

Providence Englewood Charter School  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Providence Englewood Charter School  
6515 South Ashland Ave  
Chicago, IL  
Friday, June 7, 2024, 12:00 p.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE IN PERSON/TELECONFERENCE

Directors

Ellen Kollar  
Matt Bergmann  
Peg Cain  
Caroline Degenaaars  
Dr. Kelley Kalinich (Zoom)  
Joan Malliband  
Levi Neaviell  
James Reilly (Zoom)  
Latasha Thomas (Zoom)  
Arlen Wiley

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Tim Dugan  
Rona Fourte  
Yolanda Lester  
Bernard Lilly  
Leonard Murray  
Eddie Ross  
John Stevenson  
John Stoops  
Jason Zenner

OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON

Staff

Angela Johnson-Williams, Principal, PECS  
Dr. Shinwe Shelton, Deputy Director of Operations, PECS  
Tahanni Ragland, Business Manager, PECS  
Jessica Lewis, PECS Promise, PECS  
Jacinta Wallace, Pre-K Director, PECS  
Dr. Antoine Jones, Recruiter, PECS  
Walter Matthews, Student Advocate, PECS  
Jami Rhue, Librarian, PECS  
Maria Yen, Kenilworth Volunteer  
Jamariyah Smith, PECS Alum

I. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 12:14 p.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

The approval of the minutes of the April 25, 2024, meeting will occur at the September Board meeting when an in-person quorum is present.

IV. ACADEMICS

To enable the Board to monitor and assess student and teacher performance, Mrs. Johnson-Williams shared the highlights of the Academic Report. She reported progress against the strategic goals for the year. The student achievement goal was that 80% of classrooms have 75% of students in each class earning a 75% or better on unit assessments. PECS did not meet this goal, largely due to the use of a new curriculum and a delayed start to our instructional coaching. We ended the year with 63% meeting the metric in reading and 41% in Math. We met the Culture Metric with 95% of students in each grade without strikeouts. The Business Metric fell just shy of the goal with 88% student attendance. Regarding the schoolwide academic goal to increase IAR ELA and Math from 10% to 20%, we met the goal at 24% in the ELA category, but did not meet the goal in Math, although we did increase to from 10% to 13%. Contributing factors for the increase in ELA may have been the inclusion of Drop Everything and Read and the work of the Reading Interventionist.

The Board discussed these results as well as the relevant interventions and actions to be taken to drive continued improvement.

Mrs. Johnson-Williams also discussed with the Board the Charter Renewal Application which is in progress.

V. PreK Report

Ms. Wallace gave updates for progress in Pre-K. She noted that we ended the year with 85% overall attendance and that 18 of 20 students will transition to kindergarten. She also reported about students ASQ assessments; Action Network for Children payments; and enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year. Ms. Wallace also reported on an exciting project that Pre-K did with the University of Chicago Embryology program: the Pre-K class raised chicken eggs from incubation to hatch in the classroom, which took about a month and thrilled the students.

## VI. OPERATIONS/FINANCE

To enable the Board to monitor and assess PECS's operations and financial performance, Dr. Shelton reviewed in detail the Financial and Operational Reports.

Dr. Shelton also reviewed the budget for the 2024-2025 school year. She noted that the budget is based on 440 students and that PECS will receive additional funding due to the CPS determination that they were not paying us our entire 97%. With the new funding, at 440 students we are budgeted to run a small surplus. The Budget will be submitted to CPS at the end of June.

With regard to compliance, Dr. Shelton noted that PECS compliance is at 100% through May.

The Board discussed these reports as well as appropriate next steps. The Board was pleased with the increase in funding from CPS and is hopeful that the budgeted enrollment will be achieved.

## VII. RECRUITMENT

Mr. Wiley updated the Board on our recruitment efforts. He noted that we are currently tracking toward 428 students (including re-enrollments thus far and new applications) and that the team is working hard to improve retention as quickly as possible. Utilizing our waitlist will be key to supplementing our natural attrition at the beginning of the school year.

The recruitment team has been beating the pavement visiting Daycare programs throughout the area to recruit those potential students and are excited about the possibilities that these institutions may bring. Pastor Matthews was even asked to be the graduation speaker at one of the daycares, The Literacy Zone, which has a large Hispanic population.

We have also been in contact with Alvin Boutte, Principal of Bronzeville Academy which is closing, about his willingness to present PECS as an option to their students.

The annual PECS Community Open House will take place June 14, 2024. There will be food, facepainting and fun, as well as a collaboration with a health van that will be able to give immunizations for the upcoming school year.

It was also noted that the new electronic sign is in place and working on the Northeast side of the building.

The Board discussed all of these developments and commended the recruitment team for their work. They also noted their enthusiasm about the new sign.

#### VIII. DEVELOPMENT

The Development Committee reported to the Board with respect to fundraising for the 2024-2025 year. They also thanked Levi Neaveill and the Associate Board for all their help with the PECS annual fundraising event.

The Committee hopes to re-invigorate the Kenilworth-PECS partnership with new families and reinvigorated connections between PECS and the Joseph Sears School in Kenilworth.

The Board thanked the Development Committee for another year of hard work and successful fundraising.

#### IX. ASSOCIATE BOARD

Mr. Neaveill reported to the Board with respect to the Associate Board, which now consists of 16 members. The Associates Board has a few recruiting and social events planned for the summer, including a school painting day at PECS.

The Board discussed its deep gratitude to Mr. Neaveill for all the wonderful work that the Associates Board is doing and the energy they are bringing to PECS.

#### X. PECS PROMISE

Ms. Lewis reported to the Board with respect to the PECS Promise Program. She noted that PECS alum, Jamariya Smith, is present at today's meeting. In addition, there were roughly 50 alumni present for PECS's recent Field Day.

The Board happily noted that the involvement of so many alum is a testament to the positive impact PECS has on our students and families.

#### XI. ADJOURNMENT

The general meeting of the Board was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

#### XII. Closed Session

The Board then convened for a Closed Session to discuss personnel matters and proposed changes to the PECS organizational structure.

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024, 4:00 p.m. (Water Street – 444 W. Lake St., Ste 1800)**