

FIRST PHILADELPHIA PREPARATORY
CHARTER SCHOOL
4300 TACONY STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19124

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

LOCATION:

ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL DUE TO STAY AT HOME ORDER BY THE GOVERNOR

DATE & TIME:

JUNE 2, 2021

6:00 PM

Minutes

SECTION I: CALL TO ORDER

Opening Colloquy

This meeting of the First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School Board of Trustees is hereby called to Order. The time is 6:09 p.m. My name is Anita Vega-Kaiser. I am the President of this Board of Trustees and I will facilitate this meeting.

As we know, Governor Wolf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has declared a state of emergency in response to the global Coronavirus pandemic. In order to protect the health, welfare, and safety of the school community, this meeting is being held via teleconference. This is a public meeting that was properly advertised pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act in the Philadelphia Daily News. The public notice included instructions for how the public could participate in tonight's meeting.

All members of the public are welcome, to sit and listen to the board of trustees conduct its business tonight. Members of the public who have registered with the Administrative office to participate in public comment by 5 p.m. on the day before this scheduled meeting may participate in public comment. At this time, I would ask that executive administration submit the list of commenters to our legal counsel. Comments will be limited to three minutes unless the Board decides to grant additional time.

At this time, I will ask that Roll Call be taken.

A. Roll Call

Board Members Present:	By Invitation: Non-Board Members:
Anita Vega-Kaiser - President Barbara L. Saunders - Secretary Teeyona Crumpton	Deborah Smith Erina Pearlstein
Board Members Absent: Karin Cogger - Vice President Teresa Grumbrecht - Treasurer	Ashley Redfearn Scott Kramer
	Michael Thomson Peter Costa
	Dean Krebs, Esq.

B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY ANITA VEGA-KAISER

I'd like to state, for purposes of the Minutes of this meeting that on June 2, 2021, the Board of Trustees met in Executive Session for the following purposes under 65 Pa.C.S. § 708(a)(5)(7):

(x) Discuss Confidential Matters. To review and discuss agency business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of information or confidentiality protected by law, including matters related to the initiation and conduct of investigations of possible or certain violations of the law and quasi-judicial deliberations.

(x) Certain Safety and Security Issues: To discuss, plan, or review matters and records that are deemed necessary for emergency preparedness, protection of public safety and security of all property in a manner that if disclosed would be reasonably likely to jeopardize or threaten public safety or preparedness or public protection.

Additional Notes for Minutes of Meeting:

C. Approval of Agenda

MOTION

BARBARA
SAUNDERS

SECOND

TERESA
CRUMPTON

R210602.01 Approval of the June 2, 2021 Agenda

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the June 2, 2021 Agenda.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

D. Approval of Minutes

MOTION
 BARBARA SAUNDERS
 SECOND
 TERESA CRUMPTON

R210602.02 Minutes of the May 5, 2021 Meeting

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the May 5, 2021 meeting of the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School.

VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

MOTION
 BARBARA SAUNDERS
 SECOND
 TERESA CRUMPTON

R210602.03 Minutes of the May 28, 2021 Meeting

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the May 28, 2021 meeting of the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School.

VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

SECTION II: REPORTS

A. Community Comment

Community Comment Colloquy (General Counsel)

Good Evening, my name is Dean Krebs with Sand & Saidel, PC, General Counsel to the First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School Board of Trustees. Will you please state your name for our records?

You will have three minutes to address the Board of Trustees. Any documents or communications that you might supplement your comment which should be submitted to me. I will keep the time and notify the Board when three minutes have elapsed.

