4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE IN PERSON/TELECONFERENCE

Directors

Ellen Kollar
Matt Bergmann
Peg Cain
Tim Dugan
Rona Fourte
Dr. Kelley Kalinich
Yolanda Lester
James Reilly
Eddie Ross
John Stevenson
John Stoops
Latasha Thomas
Arlen Wiley
Jason Zenner

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Caroline Degenaaars
Bernard Lilly
Joan Malliband
Leonard Murray

OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON

Staff

Shinwe Shelton, Deputy Director of Operations, PECS
Tahanni Ragland, Business Manager, PECS
Jessica Lewis, PECS Promise, PECS
Jacinta Wallace, Pre-K Director, PECS (Zoom)
Dr. Antoine Jones, Recruiter, PECS
Walter Matthews, Student Advocate, PECS (Zoom)

I. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. by Mrs. Kollar.

II. Public Participation Period

No requests were made for public participation in the meeting.

III. Opening Comments and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

On motion duly made (Thomas), seconded (Wiley), and unanimously passed, the Board approved the minutes of February 10, 2024.

On motion duly made (Zenner), seconded (Fourte), and unanimously passed, the Board approved the 2024-25 Academic Calendar.

On motion duly made (Thomas) and seconded (Zenner), the Board approved delegating the review and approval of the Form 990-tax return to the Finance Committee prior to filing.

IV. GOVERNANCE

Mrs. Fourte discussed with the Board the recommendation by the Governance Committee to add to the Board as a Director, Levi Neaville. Levi is currently the Chair of the Associate Board. Following discussion, upon a motion duly made (Thomas) and seconded (Wiley), the election of Levi Neaville as a Board Director was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Fourte reminded all Directors of their governance training commitments and noted that failure to complete the required training may result in a director being asked to take a sabbatical from Board service until such training can be completed. She noted that completion of the required training is particularly important as this is a charter renewal year.

V. ACADEMICS

a. Academic Report

Mrs. Cain reviewed the Academic Report with the Board, highlighting the assessment information included in the report. She noted that the iReady curriculum that PECS uses provides detailed assessment data for each student, giving an in-depth account of where each student stands in both reading and math and allowing for student-specific teaching plans to be developed. There is still much work to be done to drive academic achievement to where we want it to be.

The Board also reviewed data regarding schools within a 1-mile radius of PECS, noting that data show that PECS is among the top two schools in the area in terms of ELA and Math academic attainment.

VI. OPERATIONS/FINANCE

Mrs. Shelton reviewed with the Board the Financial Report in detail.

She also reviewed the draft of the 2024-25 budget, noting the changes in the CPS funding methodology. The Board reviewed and discussed the projected budget under various enrollment scenarios. Following discussion, the Board approved the budget, and discussed its intention to utilize cash reserves, if necessary, to fill positions that would otherwise need to be eliminated, in order to address the school's needs.

The Board also discussed potential funding sources for the PreK program.

VII. RECRUITMENT

Mr. Wiley provided an update regarding recruitment. He noted that the team remains optimistic about achieving the goal of 500 students in our building and discussed the range of activities and actions that the team is undertaking. It was also noted that PECS will move to using Power School, which will be a nimbler, more efficient system to replace SchoolMint as our primary source for student enrollment.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made (Fourte), seconded (Stevenson) and unanimously passed, the meeting of the Board is adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

IX. Closed Session

The Board convened in closed session to discuss personnel matters.

NEXT MEETING: Friday, June 7, 2024, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at PECS