Pride Academy Charter School
Board Meeting Minutes

Organization:	Pride Academy Charter School Board Meeting
President:	Ms. A. Taylor
Time:	6:30 pm
Place:	Hybrid (at Pride and virtual via Zoom)
Date:	October 15, 2025
Minute Taker:	Mrs. Dockery

Board Members Present:	Ms. A. Taylor, Ms. M. Brown, Ms. D. Taylor, Ms. S. Mayer, Ms. J. Spence, Ms. Nia Pierce
Board Members Absent:	Mr. R. Mitchell
Others in Attendance:	Mrs. L. Dockery, Mrs. J. Wilson, Ms. R. Brower, Dr. C. Jones, Mr. B. Simon, Ms. S. Critchlow, Ms. K. Johnson

Quorum Met: YES

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:
Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 6:30 pm.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:41pm and Roll Call was taken.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Pledge was done at 6:43 p.m.

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: The Board Voted to Accept Agenda for October 15, 2025, Regular Meeting

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor
Second: Ms. M. Brown
Vote:
Ms. S. Mayer- in favor
Ms. D. Taylor- in favor
Ms. J. Spence-in favor
Motion Carried

<u>APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE BOARD MEETING:</u> Board voted to Accept the Minutes from the September 17, 2025, Regular Meeting with a motion to approve a correction to the minutes to show the motion to approve new board member, Nia Pierce. The motion to correct was made by Ms. A. Taylor and was seconded by Ms. M. Brown.

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor
Second: Ms. M. Brown
Vote:
Ms. S. Mayer- in favor
Ms. D. Taylor- in favor
Ms. J. Spence-in favor
Motion Carried

<u>Swearing-In of Board Member:</u>
The Board Secretary administered the Oath of Office to **Nia Pierce**, who was duly sworn in as a member of the **Pride Academy Charter School Board of Trustees**.
Board Member **Pierce** participated in the meeting by zoom.

<u>BOARD VOTE:</u> The Board approved Consent Agenda items G1-G7; items G8 & G9 (no attachment) as presented:

1. Approval of a field trip along with transportation paid by "The Friends of Pride Academy Charter School" to NJPAC for the 8th Grade to attend the play "Jerome Jennings & iLL Philosophy" on November 12, 2025, at 10: A.M.. **(Attachment G1)**
2. Approval of ½-Day Professional Development/Coaching for ELA Teachers with **Inspired Instruction**, at a cost **of $1650**. **(Attachment G2)**
3. Approval to accept the results of the HIB School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act for the 2024-2025 school year. **(Attachment G3) (As Presented by Dean of Students)**
4. Approval of the Updated 2025-2026 School Year Calendar (Attachment G4)
5. Approval of building substitute from Delta-T Group, Curtis Taylor, for the 2025-2026 school year. **(Attachment G5)**
6. Approval of Donna Kalemba as the Assistant To The Dean Of Students for the 2025-2026 school year. **(Attachment G6)**
7. Approval of the "Transportation Procedures for Displaced Students (Foster Care)" policy. **(Attachment G7)**
8. Approval to appoint Jumoke Charles as the school 504 coordinator and Truancy Officer for the 2025-2026 school year. **(No Attachment)**
9. Approval to appoint Jumoke Charles as the school Truancy Officer for the 2025-2026 school year. **(No Attachment)**

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor
Second: Ms. M. Brown
Vote:
Ms. S. Mayer- in favor
Ms. D. Taylor- in favor
Ms. J. Spence-in favor
Ms. N. Pierce-in favor
Motion Carried

Business Office

BOARD VOTED: The Board approved Consent Agenda items H1-H8; items H9 and H10 (no attachment) as presented:

1. Approval of the Bills List for General and Special Revenue Funds, and Student Activities for the current period: September 18, 2025-October 15, 2025 **(Attachment H1)**
   General Funds Fund 10/11 - **$295,867.64**
   Fund 20: **$10,413.77**
   Fund 60: **$1,291.66**
   Student Activities (September) - **$5,964.78**
2. Approval of the Payroll Expense for the current month payroll period(s) ending September 30, 2025, in the amount of **$341,043.14 (Attachment H2)**
3. Resolution to Approve the FICA Reimbursement Report through September 30, 2025. **(Attachment H3)**
4. Approval of E-Rate contract for grant management with E-Rate Consulting Inc. with a term of August 2025-June 2026. **(Attachment H4)**
5. Approval of a contract for the subscription and support for the school bell system with Entel Systems, Inc, with a term of September 2025-August 2026. **(Attachment H5)**
6. Approval of LINQ Connect Services contract as a system used to aid in streamlining student fee collection. **(Attachment H6)**
7. Approval of the Annual Thanksgiving Stipend-Fulton Bank Gift Card in increments of $50 per employee for a total amount of $2250. **(No Attachment)**
8. Approval to appoint Karen Johnson as the PACO Officer and the Purchasing Agent for the 2025-2026 school year. **(No Attachment)**
9. Approval to appoint LaShonda Dockery as the "Right To Know Officer" and the school Asbestos Officer for the 2025-2026 school year. **(No Attachment)**
10. Approval for the following board members to attend the 2025 NJSBA Annual Workshop & Conference, LaShonda Dockery, Mylene Brown, and Ashley Taylor at a cost not to exceed the amounts listed below for each attendee:
    Registration Fee: **$550** per person
    Lodging, Meals, Mileage, Tolls and Parking will be reimbursed at the GSA approved rates.

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor
Second: Ms. M. Brown
Vote:
Ms. S. Mayer- in favor
Ms. D. Taylor- in favor
Ms. J. Spence-in favor
Ms. N. Pierce-in favor
Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS

After Care Program Discussion and Decision:

The Board discussed the current status of the Pride Academy After Care Program. The Business Office reported that enrollment has remained consistently low and that the program is not financially sustainable based on current participation and associated staffing costs.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that continuing the After Care Program is not fiscally responsible given the low enrollment numbers and budget limitations. Administration will notify families and staff of the program's discontinuation and provide information on alternative after care options available in the community.

A motion was made to discontinue the Pride Academy After Care Program by the end of the Month of October 2025, pending an exact date to be decided by the After Care Program Director.

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor
Second: Ms. M. Brown
Vote:
Ms. S. Mayer- in favor
Ms. D. Taylor- in favor
Ms. J. Spence-in favor
Ms. N. Pierce-in favor
Motion Carried

Comments From the Public: There were no comments from the public.

Board Voted: To adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Motion to approve: Ms. A. Taylor
Second: Ms. M. Brown
Vote:
Ms. S. Mayer- in favor
Ms. D. Taylor- in favor
Ms. J. Spence-in favor
Ms. N. Pierce-in favor
Motion Carried