This Board may choose not to comment, question or respond in any way to your public comment. I will begin the time now.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>

B. First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School CEO

- a. *Ms. Deborah Smith—Chief Executive Officer of FPPCS*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the June 2021 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board.*
 - ii. *Discussed with the Board the current enrollment of 1878/1880 students and noted that encouraging further enrollment at this time would not be in the interest of incoming student due to end of year approaching;*
 - iii. *Indicated that 21 SPED students were graduating, with 382 current students and a budgeted enrollment of 330 students for next year;*
 - iv. *Informed the Board that attendance was holding steady at the elementary school at ~91%, and with Kindergarten at 100% the past 6 weeks; however, the high school was ~74-77%;*
 - v. *Discussed with the Board the strategies being used to increase high school attendance and indicated that during next month’s report that these strategies would be shared;*
 - vi. *Informed the Board that a recent Federal Monitoring found FPPCS to meet expectations in all areas of McKinney-Vento;*
 - vii. *Indicated that FPPCS had served ~100,000 meals as of May 2021;*
 - viii. *Indicated that renewal letters were sent for next year staff and that nonrenewals did occur due to lack of certain certificates;*
 - ix. *Informed the Board that internal personnel can apply for vacancies;*
 - x. *Updated the Board on dates that students returned to school for Kindergarten, 1st, and 8th grade;*
 - xi. *Informed the Board of the upcoming graduation on June 16, with Kindergarten on June 15th;*
 - xii. *Informed the Board that Kindergarteners would be tested on June 17th and June 18th and that Kindergarten teachers would be using Lexia online screening; noted that an information session will occur for parents;*
 - xiii. *Informed the Board that there were 89 students in hybrid ESY and 64 in virtual ESY;*
 - xiv. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the Springboard program, expecting 116 students to be enrolled. Indicated that parents can enroll their students in this program, that Springboard can support more students they would just need*

- more FPPCS teachers, and that school is taking action in include as many students as possible.*
- xv. *Informed the Board that the school was offering literacy and math activities during the summer;*
 - xvi. *Discussed with the Board the Parent Workshop to support summer literacy;*
 - xvii. *Indicated that June 11th was a literacy celebration that included literacy activities and guest readers; noted it was an event the school used to do and was now bringing back.*
- b. *Dr. Erina Pearlstein—Principal of FPPCS*
- i. *Informed the Board that FPPCS was using Edgenuity to offer HS students in-person classes to obtain graduation credits; that 50 seats were available; and that rising seniors would get priority.*
 - ii. *Shared strategies with the Board to ensure seniors would get the necessary graduation credits.*
 - iii. *Informed the Board that the school was reintroducing the advisory period: a 20 minute period to discuss caring school community values and which is developed by school counselors;*
 - iv. *Informed the Board of a recently created senior seminar curriculum to educate students on college applications, SAT registration, and filing FAFSA. Indicated that every senior will be applying for a post-secondary institution.*
 - v. *Informed the Board that AP Environment Science was added;*
 - vi. *Indicated that a African American History class was added, noting that the curriculum already exists for this class and that the scope and sequence has been shared with the APS schools;*
 - vii. *Informed the Board of the Senior Picnic;*
 - viii. *Informed the Board that a career week was tentatively set for June 14-18th;*
 - ix. *Board discussed potentially increasing educational opportunities not only for kids who needed additional services but also for those students who were excelling;*
 - x. *Board discussed intersessions during break for advanced placement or providing education related to COVID, though Ms. Smith indicated certain restrictions may apply, including busing.*

C. American Paradigm Schools CEO

- a. *Ms. Ashley Redfearn—Interim CEO of American Paradigm School*
 - i. *Expressed appreciation for the ongoing collaborations regarding the charter renewal;*
 - ii. *Informed the Board that APS was reaching out for political support for schools undergoing renewal;*
 - iii. *Informed the Board that APS was selected into the Science Network for Next Generation Science Standards, indicating it*

was the first time in a decade that PDE was updating its science standards.

