

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

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

LOCATION:  
ZOOM CONFERENCE

DATE & TIME:  
OCTOBER 22, 2025  
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 6:04 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**

<b>Board Members Present:</b>	<b>By Invitation: Non-Board Members:</b>
<p><b>Board Members Present:</b></p> <p>Anita Vega-Kaiser – President            Dr. Martha J. Ritter – Vice-President            Teresa Grumbrecht - Treasurer            ShoShana Skates – Secretary            Dr. MyDirah Littlepage-Saunders            Pablo Mateo</p> <p><b>Board Members Absent:</b></p> <p>None</p>	<p><b>Standing Invitees Present</b></p> <p>Deborah Smith            Kristine Magargee            Peter Costa            Samuel Mercanti            Dean Krebs, Esq.            Khalad Ashraf</p> <p><b>Standing Invitees Absent:</b></p> <p>Ashley Redfearn            Scott Kramer</p> <p><b>Additional Invitees Present:</b></p> <p>Michelle Kealey            Rachel Szychski            Kimberly Atias</p>

**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 met in Executive Session prior to this meeting on October 22, 2025 for purposes described 65 Pa.C.S. 708(a)(1). Specifically, to discuss employment matters described under Resolution R251022.04.*

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION:  
 BLS  
 SECOND:  
 PM

**R251022.01 Approval of the October 22, 2025 Agenda**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the October 22, 2025 Agenda.

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:

BLS

SECOND:

PM

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

**R251022.02 Minutes of the September 24, 2025 Meeting**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the September 24, 2025 meeting of the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School.

***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, and I am with Sand & Sidel, P.C., 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 with which you might supplement your comment 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>
<i>Krystal Lopez</i>	<i>Advocated for Matthew Krafton and against the school administration's disciplinary action against him. Indicated that he has not been provided documentation supporting his termination and expressed school community support. Indicated that FPPCS' volleyball team, for which he was the coach, was distraught which contributed to them losing their recent playoff game. Asked Board to investigate further.</i>

**A. FIRST PHILADELPHIA PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL**

251022

FPPCS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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- a. *Ms. Deborah Smith, CEO of FPPCS*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the October 2025 CEO report, previously disseminated with the Board; and*
  - ii. *Shared update for 4311 Tacony St. purchase.*
- b. *Michelle Kealey, SPED Coordinator*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the October 2025 CEO report, previously disseminated with the Board;*
  - ii. *Shared significant increase from 2021-22 to 2024-25 regarding number of students who required IEPs;*
  - iii. *Shared process by which a student becomes identified, including requests from parents or teachers; and*
  - iv. *Noted that in 2021-22 there was 20 requested for an independent evaluation (“IE”) of which 18 were qualified. By 2024-25 there was 56 requests for IE and 49 students qualified.*
- c. *Rachel Szybuski, SPED Coordinator*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the October 2025 CEO report, previously disseminated with the Board;*
  - ii. *Shared adjustments undertaken to account for additional students, including creation of autistic support classrooms for K-4, additional emotion support for ES and MS; and additional research-based interventions; and*
  - iii. *Shared litigation trends.*
- d. *Kimberly Atias, SPED Coordinator*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the October 2025 CEO report, previously disseminated with the Board;*
  - ii. *Shared additional adjustments made at FPPCS;*
  - iii. *Noted processes in place to get waivers services for students with Autism;*
  - iv. *Shared transition supports for HS students with disabilities with Delta School; and*
  - v. *Shared information about state-approved program for post-secondary readiness in the area of independent living for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.*

**B. BUSINESS CONTROLLER**

- a. *Peter Costa, Santilli & Thomson,*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed the September 2025 financial reports, as previously disseminated to the Board*

**C. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS**

- a. *Ms. Kristine Magargee, CAO of APS*

i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the October 2025 APS report, as previously disseminated to the Board.

**D. GENERAL COUNSEL**

a. Dean Krebs, Esq.

i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the resolutions on the Agenda.

**SECTION III: OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

**SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS**

**A. RESOLUTIONS**

MOTION:  
MR  
SECOND:  
MLS  
VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

**R251022.03 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.

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

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

MOTION:  
PM  
SECOND:  
MLS  
VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

**R251022.04 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>
None	None	None

<b>TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS / LOA</b>
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NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Andrew Kirschenbaum (terminated)	ELA Teacher HS	10/17/2025
Matthew Kafton (terminated)	Gym Teacher	10/20/2025

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

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

**UPON MOTION BY PABLO MATEO AND SECOND BY MYDIRAH LITTLEPAGE-SAUNDERS, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED OF ENTERING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PURPOSES DESCRIBED UNDER 65 PA.C.S. § 708(A)(4)(5). SPECIFICALLY, TO DISCUSS RESOLUTION R251022.05 - .07 WHICH PERTAIN TO ALLEGED COMPENSATORY EDUCATION CLAIMS.**

**UPON MOTION BY PABLO MATEO AND SECOND BY MYDIRAH LITTLEPAGE-SAUNDERS, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED OF ENTERING INTO OPEN SESSION**

MOTION:

**R251022.05 Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement for Student No. 10059116**

PM

SECOND:

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. 10059116 pending final legal review.

MLS

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:

**R251022.06 Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement for Student No. 10005555**

PM

SECOND:

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. 10005555 pending final legal review.

MLS

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

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

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

<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>
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MOTION:

**R251022.07 Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement for Student No. 9808736**

PM

SECOND:

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. 9808736 pending final legal review.

MLS

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

***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**

NEXT BOARD MEETING: NOVEMBER 19, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M.

**ADJOURNMENT AT 7:38 P.M.**

MOTION:

PM

SECOND:

MLS

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL