

Board Meeting Minutes

Organization: Pride Academy Charter School Board Meeting
President: Mr. Mitchell
Time: 6:34pm
Place: Virtual Platform
Date: July 17, 2024
Minute Taker: Mrs. Wilson
Board Members Present: Mr. Mitchell, Ms. A. Taylor, Mrs. Spence,
Ms. Brown, Mr. Moore, Ms. D. Taylor, Mr. Rosario

Others Present: Dr. Jones, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Zabor

Absent:

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Next Board Meeting: August 21, 2024 at 6 pm

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm and Roll Call was taken.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLICATIONS: The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, The Pride Academy Charter School Board of Trustees has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the Star Ledger and on NJ.COM under Legal Notices and posted on the school website.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE BOARD MEETING: Resolution to Accept Agenda for July 17, 2024, Regular Meeting - Attachment 1

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To accept the Agenda for July 17, 2024, Regular Meeting - Attachment 1

Approval of Board Minutes: Resolution to Approve the Minutes from the May 15, 2024, Regular Meeting– Attachment 2

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Minutes from the May 15, 2024, Regular Meeting– Attachment 2

Financial Committee Report by Business Administrator

Audit RFP update - Proposal deadline is July 12th and after Board approval, submission to the DOE Office of Charter Schools by July 31, 2024.

F1. Resolution to Accept the Bills List for General and Special Revenue Funds for the current period: May 15, 2024 – June 25, 2024 totaling \$953,852.04 - Attachment F1

- All items were reviewed and no clarifying questions were shared.

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Bills List for General and Special Revenue Funds for the current period: May 15, 2024 – June 25, 2024 totaling \$953,852.04 - Attachment F1

F2. Resolution to Accept Payroll Expense for the current month payroll period(s) ending May 31, 2024 (\$343,908.58) & June 30, 2024 (\$380,053.89)- Attachment F2

- All expenses were identified and reviewed

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve Payroll Expenses for the current month payroll period(s) ending May 31, 2024 (\$343,908.58) & June 30, 2024 (\$380,053.89)- Attachment F2

F3. Resolution to Accept the FICA Reimbursement Report through May 31, 2024 & June 30, 2024 - Attachment F3

- The report was reviewed by all members.

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the FICA Reimbursement Report through May 31, 2024 & June 30, 2024 - Attachment F3

F4. Resolution to Approve the Fund 20 Grant drawdowns totaling \$91,329 from IDEA (\$22,598), ESEA, Title IA (\$62,478), Title IIA (\$2,753), and Title IV (\$3,500) for expenditures through June 2024 – Attachment F4

- **Areas and services covered by the grant were reviewed**

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Fund 20 Grant drawdowns totaling \$91,329 from IDEA (\$22,598), ESEA, Title IA (\$62,478), Title IIA (\$2,753), and Title IV (\$3,500) for expenditures through June 2024 – Attachment F4

F5. Board Secretary's Report & Certification – Attachment F5

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c)3, I certify that as of May 31, 2024, 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

June 26, 2024

F6. Resolution to Approve Treasurer of School Moneys Report(s) in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A:17-9 – Attachment F6

- **Overview of the report was provided**

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Treasurer of School Moneys Report(s) in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A:17-9 – Attachment F6

F7. Resolution to Accept the allocation and approve the submission of ESEA grant for 2023-2024 school year as follows: - Attachment F7

- Title IA - \$175,014 (increase of 6.3% or \$10,445 over current year) - Funding available for improving basic programs.
- Title IIA - \$17,064 (increase of 15.7% or \$2,311 over current year) - Funding available for providing instructional training and recruiting.
- Title IV - \$12,959 (decrease of 8% or \$1039 over current year) - Funding available for student support and academic enrichment.

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the allocation and approve the submission of ESEA grant for 2023-2024 school year as follows: - Attachment F7

F8. Resolution to Approve and Accept the renewal of Property, Liability and workers comp coverage for 2024-2025 school year policies through Gallagher Insurance and Risk Management Services – Attachment F8

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the renewal of Property, Liability and workers comp coverage for 2024-2025 school year policies through Gallagher Insurance and Risk Management Services – Attachment F8

F9. Resolution to Approve the final amendment on June 21, 2024 for budget changes in ARP ESSER grant – Attachment F9

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the final amendment on June 21, 2024 for budget changes in ARP ESSER grant – Attachment F9

F10. Resolution to Approve the annual Agreement for legal services with Friend & Wenzel, LLC for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment F10

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the annual Agreement for legal services with Friend & Wenzel, LLC for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment F10

**F11. Resolution to Approve Budget Transfer(s) for 2023-2024 school year,
Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.**

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

**BOARD VOTED: To approve the Budget Transfer(s) for 2023-2024 school year,
Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.**

**F12. Resolution to Approve the payment of year-end bonus payments for the
2023-2024 school year, in the amount of \$24,339.53 for unused personal days and
co-curricular stipends.**

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

**BOARD VOTED: To approve payment of year-end bonus payments for the 2023-
2024 school year, in the amount of \$24,339.53 for unused personal days and co-
curricular stipends.**

F13. Resolution to Approve the payment of summer pay reimbursements for the 2023-2024 school year, in the amount of \$32,251.95 for exiting staff and July/August disbursements for staff in the 12-month program.

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the payment of summer pay reimbursements for the 2023-2024 school year, in the amount of \$32,251.95 for exiting staff and July/August disbursements for staff in the 12-month program.

F14. Resolution to Approve stipends for the Summer Programs effective July 1, 2024 for the Summer Enrichment Program, Summer SEL Program, ELA Curriculum Writing, and PowerSchool Updates, estimated \$75,000 from ESSER III funding.

