

Board Meeting Minutes

Organization: Pride Academy Charter School Board Meeting
President: Mr. Mitchell
Time: 6:06pm
Place: Virtual Platform
Date: January 26, 2022
Minute Taker: Mrs. Wilson
Board Members Present: Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. D. Taylor, Ms. A. Taylor, Mrs. Spence

Others Present: Dr. Jones, Mrs. Thomas, Ms. Dumenigo
Absent: Mr. Moore

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 6pm

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:06pm 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 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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the agenda for January 26, 2022- Board Meeting- Attachment 1

Resolution to approve the minutes for November 17, 2021- Attachment 2

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the minutes for November 17, 2021- Attachment 2

Resolution to approve the minutes for December 15, 2021- Attachment 3

Tabled for next meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

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

→ Dr. Jones reviewed the monthly expenditures and payroll

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

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

F2: Resolution to accept the Bills List for the current month(s) December 14, 2021 thru January 25, 2022- Attachment F2

Includes standard monthly bills- rent, electric, health insurance, copy machine, copy supplies, pest control, maintenance costs, and payroll

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To accept the Bills List for the current month(s) December 14, 2021 thru January 25, 2022- Attachment F2

F3: Resolution to approve the FICA Reimbursement Report through January 15, 2022- 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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the FICA Reimbursement Report through January 15, 2022- Attachment F3

F4: Resolution to Accept the Board Secretary's Report

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 4 We certify that after review of the secretary's monthly financial report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major accounts or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Furthermore, Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c)3, I certify that as of December 31, 2021, that no major budgetary line-item account expenditure exceeds the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Charlene Jones, SBA

January 26, 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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To accept the Board Secretary's Report – Attachment F4

F5: Resolution to Accept the Treasurer's reports to current – Attachment F5

→ Dr. Jones reviewed the balances as outlined in the reports

→ There is also a bank statement for the current month which is in a healthy place

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To accept the Treasurer's reports to current- Attachment F5

F6: Approve Budget Transfers for 2021-2022 school year – Attachment F6

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.1 listed budget transfers are needed to reclass expenditures from original budget approved by the board. The amount and account information is provided in detail in the attachment. - Attachment F6

Motion to approve: Mrs. Spence

Seconded: Mrs. D. Taylor

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. D. Taylor – in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Budget Transfers for 2021-2022 school year- Attachment F6

F7: Approve Budget Transfers for 2021-2022 school year – Attachment F7
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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Budget Transfers for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachment F7

F8: Resolution to Approve the submission of the district’s annual audit report of the 2020-2021 school fiscal year conducted pursuant to N.J.S.18A:23-1 which is to be completed not later than January 31, 2022 and submitted to the Commissioner of Education not later than February 5, 2022. (*NJDOE deadline subject to change*) – Attachment F8

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: Approve the submission of the district’s annual audit report of the 2020-2021 school fiscal year. Attachment- F8

F9: Resolution to Approve submission of the Title I Performance Report for 2020-2021 by January 7, 2022. – Attachment F9

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: Approve the submission of the Title I Performance Report for 2020-2021 by January 7, 2022- Attachment F9

F10. Resolution to Approve board secretary certification that a change in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 2 and the revised 2021-2022 budget that include the 108-Line Budget Summary, Budget Narrative and Cash Flow schedule be submitted to the NJDOE Office of Charter Schools by February 15, 2022– Attachment F10

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: Approve the Board Secretary certification that a change in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources will be submitted to the NJDOE Office of Charter Schools by February 15, 2022– Attachment F10

F11. Resolution to Approve the Fund 20 drawdowns of \$100,000 and \$116,000 funds for purchases related to the CRRSA - ESSER II grant. – Attachment F11

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Fund 20 drawdowns of \$100,000 and \$116,000 funds for purchases related to the CRRSA - ESSER II grant. – Attachment F11

F12. Resolution to Approve the Charter School Enrollment Projection and Certification for the 2022-2023 school year as required by the NJDOE for FY23 budgetary purpose – Attachment F12

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Charter School Enrollment Projection and Certification for the 2022-2023 school year as required by the NJDOE for FY23 budgetary purpose – Attachment F12

