

Board Meeting Minutes

Organization: Pride Academy Charter School Board Meeting
President: Mr. Mitchell
Time: 6:24pm
Place: Virtual Platform
Date: March 23, 2022
Minute Taker: Mrs. Wilson
Board Members Present: Mr. Mitchell, Ms. A. Taylor, Mrs. Deidre Taylor, Mrs. Spence

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

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at 6:30pm

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:24pm 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: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 March 23, 2022- Board Meeting- Attachment 1

Resolution to accept December 15, 2021 Regular Board meeting minutes – Attachment 2

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 December 15, 2021- Attachment 2

Resolution to accept January 2, 2022 Regular Board meeting minutes – Attachment 3

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 January 2, 2022- Attachment 2

Budget presentation by Dr. Jones:

- There was growth observed on the academic data analysis and there was an increase in curriculum platforms utilized.
- Academic Support Staff was increased as well as the addition of a School Nurse
- Provided Instructional staff with coaching and PD, sharing of best practices, and continuing to be culturally responsive with our teaching approaches.
- We had 100% student enrollment and we still there as of today
- We have a high level of staff retention, and we hope we'll have similar results at the end of this year.
- We've most importantly ensured the safety of our students, staff and families with increased COVID-19 protocols and hats off to Mrs. Thomas and Mr. Ofstad with the tracker and the weekly testing facilitation, and everyone else on the school staff that have been helpful in making sure the safety and security of everyone particularly our maintenance staff as well, with the Shields and the storage pods; furniture movement, and additional deep cleaning in respect to our facilities this year
- We submitted grants for building upgrades and increasing security of camera upgrades pending approval from state.
- We added the part time maintenance staff for cleaning during the school day, help with the lunch periods, etc.
- Continued to provide COVID-19 relief efforts for the community through weekly testing and increase cleaning and PPE for safety
- With respect to technology we purchased more Wi-Fi and technology, receive support from our database administrator Dean- he's been at the school regularly trying to solve our Wi-Fi issues
- We also received 300 new Chromebooks for the entire student body from e-rate federal grant funding to ensure 1-to-1.

-A Director of Technology was hired- Mr. Harris and we also redesigned our website which Ms. Dumenigo has been effortlessly working on through weekly meetings and redesigning the layout
- When you look at our budget and our historical trend for state aid as you can see previous years we had a little lower enrollment but the last few years we were holding steady at 300 with a slight increase in state aid this year, approximately 9% increase.
- Additional items were reviewed line by line and rationale for all budgetary items for board approval and then state submission.

RESOLUTIONS

F1. Resolution to Accept Payroll Expense for the current month(s) through January 2022 and February 2022 – Attachment F1

→ Dr. Jones reviewed the monthly expenditures and payroll

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 Payroll Expense for the current month(s) through January 2022 and February 2022 – Attachment F1

F2: Resolution to Accept the Bills List for the current months(s) January 26, 2022 – March 18, 2022 – Attachment F2

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

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 months(s) January 26, 2022 – March 18, 2022 – Attachment F2

**F3: Resolution to Accept the FICA Reimbursement Report through March 15, 2022
- Attachment F3**

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 FICA Reimbursement Report through March 15, 2022 - Attachment F3

F4: Resolution to Accept the Board Secretary's Report

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c)3, I certify that as of February 28, 2022, that no major budgetary line-item account expenditure exceeds the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education and those sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Charlene F. Jones

3/23/2022

Charlene Jones, SBA

March 23, 2022

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 2021-2022 school year- Attachment F6

Audit Report: Mr. Phil Meshinsky

- The auditor reviewed the line items, expenditures, funding amounts and balances.
- School budget is in a healthy place
- Commended Dr. Jones on the level of detail and thoroughness in the report and her work

F7: Resolution to Approve submission of the 2020-2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) to the Department of Education. according to the provisions of N.J.S.18A:23-1, N.J.S.18A:23-3. – Attachment F7

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 submission of SEMI request of non-participation 2022-2023 school year – Attachment F8