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the stipends for the Summer Programs effective July 1, 2024 for the Summer Enrichment Program, Summer SEL Program, ELA Curriculum Writing, and PowerSchool Updates, estimated \$75,000 from ESSER III funding.

F15. Resolution to Approve summer pay for 10-month employees for professional development and training as per the approved budget at a rate of \$225/diem, for the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve summer pay for 10-month employees for professional development and training as per the approved budget at a rate of \$225/diem, for the 2023-2024 school year.

Facilities Report (Attachment)

- **Dr. Jones reviewed work projects for the summer and updated the Board about progress of current work in and around the building**

F16. Resolution to Submit the 2023-2024 Statement of Assurance Submission Concerning Lead in School Drinking Water due June 30, 2024

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the submittal of the 2023-2024 Statement of Assurance Submission Concerning Lead in School Drinking Water due June 30, 2024

F17. Resolution to Submit the 2023-2024 Right To Know Survey containing information on health hazards, exposure limits, personal protective equipment, proper handling, first aid, and emergency procedures for fires and spills due July 15, 2024

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the submittal of the 2023-2024 Right To Know Survey containing information on health hazards, exposure limits, personal protective equipment, proper handling, first aid, and emergency procedures for fires and spills due July 15, 2024

Principal Report

- **Mrs. Thomas acknowledged the work and efforts of the Business Office**
- **Mentioned the celebration and highlights of the recent graduation ceremony**
- **Discussed the upcoming Summer Program and the academic/non-academic classes offered**
- **Discussed transition to Powerschool platform for curriculum units and lesson plans**

R1. Resolution to Approve the School Calendar for the 2024-2025 school year. - Attachment R1

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the School Calendar for the 2024-2025 school year. - Attachment R1

R2. Resolution to Approve new ELA Curriculum with FishTank Learning, effective 2024-2025 school year – Attachment R2

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the new ELA Curriculum with FishTank Learning, effective 2024-2025 school year – Attachment R2

R3. Resolution to Approve new contract for Amanda Birt, SPED Coordinator, for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment R3

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the new contract for Amanda Birt, SPED Coordinator, for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment R3

R4. Resolution to Approve new contract for Audrey Lewis, ELA Teacher, for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment R4

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the new contract for Audrey Lewis, ELA Teacher, for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment R4

R5. Resolution to Approve new contract for Sara Siegel, Art Teacher, for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment R5

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the new contract for Sara Siegel, Art Teacher, for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment R5

R6. Resolution to Accept the Retirement of Mrs. Lynne Popinko, acknowledging her 16 years of dedicated service and extend sincere thanks as the school's Secretary since inception. – Attachment R6

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Retirement of Mrs. Lynne Popinko, acknowledging her 16 years of dedicated service and extend sincere thanks as the school's Secretary since inception. – Attachment R6

R7. Resolution to Approve the submission of Statement of Assurance (SOA) for Essex County School Security Drills – Attachment R7

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the submission of Statement of Assurance (SOA) for Essex County School Security Drills – Attachment R7

R8. Resolution to Approve the submission of the LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service – Attachment R8

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the submission of the LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service – Attachment R8

R9. Resolution to Approve the Annual report submission to the NJ Dept. of Education

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Annual report submission to the NJ Dept. of Education

R10. Resolution to Approve the submission of the Annual School Plan (ASP).

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the submission of the Annual School Plan (ASP).

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Stronge Teacher and Leader Evaluation System 2024-2025 school year.

R12. Resolution to Accept the (Annual) Transportation Procedures for Displaced Students (Foster Care).

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor

Seconded: Ms. Brown

Vote:

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. Brown- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the (Annual) Transportation Procedures for Displaced Students (Foster Care).

R13. Resolution to Approve Instructional and Assessment Systems and resources as follows for the 2024-2025 school year.

1. PowerSchool (All variations)
2. Schoology
3. DBQ Online (Social Studies)
4. Moby Max (Math)
5. I-Ready (ELA)
6. Linkit (Schoolwide)
7. Actively Learn (ELA/SS)
8. Rocketlit (SCIENCE/SS)
9. NWEA (Science)
10. EDplan
11. DBA Goalbook (Special Education)
12. Peardeck (SS/Science)
13. DeltaMath (Algebra, Gr. 6-8)
14. BrainPOP (Schoolwide)
15. Fishtank Learning (ELA)
16. Generation Genius (Science)
17. GoGuardian(Schoolwide)
18. AIMS WebPlus
19. Frontline (Schoolwide)
20. TPT – Teachers Pay Teachers (Schoolwide)
21. * New: Minga (online schoolwide student behavior management system)

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the Instructional and Assessment Systems and resources as follows for the 2024-2025 school year.

9. New Business

Robert Mitchell

- Upcoming Events – Ms. Dumenigo
- Policies' Review – Pupils 5000s – part 3 of 3 (July Board Meeting)

10. Old Business

Robert Mitchell

- Board Strategic Planning Update - Goals/Actions Steps Date TBD
- Ongoing Board Training–Governance I, II, & IV

11. Comments from the Public

Robert Mitchell

12. Adjournment

Robert Mitchell

Motion to close the meeting at 7:26pm

Motion to approve: Mr. Rosario

Seconded: Mr. Moore

Vote:

Ms. Brown- in favor

Mr. Mitchell- in favor

Mr. Moore-in favor

Mr. Rosario-in favor

Mrs. Spence- in favor

Ms. A. Taylor- in favor

Ms. D. Taylor- in favor

Motion Carried

BOARD VOTED: To approve the adjournment of the meeting.