

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Organization:** Pride Academy Charter School Board Meeting  
**President:** Mr. Mitchell  
**Time:** 6:05pm  
**Place:** Virtual Platform  
**Date:** December 15, 2021  
**Minute Taker:** Mrs. Wilson  
**Board Members Present:** Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. D. Taylor, Ms. A. Taylor  
**Others Present:** Dr. Jones, Mrs. Thomas, Ms. Dumenigo,  
**Absent:** Mr. Moore, Mrs. Spence

### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

***Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 6pm***

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm and Roll Call was taken.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Motion to approve and vote: Mr. Mitchell**

#### **Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor  
Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor  
Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLICATIONS:** Newark NJ Star Ledger, NJ.com and published on school website: [www.prideacs.org](http://www.prideacs.org)

### **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE BOARD MEETING:**

**Motion to approve: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

#### **Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor  
Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor  
Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**BOARD VOTED: To approve the agenda for December 15, 2021- Board Meeting- Attachment 1**

**Resolution to approve the minutes for November 17, 2021**

Tabled for next meeting.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**F1: Resolution to accept Payroll Expense for the current month(s) through November 2021- Attachment F1**

**Net Pay: \$169,222.61**

**Agency Costs: \$191,097.67**

**Motion to approve: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor

Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

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

**F2. Resolution to Accept the Bills List for the current months(s) November 13, 2021 – December 13, 2021– Attachment F2**

**Includes standard monthly bills- rent, electric, health insurance, copy machine, copy supplies, pest control, maintenance costs, etc.**

**Total Amount- \$386,145.10 (includes payroll)**

**Motion to approve: Mrs. Spence**

**Seconded: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor

Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**BOARD VOTED: To accept the Bills List for the current month(s) November 13, 2021 thru December 13, 2021- Attachment F2**

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

**Motion to approve: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor

Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

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

**F4. Board Secretary Financial Report – Attachment F4**

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.1 0 (c)3, I certify that as of November 30, 2021, no major budgetary line item account expenditure exceeds the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education.

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**Charlene Jones, SBA**

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**December 13, 2021**

**Motion to approve: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor

Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**BOARD VOTED: To Approve the Board Secretary Financial Report – Attachment F4**

**F5. Approve Budget Transfers for 2021-2022 school year – Attachment F5**

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: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor

Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**BOARD VOTED: To Approve the Budget Transfers – Attachment F5**

**F6. Approve the submission of Preschool and Charter Security Grant to NJDOE by November 24, 2021, for compliance with Alyssa's Law and school safety - Attachment F6**

- To receive an allocation of \$20,000 to provide a new security system and panic button installation
- Panic button is something we need to comply with and something we started to explore prior to the pandemic lockdown in 2019. \*This is for extreme emergency situations-ex. School shootings

**Motion to approve: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor

Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**BOARD VOTED: To approve the submission of Preschool and Charter Security Grant to NJDOE by November 24, 2021, for compliance with Alyssa's Law and School safety- Attachment F6**

**Facilities Report by Dr. Jones**

- Preparing for Winter Recess Cleaning
- We are still working to resolve electrical issues and hopefully over the next two weeks, all of this should be resolved
- Repair of the stairwell
- The side of the building that was damaged has now been repaired
- We have also expanded our Internet service/repair and have Dean, a vendor who is helping us with this area. His fee is \$135/hour and we are looking at his contract to determine how much/frequent we will need his services to come to an agreement
- We are still in the midst of setting up the new Chromebook; insurance is being purchased for the equipment as well. Hard covers were ordered for each Chromebook, and it will take some time to place them on. Hopefully, by the next month or two, all the setup will be complete
- The Fire Alarm still displays zones that are problematic. However, there are nationwide delays that are impacting a resolution to this issue. Efforts are ongoing to resolve the issues.