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 submission of SEMI request of non-participation 2022-2023 school year – Attachment F8

Facilities Report by Dr. Jones:

- Mrs. Thomas is on top of issues as they arise and it is very helpful for the Business Office to ensure the safety of the building
- Some roof leakage was resolved
- -There was an issue with the backup of the main sewer line, and we were able to resolve it
- Desk shields were removed from desks in classrooms
- New time clock installed in the main office for punching in/punching out- will support staff attendance reports
- Still experiencing challenges with Wi-Fi and working to improve connection and minimize disruptions for teachers and students

F9: Resolution to Approve FY23 Budget, \$5,076,669, including the 108-Line Budget Summary, Budget Narrative and Cash Flow schedule be submitted to the NJDOE Office of Charter Schools – Attachment F9

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 FY23 Budget, \$5,076,669, including the 108-Line Budget Summary, Budget Narrative and Cash Flow schedule be submitted to the NJDOE Office of Charter Schools – Attachment F9

F10. Resolution to Approve the approval and submission of charter and renaissance school project capital maintenance funds to the NJDOE Office of

Charter Schools of \$24,249 for incurred expenses for this fiscal year - Attachment F10

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 approval and submission of charter and renaissance school project capital maintenance funds to the NJDOE Office of Charter Schools of \$24,249 for incurred expenses for this fiscal year - Attachment F10

F11. Resolution to Approve the Fund 20 drawdowns of \$117,477 funds for purchases related to the CRRSA - ESSER II grant. – Attachment F11

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 \$117,477 funds for purchases related to the CRRSA - ESSER II grant. – Attachment F11

F12. Resolution to Accept the IDEA and ESEA funds for 2022-2023 school year with budget allocated as follows:

IDEA (Basic)	\$76,498
Title IA	\$149,547
Title IIA	\$15,740
Title IV	\$11,655

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 IDEA and ESEA funds for 2022-2023 school year

Principal Report- Mrs. Thomas

- We have full enrollment (300 scholars). Thank you to the efforts of Ms. Oates for her determination in reaching out to families to ensure the spot was filled.
- Second trimester report card were distributed and teachers are conferencing with families.
- Preparing for the third interim assessment before the state testing in May. The data will support our NJSLA countdown, and the tests will give students an opportunity to grow in stamina and focus under a mock testing climate.
- Ms. Dumenigo shared that we were able to present Isaiah House with the check for the money raised during our Penny Wars
- Our Instagram and Facebook pages are active
- Third cohort for Pride SOARs begins this weekend. Scholars in this group were selected based on being on the cusp with their scores (approaching proficiency).
- We're very excited that this Friday we're hosting our interim assessment awards assembly and that's going to be presenting students who either had the highest score or grew the most from the first interim assessment to the second interim assessment- they will be presented with a long sleeve Pride shirt
- 10 Day countdown begins for NJSLA. Theme is Believe in your Selfie
- Family meeting: Special Education Parent Advisory Group- geared and focused on our families that receive special services but we invite the whole community to attend. The group will discuss ways of supporting parents on managing emotions; which through the pandemic have been heightened for a lot of our kids partly just because of the stress of it all and also part of it is them not being able interact with other people. The meeting will be presented by Miss Farl and Mr. Charles, our Social Workers and Mrs. Marash, our SPED Director.

R1. Resolution to Approve revised Teacher Contracts for the 2022-2023 school year- Attachment R1

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 revised Teacher Contracts for the 2022-2023 school year. – Attachment R1

R2. Resolution to Approve employee salary adjustments for the 2022-2023 school year- Attachment R2

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 employee salary adjustments for the 2022-2023 school year- Attachment R2

NEW BUSINESS:

→ Ms. Dumenigo shared upcoming events

→ Schools Boards' Training – Ashley – Governance I

OLD BUSINESS:

→ Regular Monthly Board Meeting Dates 2021-2022 – Next Meeting April 27, 2022

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

→ NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55PM

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Mrs. D. 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 7:56 PM