- iv. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the June 2021 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board.*
- b. Mr. Scott Kramer—Chief Talent Officer of American Paradigm Schools*
 - i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the June 2021 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. Informed the Board that there were currently 7 vacancies, with 6 new hires thus far for 2021-22 SY; that APS was in the process of screening additional applicants; and that 89 applicants had been sent to APS schools;*
 - iii. Informed the Board of the developing relationship with Lincoln University, which APS hoped would be similar to the current relationship with Cabrini University;*
 - iv. Shared with the Board the current job fair list, indicating that there was a steady flow of candidates though SPED teachers were getting hired quickly.*
 - v. Informed the Board that current staff was encouraged to get SPED certification; however, there was a lack of interest.*
 - 1. The Board discussed alternative strategies to encourage SPED teachers, such as sign-on bonuses or certain referral bonuses.*
 - 2. The Board expressed such strategies would be further contemplated with the Finance Committee;*
 - vi. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the DEI campaign;*
 - vii. Informed the Board of the new 2021 COVID law concerning involuntary terminations;*
 - viii. Informed the Board of updated organizational charts;*
 - ix. Shared data with the Board concerning staff referrals and tuition reimbursement usage;*
 - x. Shared data with the Board regarding FMLA usage, including related to COVID;*
 - xi. Board inquired whether parents could receive benchmark data using Lexia, which Ms. Redfearn indicated she would look into;*
 - xii. Board asked whether newsletters could be sent to parents, either on a weekly, monthly, or seasonal basis, to keep them advised of school events;*
 - xiii. Board requested additional information concerning the latest ACE report;*
 - xiv. Informed the Board that all APS schools use EdInsight, which is a platform for data points (attendance, test, progress monitoring, etc). The goal is to create a data rich culture.*

D. General Counsel

- a. Dean Krebs, Esq.—Sand & Sidel, P.C.*

- i. Informed the Board that data concerning SPED settlements is always available to the Board*
- ii. Informed the Board that elections of trustees and officers would occur next Board meeting; and*
- iii. Reminded the Board of upcoming CSO interview preparation on June 21st at 5pm with the Renewal Team.*

E. Business Controller

- a. Mr. Peter Costa—Santilli & Thomson, LLC*
 - i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the April 2021 financials*
 - 1. Informed the Board that the school was paid for 330 SPED students and was 46 students above budget;*
 - 2. Indicated that the school had an over \$500,000 positive variance which was expected to be over \$600,000 by end of the year;*
 - 3. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the expenditures over \$10,000;*
 - 4. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the summary by major class, noting positive variance across all classes;*
 - 5. Indicated that the current enrollment helped the budget;*
 - 6. Comments on a couple line items;*
 - ii. Board asked for a broker report, which should include reimbursement expenditures. Mr. Costa expressed that September 2021 would be an ideal time to get a comparison of cost differences between current year and next year.*

SECTION III: OLD BUSINESS

NONE

SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

MOTION
BARBARA SAUNDERS
SECOND
TERESA CRUMPTON

VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R210602.04 Report of the Business Controller

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School accepts the Financial Report of the Business Controller and all documents submitted thereby, which shall be incorporated into the record of this meeting.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>
<i>P. Costa</i>	<i>As discussed above</i>

MOTION
BARBARA SAUNDERS
SECOND
TERESA CRUMPTON

VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R210602.05 Uniform Human Resources Resolution

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School ratifies the human resources changes, modifications and additions as presented.

HIRES / RETURN / POSITION CHANGE		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Erina Pearlstein (new hire)	Principal	5/1/21

TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Kya Reyes-McGee (job abandonment)	Student Support (One-to-One)	5/8/21
Shaitiyah Jackson (resignation)	Student Support (One-to-One)	5/14/21
Dahi Divine (nonrenewal)	Music Teacher	6/21/21

Charles Johnson Jr. (nonrenewal)	Director of Arts and Music	6/21/21
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Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>
<i>D. Smith</i>	<i>As discussed above. Also indicated that the 'job abandonment' reflected an employee who did not return and that the individual who resigned did not want to continue at that position.</i>

MOTION

BARBARA
SAUNDERS

SECOND

TERESA
CRUMPTON

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

R210602.06 Uniform Professional Services Resolution

RESOLVED, the Professional Services Proposal/s and associated reports listed below are hereby accepted and ratified;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the CEO, business controller and general counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate the terms and conditions of those contract/s based upon these Professional Services Proposal/s;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the President is authorized to execute any document or delegate any task necessary to effect this resolution.

