

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

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

**Saturday, October 21, 2017
9:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE IN PERSON

Trustees

**John Stoops
Matt Bergmann
Rona Fourte
Leslie Holling
Howard Isenberg
Bernard Lilly
John Stevenson
Latasha Thomas
Jason Zenner**

TRUSTEES ABSENT

**Dick Burridge
Peg Cain
Caroline Degenaaars
Kelley Kalinich
Walter Matthews**

TELECONFERENCE

James Reilly

OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON

Staff

**Angela Johnson-Williams, Principal, PECS
Shinwe Shelton, Deputy Director of Operations, PECS
Tahanni Ragland, Staff Accountant, PECS
Sonji Jones-Cooks, Development Director/PECS Promise, PECS
Janelle Miller, Academic Dean, PECS**

I. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Mr. Stoops.

II. Consent Agenda

On motion duly made (Mr. Bergmann), seconded (Mr. Stevenson) and unanimously passed, the minutes of June 16, 2017 and September 14, 2017 were approved, the FY2017-18 budget (reviewed at previous meeting) was approved, and Jason Zenner, Howard Isenberg, and Walter Matthews were added to the Board of Trustees.

III. Closed Session

On motion duly made (Mr. Bergmann), seconded (Mr. Lilly) and unanimously passed, the Board entered closed session at 9:10 a.m. to discuss a matter involving threatened or pending litigation. The Board exited closed session and resumed the open portion of the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

IV. Finance Report

Regarding the audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, financials have presented fairly in all material respects. This is the 4th year in a row that we have been received a no material weakness audit.

On motion duly made (Ms. Holling), seconded (Mr. Bergmann) and unanimously passed, the audit for Fiscal Year 2017 is approved.

SBB funding has changed to what is now called PCTC funding. Some of the changes to funding include that there is no longer a separate line item for SGSA, we will continue to receive Title I funding, SPED funding is now a part of the PCTC only (it will not be reimbursable). The designated amount is \$12K per pupil, but this amount is artificially inflated because CPS has deducted from that amount certain non-cash expenses, like charters' pro rata share of CPS furlough days (even though PECS and other charters were open), CPS short-term borrowing costs, and facility expenses. Still, with the new funding model, we will receive close to \$300K more than what was previously budgeted. The additional funding isn't expected until the 3rd and 4th quarter.

INCS is still fighting to make funding more equitable for SPED. We are inquiring about the unfunded pension liability and the short-term borrowing costs being assessed to charters. Not sure why we should be on the hook for those costs.

CPS has not provided a new budget template. Mrs. Shelton has plugged in the new numbers to the old template for budgeting purposes. The bottom line shows a surplus of \$179K versus the deficit of \$105K presented at the last meeting. It's important that PECS begins to diversify its funding base, this will probably net us less donations than in previous years. The development committee will meet to revise the fundraising goal in light of the additional public funds and get back to the Board with a recommendation.

On motion duly made (Ms. Thomas), seconded (Mr. Bergmann) and unanimously passed, the revised budget for FY 17-18 is approved, subject to a decrease in private fundraising line item.

The Income Statement for the three month period net deficit is (\$68k).

The FY18 budget has not been loaded into our accounting system because CPS has not provided the new template to include the PCTC funding model. The new PCTC funding payments will be trued up in Q3 and Q4.

Regarding Compliance, PECS is 100% on-time with all required compliance submittals.

V. School Report - Updates

Regarding personnel, there has been 1 SPED resignation. We have interviewed and hired a SPED teacher through a 3rd party organization. She starts Wednesday.

We have received a Level 2+ SQRP rating for the second year in a row. We missed Level 1 by a tenth of a point.

The math consultant fee is reduced to \$25,400 over the 2017-18 school years. We will be conducting an in-house audit for math to determine areas for growth.

Data consultants came to PECS last week to discuss the state of the school with the leadership team and where we are currently in terms of SQRP. They also discussed what we can do to get to Level 1+, our ultimate goal.

8th grade updates – There was 1 transfer (family moved out of town). There are 5 eighth grade students taking Algebra 1 with Dean Miller.

Parent involvement is at 86%. Enrollment has dropped to 504 from 513. Nine students transferred out due to moving out of the area, academics, and other reasons not stated. With the unexpected additional funding, we may be able to restore some of the positions that were cut. Suggested positions include 2 TAs for middle school (Reading and Math) and an additional custodian. Another priority that was outlined was more technology equipment. There has been a difficult time with available

laptops during fall NWEA. We need to evaluate these needs and move forward with fulfilling them.

PECS Academic Dean, Janelle Miller, explained the SQRP reporting. Overall, the school goal is Level 1 or Level 1+. We have moved from a level 2 to a level 2+. The most weight is given to attendance and growth percentile in Reading and Math attainment. Reading growth has had large increases over time. Results have Increased 17% due to reading initiatives put into place. We've identified the grade levels for Math that we need to focus on for improvement. We are really close to achieving level 1 status.

VI. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. **PECS Promise – FAFSA workshop was held on 9/30. Attendance has been low. High schools have ramped up their assistance so students are finding it redundant. October is college awareness month at PECS. We are kicking it off with Facts of the Day, a door decorating competition, and the high school fair, which is planned for this Thursday. We also have alums coming in for a panel discussion. 19 alums volunteered with us on Columbus Day. Ms. Jones-Cooks made 4 visits to high schools; Chi Tech, Noble Academy, Morgan Park Academy and Women's Leadership Academy. In the past, we have been sending our students to Noble schools, but only four of the 17 noble schools are higher performing. We are looking at increasing our non-PECS preferred schools for our middle of the road students. Board Member Peg Cain has visited PECS for 5 days and worked for more than 7 hours to help our students with scholarship submissions. Daniel Murphy has moved up their application deadline. Ms. Jones-Cooks has met with all 8th graders and their parents to get them high school informed.**

- b. **Development – Family Giving Day – There will be an incentive for the classroom who gives the most perishable items. The culminating event is on the 11th, from 9 a.m. – noon. We will sort and bag the items with a carnival style theme. After the work, we will play! We are working on confirmations from 2-3 organizations in Englewood to receive our donations. The annual campaign will launch prior to the Thanksgiving holiday.**

- c. **Governance – Mr. Bergmann, Mr. Dugan and Mr. Stoopshad lunch with a potential board candidate, Arlen Wiley. Mr. Wiley has also toured PECS and met with Ms. Johnson-Williams and Ms. Shelton. Mr. Wiley will be up for consideration to join the board in December.**

VII. ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made (Mr. Stevenson), seconded (Mr. Bergmann) and unanimously passed, the meeting of the Board is adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 14, 2017,4p.m.(Water Street, 444 W. Lake, Ste. 1800)