

FIRST PHILADELPHIA PREPARATORY  
CHARTER SCHOOL

4300 TACONY STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19124

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

LOCATION:  
ZOOM CONFERENCE

DATE & TIME:  
AUGUST 28, 2024  
6:00 P.M.

**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 6:02 p.m. My name is Anita Vega-Kaiser. I am the President of this Board of Trustees, and I will facilitate this meeting.

This meeting is being held via teleconference. This is a public meeting that was properly noticed in the Philadelphia Daily News and pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. 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 5:00 p.m. on the day before this scheduled meeting may participate in public comment. At this time, I would ask that the Executive Administration submit the list of commenters to our General 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 John Bish - Treasurer Barbara L. Saunders – Secretary Dr. Martha J. Ritter ShoShana Skates  <b>Board Members Absent:</b> Teresa Grumbrecht – Vice-President	Deborah Smith  Ashley Redfearn Kristine Magargee Scott Kramer  Peter Costa  Dean Krebs, Esq.  Deanna Smith Jessica Marsico Dr. Erina Pearlstein  MyDirah Littlepage-Saunders

## B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY ANITA VEGA-KAISER

*I would like to state, for purposes of the Minutes of this meeting, that the Board of Trustees did not meet in Executive Session prior to this meeting.*

## C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:

BARBARA L..  
SAUNDRES

SECOND:

MARTHA RITTER

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[ ] FAIL

### R240828.01 Approval of the August 28, 2024 Agenda

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the August 28, 2024 Agenda.

#### *Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:*

Who	What
Board	General discussion

MOTION:

BARBARA L.  
SAUNDERS

SECOND:

MARTHA RITTER

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[ ] FAIL

## **R240828.02 Minutes of the June 26, 2024 Meeting**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the June 26, 2024 meeting of the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School.

### ***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

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

## **SECTION II: REPORTS**

### **A. COMMUNITY COMMENT**

*None*

### ***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

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

### **A. FIRST PHILADELPHIA PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL**

- a. *Ms. Deborah Smith, CEO of FPPCS*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the August 2024 CEO report, previously disseminated.*
- b. *Ms. Jessica Marsico, Principal of FPPCS*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the August 2024 CEO report, previously disseminated;*
  - ii. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the 2023-24 3rd Grade Data; and*
  - iii. *Described to the Board the plan to improve PSSA outcomes, including looking at individual needs.*
- c. *Deanna Smith, Principal of FPPCS*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the August 2024 CEO report, previously disseminated; and*
  - ii. *Reviewed Middle School Grade Data and described strategies to improve outcomes.*
- d. *Dr. Erina Pearlstein, Principal of FPPCS*

- i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the August 2024 CEO report, previously disseminated; and*
- ii. *Shared HS academic growth and specific plans to continue improving academics.*

## **B. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS**

- a. *Ms. Ashley Redfearn, CEO of APS*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the August 2024 APS report, previously disseminated; and*
  - ii. *reviewed and discussed annual evaluations and operations plan under the Danielson framework*
- b. *Mr. Scott Kramer, CTO of APS*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the August 2024 APS report, previously disseminated; and*
- c. *Ms. Kristine Magargee, CAO of APS*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the August 2024 APS report, previously disseminated; and*

## **C. BUSINESS CONTROLLER**

- a. *Mr. Peter Costa, Santilli & Thomson, LLC*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the July 2024 financial reports, previously disseminated to the Board.*

## **D. GENERAL COUNSEL**

- a. *Dean Krebs, Esq.*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed the resolutions on the Agenda.*

## **SECTION III: OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

## **SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. RESOLUTIONS**

MOTION:

MARTHA  
RITTER

SECOND:

JOHN BISH

VOTE:

### **R240828.03 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.

[X] PASS

[ ] FAIL

MOTION:

MARTHA  
RITTER

SECOND:

BARBARA  
L.  
SAUNDERS

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[ ] FAIL

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

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

**R240828.04 Human Resources Resolution**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School accepts the Human Resources changes, modifications, and additions, as presented.