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
Springboard Collaborative	\$70,000	Summer 2021 Evidence-based literacy program Excepted Enrollment: 120 Students
Kaleidoscope	General education/Special Education: \$42/hr School Psychologist: \$80/hr English As Second Language: \$45/hr Speech Therapist/Occupational Therapist: \$80/hr	Staffing services

	Certified School Counsel: \$50-55/hr	
Delta School	\$170/day or \$4,250 summer program	Extended School Year Two Students
R&A	\$45,200/month When COVID related services no longer required: \$39,200/month	Cleaning service
Valley Day	Student Emotional Support: \$420/week, total \$2100 for 5-week session Reading/ELA Instruction: \$85/hour for 4 hours a week; \$340 weekly; total \$1700/session Math Instruction: \$85/hour for 4 hours a week; \$340 weekly; total \$1700/session Social Skills Instruction: \$85/hour for 4 hours a week; \$340 weekly; total \$1700/session Speech and/or OT Services: \$95 daily One-to-One Services: \$20/hour for 16 hours a week; \$320/weekly; total \$1600 session.	Extended School Year One Student
E-Rate Online, LLC	\$5,000 annual fee 10% Net Reimbursement of Category 1 and/or Category 2 Services when funding received exceeds \$50,000	E-rate service provider

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

MOOT

R210602.07 Uniform Purchases Resolution

RESOLVED, the Purchase Proposal/s and associated reports listed below are hereby accepted and ratified;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the CEO, business controller and general counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate the terms and conditions of those contract/s based upon these Purchase Proposal/s;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the President is authorized to execute any document or delegate any task necessary to effect this resolution.

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
None	None	None

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

MOTION

BARBARA SAUNDERS

SECOND

TERESA CRUMPTON

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

R210602.08 Approval to Renew Charter

WHEREAS, the current term of the Charter between First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School and the School District of Philadelphia is set to expire on June 30, 2022 (the “Charter”); and

WHEREAS, in order to renew its Charter, First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School must take certain actions, required by applicable laws, regulations, and the School District of Philadelphia;

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby authorizes and directs the CEO to take all necessary actions to obtain a renewal of its Charter, including but not

limited to overseeing the drafting and filing of a timely filed application for Charter renewal directed to the School District of Philadelphia.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

MOTION
 BARBARA SAUNDERS
 SECOND
 TEEYONA CRUMPTON
 VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R210602.09 Safety and Security Report

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby ratifies the Executive Session on June 2, 2021 to Review the Safety and Security Report, as presented.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

UPON MOTION BY BARBARA L. SAUNDERS AND SECOND BY TERESA CRUMPTON, THE BOARD ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PURPOSES DESCRIBED UNDER 65 PA.C.S. § 708(A)(1).

UPON MOTION BY BARBARA L. SAUNDERS AND SECOND BY TERESA CRUMPTON, THE BOARD ENTERED INTO OPEN SESSION.

MOTION
 BARBARA SAUNDERS
 SECOND
 TEEYONA CRUMPTON
 VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R201602.10 Approval of CEO Contract

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby ratifies and approves of Ms. Deborah Smith as Chief Executive Officer of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the President, business controller, and general counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate the terms and conditions of any document necessary to effectuate this resolution, including any employment contract.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the President is authorized to execute any document necessary to effect this resolution.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOARD DISCUSSED THE UPCOMING GRADUATION ON JUNE 16 AND JUNE 17TH.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: AUGUST 4, 2021 AT 6:00PM

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:58PM

MOTION

BS

SECOND

TC

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

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