

Board Meeting Minutes

Organization: Pride Academy Charter School Board Meeting
President: Mr. Mitchell
Time: 6:10pm
Place: Virtual Platform
Date: October 27, 2021
Minute Taker: Mrs. Wilson
Board Members Present: Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. Taylor, Dr. Morgan-Black, Mrs. Spence
Mr. Moore (Late arrival)
Others Present: Dr. Jones, Mrs. Thomas, Ms. Dumenigo
Ashley Taylor (guest candidate for membership)

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 6pm

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:10pm and Roll Call was taken.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLICATIONS: Newark NJ Star Ledger, NJ.com and published on school website: www.prideacs.org

Resolution to accept agenda for October 27, 2021 meeting - Attachment 1

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the agenda for October 27, 2021 meeting - Attachment 1

Resolution to accept September 22, 2021 Regular Board meeting minutes – Attachment 2

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor
Mrs. Taylor – in favor
Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor
Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To accept September 22, 2021 Regular Board meeting minutes – Attachment 2

Update from Mr. Ofstad:

-Mr. Ofstad presented our School Data Dashboard which is a requirement from the Charter Renewal Board
-The presentation reflected data from LinkIt! Assessments (Math and ELA), NWEA MAP (science), assessment data for Social Studies
-There were observations in the disparity of data between Math and ELA performance
-15% of student population have IEPs (45 scholars)
-3% of student population has a 504 Plan
-7th and 8th grade has the highest number of scholars with SLD (specific learning disabilities)
-beginning of year, Start Stronge assessments were administered in Math, ELA and Science. The data was divided in three categories (less support, some support and high support). Mr. Ofstad reviewed the data for each grade level.
→ We need to consider the effects of the year before (remote learning)
→ Start Stronge assessment measured skills on content from the grade level before (ex. 5th grade measured on 4th grade standards)
→ Ex. The data shows 87% of scholars in 5th grade need high support in Math
→ LinkIt! data was broken down to reveal a more detailed and promising picture of where the scholars are (in terms of grade level) and where they are headed by the end of the year.

School Goals discussed:

1. Academic growth: 10% in ELA and 15% growth in Math.

-We use LinkIt! a separate platform that provides us with state-like assessments and shows us where students are in the beginning, middle and end of the year.

-more practice with Moby Max (Math) and iReady (ELA)

-science state assessments for Grades 5 and 8

-data tracking consistently

-adjusted schedule to provide more time in content areas of Math, ELA, and Science

2. Create a STEM focused class

3. Professional Development (coaching sessions outlined throughout the year)

-increased the number of staff to include 2 teachers in Science classes

4. Accelerated Learning

-SAT APP program designed in 6-week intervals for targeted scholars to work on skill gaps

-more time in content classes

-RTI class focus in ELA where a teacher will meet with small groups of scholars

5. Family Partnerships

6. SEL focus- ongoing throughout the year

Dr. Jones reviewed the Financial Records information and indicated that we met our financial standards through operational metrics analysis and confirmed by audits conducted. These metrics include near term indicators and sustainability indicators, revenue and expenses, attendance, student attendance and staff retention, financial reporting and compliance – all part of the charter school financial performance framework.

RESOLUTIONS

F1: Resolution to Accept Payroll Expense for the current month(s) through September 2021 – Attachment F1

Net Pay: \$168,019.60

Agency Costs: \$121,123.94

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Payroll Expense for the current month(s) through September 2021- Attachment F1

F2: Resolution to accept the Bills List for the current month(s) September 18, 2021 through October 22, 2021- Attachment F2

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To accept the Bills List for the current month(s) September 18, 2021 through October 22, 2021- Attachment F2

F3: Resolution to approve the FICA Reimbursement Report through October 15, 2021- Attachment F3

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the FICA Reimbursement Report through October 15, 2021- Attachment F3

F4: Resolution to accept the renewal of the Professional Services provider- Insurance Brokers- Fortitude Insurance Agency-Attachment F4

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To accept the renewal of the Professional Services provider- Insurance Brokers- Fortitude Insurance Agency- Attachment F4

