

**Providence Englewood Charter School  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**At  
6515 S. Ashland Ave  
Chicago, IL 60606**

**Friday, June 16, 2017  
12:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE IN PERSON**

**Trustees**

**John Stoops  
Matt Bergmann  
Caroline Degenaaars  
Leslie Holling  
Kelley Kalinich  
Bernard Lilly  
Latasha Thomas**

**TRUSTEES ABSENT**

**Dick Burridge  
Peg Cain  
Tim Dugan  
Rona Fourte  
John Stevenson**

**TELECONFERENCE**

**James Reilly**

**OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON**

**Howard Isenberg, MariaEkpo, University of Chicago Board Fellow**

**Staff**

**Angela Johnson-Williams, Principal, PECS  
Shinwe Shelton, Director of Operations, PECS  
Tahanni Ragland, Staff Accountant, PECS  
Cynthia Guzman, University of Chicago Board Fellow**

## **I. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

The meeting was called to order at 12:00p.m. by Mr. Stoops.

## **II. Public Participation Period (if requested in advance of meeting)**

## **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

(Correction\*\*\* The April 6, 2017 meeting of the Board was held at Water Street, not PECS.)

On motion duly made (Ms. Thomas), seconded (Mr. Bergmann) and unanimously passed, the minutes of April 6, 2017, were approved.

## **IV. FINANCE/OPERATIONS**

The Budget comparison shows that we are currently running a deficit of \$94K. The Unfavorable variance in Charter school funding is due to CPS Non-Personnel Freeze, per pupil rate reduction, and the Lost Child Policy. Grants and Contributions show a favorable variance due to foundation contributions. Student fees show a favorable variance due to student event collections. There is a favorable variance in Personnel Costs due to temporary personnel changes and salaries/benefits. Direct Student Costs shows an unfavorable variance due to consulting services and recategorizing personnel expenses. Occupancy shows an unfavorable variance due to utilities.

CPS took an additional \$99K from us at the end of the quarter. CPS charged charter schools just like CPS schools for furlough days even though we were in session. Per Pupil rate has changed over the past 3 years showing decreased tuition which is causing us to run a deficit. We created a pro-forma budget using current 16-17 rates. Changes need to be made to our structure in order to sustain the budget at these rates. We would need to raise \$400K additional to the \$300K already raised, which is unreasonable.

PECS is in compliance and on-time with reporting to CPS.

## **V. SCHOOL REPORT**

PECS ended the school year with 481 students. Returning student applications are about the same in number as this time last year. New student applications show a slight increase from this time last year. There seems to be more applications in the older grades this year.

Regarding personnel, there has been one termination; the 7th-8th grade math teacher. Eighty-seven percent of PECS teachers are licensed, our charter requires 75%.

**Parent Involvement - Ninety percent of parents attended our first Family Math Knight and the spring concert.**

**Regarding Academic Performance, NWEA results have improved. Reading attainment for K-8 is at 64% compared to 59% last year. Math attainment is 59% compared to 44% last year.**

**Regarding the school improvement plan, we met our reading goal however we did not meet the Math goal. Mrs. Johnson-Williams and Mrs. Miller will meet with the 3<sup>rd</sup> party data strategist team on Monday. Math and Reading consultants will be here on Monday to go over data to create a framework for the new school year. Teachers will meet with parents on Wednesday to talk about expectations for the upcoming school year, meet their child's classroom teacher and get supply lists. Next year, we will departmentalize 5-8<sup>th</sup> grades.**

**8<sup>th</sup> grade updates – 33% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders received Q3 Honor Roll. 17% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders were accepted into selective enrollment high schools.**

**Regarding Charter Renewal, an amendment to our charter was submitted on Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> to enroll “up to 10% above the enrollment cap at a single school.” We are waiting to hear from CPS on the matter. Even if approved by CPS, this would not go into effect until SY18-19 at the earliest.**