**Principal Report- Mrs. Thomas:**

**R1. To approve the hiring of Kande Agbere, for the position of School Nurse for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachment R1**

- We have been looking to hire a second nurse, especially because of this year and the needs.
- Nurse Evans will remain on staff

**Motion to approve: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor  
Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor  
Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**BOARD VOTED: Approve the hiring of Kande Agbere, for the position of School Nurse for the 2021-2022 school year - Attachment R1**

**R2. To approve the contract renewal for Ms. Taylor Gary to return to her original position of hire- Attachment R2**

**-Ms. Gary has expressed a desire to return to her former position at the same salary**

**Motion to approve: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor  
Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor  
Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**BOARD VOTED: Approve the contract renewal for Ms. Taylor Gary to return to her original position of hire- Attachment R2**

**R3. Mrs. Thomas shared about the yearly memorandum of agreement between our school and law enforcement. For our school, the agency is the East Orange Police Department. It is a lengthy document that outlines the responsibilities of the Chief of Police, Superintendent of Essex, and the Board of Trustees.**

**Motion to approve: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor  
Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor  
Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**BOARD VOTED: To approve the memorandum of agreement between our school and the law enforcement agency- Attachment R3**

**R4. The school is required to complete a Gifted and Talented service report. We currently do not have an official Gifted and Talented program. The Algebra 1 program meets those needs in some way but not completely. This is an initiative and goal which requires funding, staffing and space. Our next steps are to identify ways in which we will move forward and establish such a program.**

**Motion to approve: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor

Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**BOARD VOTED: To approve the Gifted and Talented Service Report- Attachment R4**

**R5. Correspondence – Approval of Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program-Attachment R5**

- Based on the trends from the course of the past few weeks; incidences of covid exposure, covid positive cases-with scholars, their families, staff members and their families, mental wellness concerns, we are at a critical point that has led to this decision
- The stress and strain of these concerns are felt in the building- the Covid testing/awaiting test results, and the coverage needs due to staff being out are also factors. We are also entering a time of family travel and gathering
- Today, there were quite a few scholars sent home for Covid-like symptoms
- We would like to request that we go into full remote instruction and would like to begin 12/16 until January 10, 2022.

**Motion to approve: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor

Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**BOARD VOTED: To Approve the Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program- Attachment R5**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**NONE**

### Upcoming Events:

Pride SOARS ended this past week.

-6<sup>th</sup> grade Penny Wars was very successful

-Philanthropy Day will be conducted virtually

-Interim assessments were administered this week and we are scheduled to do our deep dive into data this Friday. Teachers wore the Thriving Lions shirts to motivate the scholars



## UPCOMING EVENTS



- Pride SOARS ended this past Saturday
- 6th Grade Project Pride Service Project
  - PENNY WARS: Nov 29 to Dec 3 - Donations of funds & food items go to Isaiah House
- Kwanzaa Celebration via Zoom on Tuesday, December 21st at 6pm
  - I will send you this slide with the link to the zoom meeting on it.
- Philanthropy Day on Thursday, December 23rd 8am to 12:00pm
- Interim Assessment incentives - Scholars who get the HIGHEST scores on the second interim assessment OR show the MOST GROWTH and earn a THRIVING LIONS long sleeve T-shirt!

**WORK HARD and THRIVE!**

**Get the HIGHEST scores on the second interim assessment OR show the MOST GROWTH and earn this THRIVING LIONS long sleeve T-shirt!**

**HEY, PRIDE SCHOLARS!**  
**LOOK AT WHAT YOU CAN WIN!**



All Pride scholars that THRIVE by EXCELLING and GROWING on our Interim Assessments, will get a "PRIDE LIONS THRIVE" long sleeve shirt.

PRIDE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

### OLD BUSINESS:

→ Regular Monthly Board Meeting Dates 2021-2022 – Next Meeting January 26, 2022

→ Self-Evaluation Update

### COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

→ NONE

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:54PM**

**Motion to approve: Mrs. D. Taylor**

**Seconded: Ms. A. Taylor**

**Vote:**

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor

Ms. A. Taylor - in favor

**Motion Carried**

**Motion Carried: Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM**

**Next Board meeting on January 26, 2022 at 6PM.**