F5: Resolution to accept the renewal of the professional services provider- Treasurer of Monies- Robert Mozeika - Attachment F5

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

**BOARD VOTED: To accept the renewal of the professional services provider-
Treasurer of Monies- Robert Mozeika-- Attachment F5**

**F6: Resolution to Accept the renewal of professional services provider:
Depository and Disbursement Banking - Fulton Bank of NJ- Attachment F6**

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

**BOARD VOTED: To Accept the renewal of professional services provider:
Depository and Disbursement Banking - Fulton Bank of NJ- Attachment F6**

**F7: Resolution to Renew Membership with NJSIG, New Jersey Schools Insurance
Group, North Jersey Educational Insurance Fund, Indemnity and Trust Agreement
from July 1, 2021, to July 1, 2024, for a period of three years - Attachment F7**

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

**BOARD VOTED: To Renew Membership with NJSIG, New Jersey Schools
Insurance Group, North Jersey Educational Insurance Fund, Indemnity and Trust
Agreement from July 1, 2021, to July 1, 2024, for a period of three years -
Attachment F7**

**F8: Resolution to approve the submission of the FY21 ESEA Final Expenditure
Report and the submission of the FY21 IDEA Final Report- Attachment F8**

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor
Mrs. Taylor – in favor
Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor
Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the submission of the FY21 ESEA Final Expenditure Report and the submission of the FY21 IDEA Final Report- Attachment F8

F9: Resolution to approve the new Business Office Fiscal Policy- Attachment F9

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor
Mrs. Taylor – in favor
Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor
Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: to approve the new Business Office Fiscal Policy- Attachment F9

F10. Resolution to accept and submit the Payroll Verification Certification of Compliance with the Requirements of NJAC 6A:23A-5.7, & Charter School NJAC 6A:23A-22.8 - Attachment F10

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor
Mrs. Taylor – in favor
Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor
Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: to accept and submit the Payroll Verification Certification of Compliance with the Requirements of NJAC 6A:23A-5.7, & Charter School NJAC 6A:23A-22.8 - Attachment F10

F11. Resolution to Accept the Treasurer's reports to current – Attachment F11

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

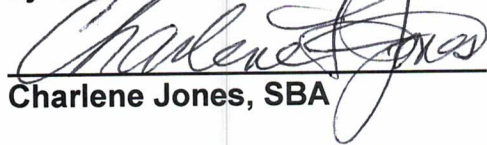
Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To accept the Treasurer's reports to current – Attachment F11

F12. Resolution to accept the Board Secretary Financial Report – Attachment F12

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.1 0 (c)3, I certify that as of September 2021, no major budgetary line item account expenditure exceeds the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education.


Charlene Jones, SBA

10/22/21
October 22, 2021

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To accept the Board Secretary Financial Report – Attachment F12

F13. Resolution to Approve Budget Transfers for 2021-2022 school year – Attachment F13

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.1 et seq., whenever the school district desires to transfer amounts among line items and program categories, the transfers shall be by resolution of the Board approved by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the authorized membership of the Board. Therefore, listed in this resolution attachment is the exact amount of the transfers and from the application accounts or fund balance

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor
Mrs. Taylor – in favor
Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor
Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve Budget Transfers for 2021-2022 school year - Attachment F13

F14. Resolution to approve Meshinsky & Associates, LLC to conduct the annual audit for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment F14

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor
Mrs. Taylor – in favor
Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor
Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve Meshinsky & Associates, LLC to conduct the annual audit for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment F14

Facilities Report- Dr. Jones:

- We have put two new AC units in
- Steam cleaning of classrooms due to teacher reporting issue
- Plumbing repair took place in the boy's bathroom, Social Worker office in the basement (also cleaned and painted).
- Heating is tested and functioning well
- Wall reconstructed in the Common Room due to hole
- General repairs and cleaning
- Food inspection was in compliance
- Ongoing safety protocols for the pandemic are in place
- Still awaiting payment for the rear siding due to PODs accident
- Back steps are in need of repair
- Approved to obtain the 300 Chromebooks for our scholars from the ERATE grant. We will ensure they have covers and distributed to the scholars
- Call for the panic button/security- there may be more than one place for the button; i.e. Administrators can have access on their phones. There is a grant for schools to get the Panic Button. We may apply for next year installation.