Facilities Report by Dr. Jones

→ Maintenance and daily cleaning

- we've established a new maintenance service contract so our representative Dean who handles all of our networking for the school is going to support us with maintenance services
- reconfiguring the IT closet
- some electrical upgrades
- rewiring areas and working towards the installation of the panic button and new security cameras; received a few proposals for that as well as a new camera system that would be really supportive for the work that Ms. Brower does with investigations and such
- first snow day clean up- we will look to negotiate the fee for the services since we paid about \$2000 for the snow cleanup and that can become costly
- Setting up the Chromebooks and organizing a plan to distribute them
- Exploring a new phone system and updating our signage reader board

Principal Report- Mrs. Thomas

School Lottery:

- We held our September 2022-2023 school lottery (virtual with some in person attendance)
- Healthy waiting lists across grade levels

Race and Justice Committee:

- We continue with our work and efforts towards being ABAR (anti-bias, anti-racists) educators
- We will have workshops for teachers- one starting in March
- We have engaged in rich discussion about redlining and how this practice influenced the design and structure of our cities and schools, and it's relevance to our teaching

- Dr. Chike Akua will be presenting to scholars and families and faculty in February for Black History Month

Co-teaching workshops:

- Providing support for teachers to strengthen our co-teaching model and ultimately maximize learning opportunities for our scholars.

Interims:

- The 2nd round of interims was administered.
- Some data trends reflected the need for re-teach in some basic skills and continued differentiation to bring scholars closer to performing at grade level or challenging them to go beyond current grade as appropriate

Returning to in-person

- Getting ready to return to in-person on January 31, 2022
- We will continue with weekly Covid testing

R1. Resolution to Approve Remote Instruction for the additional weeks of January 10th and January 17th and January 24th, 2022 to ensure the maximum amount of isolation, recovery, and quarantine time for staff and students impacted by COVID-19 illness and close contact to COVID-19 positive individuals over this period.- Attachment R1

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve Remote Instruction for the additional weeks of January 10th and January 17th and January 24th, 2022 to ensure the maximum amount of isolation, recovery, and quarantine time for staff and students impacted by COVID-19 illness and close contact to COVID-19 positive individuals over this period. – Attachment R1

R2. Resolution to Approve the annual agreement with Essex Regional Educational Services Commission for speech/language services and rates for the 2021-2022 school year - Attachment R2

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the annual agreement with Essex Regional Educational Services Commission for speech/language services and rates for the 2021-2022 school year - Attachment R2

R3. Resolution to Approve the submission of the School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Acts (July 2020-June 2021) to the NJDOE – Attachment R3

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the submission of the School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Acts (July 2020-June 2021) to the NJDOE – Attachment R3

R4. Resolution to accept the new contract/hiring of LoBello as Paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachment R4

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To accept the new contract/hiring of LoBello as Paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachment R4

R5. Resolution to cancel resolution R3 last month.

- There was a resolution regarding Ms. Gary's change in position. She will remain in her current position as a co-teacher in Grade 7.

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To cancel resolution R3 last month.

- There was a resolution regarding Ms. Gary's change in position. She will remain in her current position as a co-teacher in Grade 7.

NEW BUSINESS:

→ Board member list certification for 2022 with School Ethics Commission – Feb 1, 2022

→ New year is open for disclosures of Board members. Our deadline was met for this year.

→ Board Institute Training by NJPCSA –December 14th
(Completed by J. Spence, C. Jones)

Takeaways:

→ Mrs. Spence shared that she learned some things- procedurally and governance related that she did not know in relation to the role of the Board

→ Dr. Jones shared that Harry Lee provided some insights with school leaders and spoke about:

- trust- establishing trust with the Board and School Leadership,
- the performance evaluation for school leaders
- the performance framework that we experienced with Charter Renewal
- ways in which the Board can support the School Leadership Team
- discussing data points frequently with school leaders along with analysis of budget and ensuring that everything is aligned with the school goals
- accountability for school leaders and how best to work with the Board

OLD BUSINESS:

→ Regular Monthly Board Meeting Dates 2021-2022 – Next Meeting February 23, 2022

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

→ NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32PM

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

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Motion Carried

Motion Carried: Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 PM

Next Board meeting on February 23, 2022