<b>HIRES / RATE CHANGE / POSITION CHANGE / RETURN LOA</b>		
<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>START DATE</b>
Kimberly Walker (new hire)	Middle School Social Studies Teacher	08/19/2024
Kaitlin Elker (new hire)	Middle School Counselor	08/19/2024
Risa Voluntad (new hire)	High School SPED Teacher	08/19/2024
Malik Macon (new hire)	High School Math Teacher	08/19/2024
Wendy Emery (new hire)	Elementary Teacher	08/19/2024
Alexis Stahl (new hire)	High School Social Studies/History Teacher	08/19/2024
Jennifer Powell (new hire)	Elementary Music Teacher	08/19/2024
Corey Price (new hire)	Elementary School Teacher	08/19/2024

Linda Gonzalez (new hire)	Middle School Guidance Counselor	08/19/2024
Amelia Schwarzman (new hire)	Elementary Instructional Assistant	08/19/2024
Sadie Fowler (new hire)	Elementary Instructional Assistant	08/19/2024
Kayla Kennedy (new hire)	Middle School SPED Teacher	08/19/2024
Annalyse Porreca (new hire)	Elementary School Teacher	08/19/2024
George Schutte (new hire)	High School ELA Teacher	08/19/2024
Holly Conti (new hire)	Elementary School Teacher	08/19/2024
Elizabeth Hernandez- Santa (new hire)	Elementary Instructional Assistant	08/19/2024
Rachel Szychulski (new hire)	Special Education Coordinator	08/19/2024
Izeyah Felder (new hire)	Non-Teaching Assistant (NTA)	08/19/2024
Hailie Denofa (new hire)	Administrative Assistant	08/19/2024
Brittany Arthur (new hire)	Non-Teaching Assistant (NTA)	08/19/2024
Juwan Wood (new hire)	Non-Teaching Assistant (NTA)	08/19/2024
Christian Hankerson (new hire)	High School Music Teacher	08/19/2024
Tivona Baht-Yisrael (new hire)	High School Science Teacher	08/19/2024

Dejah Lloyd (new hire)	Building Substitute Teacher (Elementary)	08/19/2024
Roseann McCuen (new hire)	High School SPED Teacher	08/19/2024
Liam Young (new hire)	Middle School Social Studies Teacher	08/19/2024
Julias Dahne (new hire)	ESY Teacher (Summer) and Middle School Special Education Teacher	7/1/24
Tiffany Schroeder (new hire)	Middle School Mathematics Teacher	8/19/24

<b>TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS / LOA</b>		
<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>
Helen McAneny (resignation)	Penn Data	06/30/2024
Megan Browne (resignation)	Elementary School Teacher	06/07/2024
Debra Klinger (resignation)	High school special education teacher	07/25/2024
Charise Moeller (resignation)	High School music teacher	06/07/2024
Tho Phan (resignation)	Middle School Mathmatics Teacher	07/26/2024
Angel Murray (resignation)	Middle School Social Studies Teacher	06/07/2024

Heather Geiger (resignation)	Elementary School Teacher	07/25/2024
Brittany Reid-Harden (resignation)	Middle School ELA Teacher	06/30/2024
Deanna Reid-Harden (resignation)	Middle School ELA Teacher	06/30/2024
Katelyn Muff (resignation)	Elementary School Teacher	06/07/2024
Sherie Butler (resignation)	Assistant Food Service Director	06/07/2024
Laure Lapping (resignation)	High School Counselor	06/07/2024
Teresa Gruber (resignation)	Elementary School Teacher	6/7/2024
Kimberly Walker (termination)	Assistant Food Service Director	7/22/2024
Kaitlin Elker (resignation)	High School Counselor	7/22/24

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

<b><i>Who</i></b>	<b><i>What</i></b>
<i>D. Smith</i>	<i>Informed the Board of open vacancies where independent contractors for long-term substitutes are being used.</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

MOTION:

MARTHA  
RITTER

SECOND:

BARBARA  
L.  
SAUNDERS

VOTE:

[X] PASS

**R240828.05 Professional Services Contract/s Resolution**

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

FURTHER RESOLVED, the CEO, Business Controller, and General Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate contract/s for the professional services described below;