Principal Report- delivered by Ms. Dumenigo

-We have been focused on getting ready for Charter Renewal: schedule, inviting parents, sharing information with teachers, preparing scholars, and more.

-We spent time this past Friday reviewing our school mission, vision, our work towards our goals, etc. with teachers

-Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Ofstad and the School Nurse have worked diligently to manage COVID-19 related cases (primarily from home exposures). Out of an abundance of safety, we ask the entire team to remain home and return to school if they test negative.

-Mrs. Thomas continues to be extremely supportive and present to staff and student needs as they arise during this time.

-We continue to be very cautious with our efforts regarding safety for COVID-19 related issues in the school

-RESPECT Month is coming to an end. We have had a variety of activities- Dress Down, Kindness Challenge, Tackle Bullying (t-shirt prizes courtesy of the NY Jets), Acts of Kindness per grade level, inspirational quotes, etc. There have also been presentations from the Social Workers and Gym teacher related to healthy relationships and bullying.

-Flag Football team and Cheerleading are in full swing and going well.

-Staff continues to go above and beyond to deliver strong lessons and engaging activities for scholars

-Ms. Dumenigo reviewed the Project Pride service projects. 6th grade wanted to do a community wide competition to raise money for Isaiah House in East Orange and also collect toiletries. Scholars presented to LOL (League of Leaders) the idea for Penny Wars across the grade levels.

***Mr. Mitchell acknowledged the work of the staff and Leadership Team.**

R1: Resolution to approve contract change for Ms. Lumumba for the 2021-2022 school year - Attachment R1

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve contract change for Ms. Lumumba for the 2021-2022 school year - Attachment R1

R2: Resolution to approve contract change for Ms. Gary to ELA Teacher, for the 2021-2022 school year- Attachment R2

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve contract change for Ms. Gary for the 2021-2022 school year. Attachment- R2

R3. Resolution to approve contract for Brother Jerome Hunter for African Dance Classes for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachment R3

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve contract for Brother Jerome Hunter for African Dance Classes for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachment R3

R4. Resolution to approve the adoption of modification to Policy *Handling Complaints and Grievances* – Attachment R4

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the adoption of modification to Policy *Handling Complaints and Grievances* – Attachment R4

R5. Resolution to approve submission of the annual program for emergency virtual or remote instruction (Plan) – Attachment R5

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve submission of the annual program for emergency virtual or remote instruction (Plan) – Attachment R5

R6. Resolution to approve the Professional Development Plan (PDP) for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachment R6

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Professional Development Plan (PDP) for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachment R6

R7. Resolution to approve ELA Curriculum updates and Grade 6 Novels for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachments R7

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Taylor – in favor

Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor

Mrs. Spence – in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve ELA Curriculum updates and Grade 6 Novels for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachments R7

NEW BUSINESS:

- Hispanic Heritage Month Dance Celebration (virtual presentation) for families where videos of various Latin Dances will be shared
- ESSA zoom meeting where Mr. Ofstad and Mrs. Marash will share Data Dashboard, intervention supports offered and listen to input from parents.
- Invitations were extended to the Board members to support their goals of being involved in community events
- Mrs. Thomas reviewed the schedule for the day of Charter Renewal Site Visit and the Board member interviews

OLD BUSINESS:

- Charter Renewal Discussion- November 3rd

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

- NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05PM

Motion to approve: Dr. Morgan-Black

Seconded: Mrs. Taylor

Vote:

- Mr. Mitchell- in favor
- Mrs. Taylor – in favor
- Dr. Morgan-Black - in favor
- Mrs. Spence – in favor
- Mr. Moore – in favor

Motion Carried

Motion Carried: Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM

Next Board meeting on November 17, 2021