**As a reminder, there are preconditions for Charter Renewal that requires review and approval, as they are due to CPS on July 1<sup>st</sup>. They include: the conflict of interest piece, updates to our Bylaws, lottery policy, and the transportation Policy. Regarding the Lottery Policy, the only thing that is new for us may be the wait list section. The School Calendar has also been placed in the Board Packet for review and approval.**

**Regarding repairs to the school parking lot, we are waiting on a response from CPS. They have already fixed the sinkholes on the Ashland side, and in the green space on Justine. We are just waiting to see when the parking lot would be repaired.**

**On motion duly made (Ms. Thomas), seconded (Mr. Bergmann) and unanimously passed, the Lottery Policy and 2017-18 School Calendar were approved.**

## **VI. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Academic Excellence –Teachers, parents, students, staff have all completed their portion of the 5 essentials survey. To get a score we must have a certain percentage of participation from each group.**

**117 students have enrolled in Semester 3. Enrichment programs will include Band Camp, Football, Basketball, and Ping Pong.**

**The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher is not returning for the 2017-18 school year.**

**Two teachers attended a two day-seminar on classroom management. The presenter will come to speak at PECS during Teacher Orientation week.**

**There will be an upcoming training and orientation for volunteers.**

**a. Finance –Covered in Finance Report**

**b. PECS Promise –Mr. Reilly gave a summary of the PECS Promise year. 100% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be attending PECS Preferred High Schools. The challenge has been getting families to be comfortable with their children attending schools outside of the area. Transportation is likely a reason for their discomfort. We are investigating whether there are PECS alumni already at the school that they could carpool with. There was higher participation in selective enrollment testing this year. Similar numbers as last year regarding attendance of a selective enrollment school. Two 6<sup>th</sup> grade students were accepted into the High Jump program. Ms. Jones-Cooks has done well with engaging alumni.**

**Maria Ekpo gave a summary of her project on alumni engagement systemization. Over the years, over 200 alumni have matriculated from PECS. They are categorized into four groups: Transitioners, College Bound, Persistencers, and Rising Leaders. The Transitioners do exactly that, transition from 8<sup>th</sup> grade to high school. The college bound group includes 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Persistencers are college freshmen and sophomores. Rising Leaders is a catch all for groups in the second half of college. We have been engaging with high school guidance counselors in addition to engaging with the students. Our end goal was to make things more systematic. Donor Perfect was used to track alumni who created profiles in Donor Perfect. It will be up to the students to update information in Donor Perfect. It will be informative to give an overview of the Donor Perfect system and our use for the information in 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent meetings.**

**c. Governance – We have updated the conflict of interest policy and the bylaws. The changes reflect several edits in regard to the Open Meetings Act. Reach out to sabbatical trustees to see if they will be returning to active Board Member status.**

The conflict of interest policy changes are self-explanatory. One of the main changes is that our current policy is more like a disclosure policy. Substantive changes are transaction between the school and covered persons need to be fair.

On motion duly made (Dr. Kalinich), seconded (Mrs. Degenars) and unanimously passed the Board has adopted revisions of Board Bylaws and the conflict of Interest and audio/visual policy.

- d. Development –We need to regroup. We must all work together for development. Especially if we want to diversify outside of Kenilworth. Will meet in the next couple weeks to establish schedules. Ellen Kollar is the new Foundation president. There is still discussion of a staff person for development. The idea of a junior board was discussed at the last board meeting. Jason Zenner has agreed to connect us to an additional network of people to establish this junior board. We would like to get him on track to add him to our Board. Make sure he knows when the next development meeting is so that he can attend.

Mr. Stoops provided an update on land assembly around PECS to improve the neighborhood. We expect the tax scavenger list of unpaid tax liens to be released soon, and expect several lots on the 6500 block of Justine to be included. Mr. Stoops will continue to investigate the potential cost and feasibility of acquiring lots.

#### VII. Closed Session.

On motion duly made (Ms. Degenars), seconded (Mrs. Holling) and unanimously passed, the Board will enter into Closed Session to discuss a matter involving pending or threatened litigation.

#### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made (Ms. Thomas), seconded (Mr. Bergmann) and unanimously passed, the meeting of the Board is adjourned at 2:35 p.m.