

Providence Englewood Charter School
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

At
333 W. Wacker Dr, Suite 2800
Chicago, IL 60606

Thursday, October 30, 2014
4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE IN PERSON

Trustees

John Stoops
Marcia Doane
Tim Dugan
Leslie Holling
Howard Isenberg
Kelley Kalinich
Bernard Lilly
Denise Nash
John Stevenson

VIA TELECONFERENCE

Paul Adams

OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON

Staff

Angela Johnson-Williams, Principal, PECS
Shinwe Shelton, Director of Operations, PECS
Tahanni Ragland, Staff Accountant, PECS
James Reilly, Univ of Chicago Board Fellow
Gene Settoon, Univ of Chicago Board Fellow

GUESTS

Angela Barber, PECS Parent
Matt Bergman, Board Candidate

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Dick Burridge
Debora de Hoyos
Walter Matthews
Gail Ward

I. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. by Mr. Stoops.

II. Introduction of Matt Bergmann.

Upon the nomination of Matthew F. Bergmann to the Board by the Governance Committee and upon motion to elect Mr. Bergmann to the Board duly made by the Chairperson of the Governance Committee, which motion was duly seconded and unanimously approved, the Board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that effective October 30, 2014, Matthew F. Bergmann is elected to the Board as a Class II Director for a term commencing October 30, 2014 and terminating on September 30, 2016.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that effective October 30, 2014, Matt Bergmann is assigned to the Finance Committee to serve until resignation, removal or further resolution of the Board.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously passed, the minutes of September 25, 2014 were approved.

IV. SCHOOL REPORT

As of 10-30-14 there have been 31 transfers out of PECS in total; 4 transfers from the first day of SY15. Of those, 68% moved out of the area, 28% cited the academic program, 3% because of discipline, and 3% because of lack of transportation.

At the time of the report, there are 59 staff members in total. There are 27 teachers, of which 2 are SPED. There were 4 positions open; MS Science and 3 TA's. We filled 1 TA position yesterday. An interview has been scheduled for the MS Science position. There is still the possibility of hiring a permanent sub to fill for the MS Science position. One of the TA's that will be hired will likely fill in as the permanent sub to cover upcoming maternity leaves.

Personnel experience and educational degrees are now listed in the chart. Under NCLB, at least 75% of teachers need to be licensed. PECS is in compliance with 90% licensure. Changes in the licensing process have held up our out of state staff from getting Illinois licensure.

Parent Involvement is currently at 83% attendance in PTC, PEP, and 7th & 8th grade parent meetings. Regarding academic performance, the chart has been updated to show Composite

ISAT scores according to the New Cut Scores. Data for surrounding schools is unavailable at this time. Once they have been updated, Mrs. Johnson- Williams will add them to the charts. School charts have also been updated to include composite GPA for 13-14 by grade level. This chart will be updated by semester. Expulsions and suspensions have been included from the years 2006 to present.

In our efforts to develop and maintain a good working relationship with CPS Office of Innovation and Incubation, we have extended an invitation to Claudia Quezada and Sagar Gokhale to tour PECS.

Task: Mrs. Johnson-Williams is to send a note to the Board when that date is confirmed.

A parent advisory group meeting was held at PECS with Jasma Jordan, Parent Engagement Associate from INCS to talk with parents about charter schools and their benefit and how they can help in the effort to get the word out about charters. Parents drafted letters to be sent to local legislators.

PECS is partnering with Orion's University to offer an after school program. This is a paid program in which the relationship will be between the parent and Orion's. The program will offer Robotics, Dance, Chess, Speed and Agility, and Conflict Resolution from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30p.m. Programs are common core aligned. Orion offers financial assistance. The Board requested that staff explore the possibility of PECS subsidizing the cost of attendance.

Fall NWEA testing is only for new students and those not exposed previously to NWEA. 85 will be tested. Of those, 83 are KG, 1 is an out of state transfer, and 1 comes from a Catholic school. January is the winter session and everyone will be tested. Returning students versus new students are testing at a higher percentage.

8th grade students and parents met with mentors in October. 80% participated in that meeting. Parents connected with mentors and suggested a meeting with mentors in a social setting beforehand to develop better relationships.

V. FINANCE/OPERATIONS

There were no material weaknesses identified in the Audit Report, only minor adjusting entries. This marks the first time that PECS has received a completely clean Audit Report with no findings or recommendations.

On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Audit was accepted.

The final revised budget is due November 17th. We have a surplus of app. \$15,000 as of September 30th for the past three months.

Compliance chart is up to date. Immunizations are updated 98.6%. Parents Right to Know letter went out on time. Since the last meeting we have updated the free and reduced apps in ODA and the ETL for September has been submitted.

VI. Pre-K Feasibility Study Report

After researching sourcing options and costs, a modular building option is the best for cost and feasibility. A bottom up analysis of costs for teacher, assistants, food, supplies, etc. came to about \$160,000 in Annual expenses for a 20 child Pre-K classroom. Three major funding sources were researched, Head Start, Preschool For All, and Childcare.

The Board tasked the Academic Excellence Committee and Mr. Settoon with updating the enrollment forecast study completed several years ago, taking into account recent mobility rates. It appears that we are losing fewer students than originally forecast, which will lead to more students in the upper grades than we have had historically. If that is the case, we may need a larger modular building to accommodate both a Pre-K program and growth in our K – 8 operations. Another possibility is that a Pre-K program is not feasible because we will not have the space to accommodate the students given forecasted growth in our K – 8 operations.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

i. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

In efforts to improve academic performance, consultants have been identified to work with faculty in Math, and English/Language Arts in Common Core. A "train the trainer" model will be used in which training will take place with the dept chairs who will in turn train the teachers. Maureen Sabas, who was recommended by Ms. Ward, will be the Math consultant. Ms. Sabas is a retired principal from CPS who has worked in two turn around schools. She is setting up a time to come to the school to meet with teachers and give initial impressions as to where we are academically. Dale Truding, a retired Assistant Superintendent from Arlington Heights, will work with us in Language Arts. She invited both Mrs. Johnson-Williams and Ms. Kalinich to a workshop in Milwaukee, where a National Speaker will be presenting. Ms. Truding will be visiting the school soon to give the same initial overview as Ms. Sabas. We anticipate them to come in initially at least once a week. NWEA will probably be the best tool of measurement as to the effectiveness of our consultants. The biggest focus

is going to be on the Professional Development of our teachers. Ms. Sabas and Ms. Trudings' resumes will be presented at the next Board Meeting.

ii. GOVERNANCE

In light of the changes that have been made to the school report, if there is any other data that you request to be included, let Ms. Doane know so that it can be added to the report. New Director orientation meetings between Mr. Bergmann and the committee chairs will take place soon.

iii. DEVELOPMENT

The PECS Foundation annual event will happen next year to celebrate the Ten Year anniversary of the school. We will focus on smaller events for this year, some of which are targeted to attract a younger audience of donors.

iv. FINANCE

Covered during the Finance & Operations Report.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, December 13, 2014, @ 9:00 a.m., - PECS