[ ] FAIL

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

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
Community Council Education Services	Single Student: \$21,500 / student / year  Three (3) + Students: \$19,500 / student / year	Private placement  Discounted rate where more than three (3) students are placed.
Delta-T	Standard Evaluation: \$1,350  Standard Evaluation /w FBA. Neuro, Autism, or Executive Functioning assessment: +\$500  Bilingual Evaluations (Spanish, English, Creole): (\$2,800)  Bilingual Evaluations (Arabic, Mandarin, Korean): (\$5,000)  Record Review: \$450  In-Person Meeting: \$200  Paraprofessional: \$31/hr  CNA: \$31/hr  Non-Certified Teacher: \$40/hr  Certified Teacher: \$42/hr	Staffing Services
Spectrum Staffing	PCA: \$29/hr  NTA: \$29/hr  Substitute Teacher: \$300/day	Staffing services
Cenacle Leadership Group	Per diem Substitute: \$240  Long-term substitute: \$299  Per diem Paraprofessional (TA, PCA, Clerical support): \$207	Staffing services

	Long-term paraprofessional (TA, PCA, clerical support) \$246	
Valley Day	\$8,455	2024 Summer ESY
Specialized Education of Pennsylvania, Inc.	\$34,920	Private Placement
US Medical Staffing	PCA: \$29/hr LPN: \$55/hr RN: \$65/hr	Staffing services
Philadelphia District Attorney Office	N/A	MOU for “Project ‘GO’ School Attendance Support Program.  MOU details the obligations of the District Attorney’s office and the school in deterring truancy.

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

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

MOTION:

SHOSHANA  
SKATES

SECOND:

BARBARA  
L.  
SAUNDERS

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[ ] FAIL

**R240828.06 Approval of 2024-25 Employee Handbook**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby ratifies and approves of the 2024-25 Employee Handbook, as presented.

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

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

MOTION:

MARTHA  
RITTER

SECOND:

BARBARA  
L.  
SAUNDERS

**R240828.07 Approval of 2024-25 Student Handbook**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby ratifies and approves of the 2024-25 Student Handbook, as presented.

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[ ] FAIL

MOTION:

JOHN BISH

SECOND:

BARBARA  
L.  
SAUNDERS

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[ ] FAIL

MOTION:

MARTHA  
RITTER

SECOND:

BARBARA  
L.  
SAUNDERS

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[ ] FAIL

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

### **R240828.08 Approval of 2024-25 Title I Consolidated Plan and School-Wide Plan**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby ratifies and approves of the Title I Consolidated Plan and School-Wide Plan, as presented.

#### ***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

<i><b>Who</b></i>	<i><b>What</b></i>
<i>Board/D.Smith</i>	<i>Discussed that Title I Plan and the School-Wide Plan</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

### **R240828.09 Amended By-Laws**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approved of the Amended By-laws, as presented.

#### ***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

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

### **ROLL CALL**

Anita Vega-Kaiser – President - *aye*  
Teresa Grumbrecht – Vice-President - *aye*  
John Bish – Treasurer - *aye*  
Barbara L. Saunders – Secretary - *aye*  
Dr. Martha J. Ritter - *aye*  
ShoShana Skates - *aye*

**UPON MOTION BY BARBARA L. SAUNDERS AND SECOND BY SHOSHANA SKATES, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PURPOSES DESCRIBED UNDER 65 P.S. 708(A)(4)(5). SPECIFICALLY, TO DISCUSS RESOLUTION R240828.10 AND**

MOTION:  
BARBARA  
L.  
SAUNDERS  
SECOND:  
MARTHA  
RITTER  
VOTE:  
[X] PASS  
[ ] FAIL

**R240828.11 WHICH PERTAIN TO ALLEGED COMPENSATORY EDUCATION CLAIMS**

**R240828.10 Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement for Student No. 10085550**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves of the Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement between itself and Student No. 10085550, pending final legal review.

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

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

MOTION:  
BARBARA  
L.  
SAUNDERS  
SECOND:  
MARTHA  
RITTER  
VOTE:  
[X] PASS  
[ ] FAIL

**R240828.11 Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement for Student No. 10112394**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves of the Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement between itself and Student No. 10112394, pending final legal review.

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

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

**B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

NEXT BOARD MEETING: SEPTEMBER 25, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.

**ADJOURNMENT AT 7:48 P.M.**

MOTION:  
BARBARA L. SAUNDERS  
SECOND:  
SHOSHANA SKATES  
VOTE:  
[X] PASS  
[ ] FAIL