

# LINDLEY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL AT BIRNEY

900 W. LINDLEY AVENUE

PHILADELPHIA, PA 19141

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

LOCATION:

ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

DATE & TIME:

DECEMBER 5, 2023

6:00 P.M.

## MINUTES

### SECTION I: CALL TO ORDER

#### Opening Colloquy

This meeting of the Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney Board of Trustees is hereby called to order. The time is 6:04 P.M. My name is Lisa Johnson. I am the President of this Board of Trustees, and I will facilitate this meeting.

This meeting is being held via video teleconference. This is a public meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney that was properly advertised pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. The public notice included instructions for how the public could participate in tonight's meeting. The public meeting schedule is posted at the school and on the website in the monthly calendar.

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>  |
|--|---|
| Lisa Johnson — President<br>Barbara Saunders — Vice President<br>Evette Alliston — Treasurer<br>Reginald Howard — Secretary<br><br><b>Board Members Absent:</b><br><br>Regina Felder — Trustee | Dr. Margery Covello, CEO<br>Nancy White, Principal<br><br>Ashley Redfearn, CEO, APS<br>Scott Kramer, Chief Talent Officer, APS<br>Kristine Magargee, Chief Academic Officer, APS<br><br>Peter Costa, Santilli & Thomson, LLC<br>Eric Strauss, Withum, Smith + Brown<br><br>David Hussey, Esq. |

**B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY LISA JOHNSON**

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

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION:  
BLS  
SECOND:  
RH  
VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

**Resolution 231205.01 Approval of the December 5, 2023 Agenda**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves the **December 5, 2023** Agenda.

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

| <b>Who</b> | <b>What</b>   |
|------------|---|
| Board      | Reviewed the meeting agenda, a copy of which was posted on the school website in advance of the meeting |

*Upon Motion by B. Saunders, Seconded by R. Howard, the Board voted to amend the agenda to add Resolution 231205.04. This resolution requires board approval by December 31, 2023.*

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION:  
BLS  
SECOND:  
RH  
VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

**Resolution 231205.02 Approval of the November 21, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves the Minutes of the **November 21, 2023** meeting of the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney.

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

| <i>Who</i>   | <i>What</i>                                  |
|--------------|--|
| <i>Board</i> | <i>Reviewed the November meeting minutes</i> |

MOTION:  
BLS  
SECOND:  
RH  
VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

**Resolution 231205.03 Approval of the September 20, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes (Amended)**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves the amended Minutes of the **September 20, 2022** meeting of the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney.

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

| <i>Who</i>             | <i>What</i>   |
|------------------------|---|
| <i>Advance Comment</i> | <i>The amended September minutes are being presented for Board approval to clarify a typographical error, which the Charter Schools Office identified as a legal deficiency</i> |

**SECTION II: REPORTS**

**A. COMMUNITY COMMENT**

*Community Comment Colloquy (General Counsel)*

Good evening. My name is David Hussey, and I am with Sand & Saidel, P.C., General Counsel to the Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney 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>None</i> | <i>None</i> |

**A. BUSINESS CONTROLLER**

*The Board inquired regarding the boiler, and the impact that repairs might have on the school's financial position. The business controller presented no monthly report due to the timing of this month's meeting.*

**1. DRAFT AUDIT REPORT**

*Eric Strauss presented the draft audit report, highlighting:*

- + *The responsibilities of the auditor and required communications;*
- + *Management’s responsibilities with respect to the audit;*
- + *A review of the audit report, including the issuance of a clean, unmodified opinion; and*
- + *An overview of the school’s financial position, which is healthy.*

**B. LINDLEY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL AT BIRNEY CEO**

*Dr. Covello presented the monthly written CEO report, a copy of which was distributed in advance, highlighting:*

- + *Monthly mission moment;*
- + *Strategic plan updates; and*
- + *Facilities issues, including efforts to repair the school’s boilers, deficiencies with respect to the fire safety system, and efforts to coordinate with the local fire marshal to address issues regarding the school’s fire system and ensure building safety.*

*The school has notified and is meeting with the CSO and SDP to rectify the issues. Dr. Covello will keep the Board updated.*

**C. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS CEO**

*A. Redfearn presented the monthly written report of APS, a copy of which is incorporated by reference herein, highlighting:*

- + *Efforts to collaborate with the incoming mayor;*
- + *Media crisis handbook;*
- + *Development of social media policies;*
- + *Partnership with Arcadia University to support professional education programs; and*
- + *Learning walks and data support.*

**SECTION III: UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**NONE**

**SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS**

**A. RESOLUTIONS**

MOTION:  
 BLS  
 SECOND:  
 EA  
 VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

**Resolution 231205.04 Approval of Audit Report**

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby accepts and approves the independent financial audit report for the year ended June 30, 2023, as presented.

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

| <i>Who</i>   | <i>What</i>  |
|--------------|--|
| <i>Board</i> | <i>Reviewed the audit report, which was presented during the meeting</i> |

MOTION:  
EA  
SECOND:  
BLS  
VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

**Resolution 231205.05 Approval of Reports**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney accepts the report of the CEO of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney and all documents submitted thereby, which shall be incorporated into the record of this meeting; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney accepts the report of American Paradigm Schools 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:  
EA  
SECOND:  
RH  
VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

**Resolution 231205.06 Human Resources**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School hereby approves the human resources changes, as presented.

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

| <i>Who</i>         | <i>What</i>   |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>Dr. Covello</i> | <i>Presented the proposed human resources changes</i> |

**B. UPCOMING EVENTS**

❖ NEXT BOARD MEETING: TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.

**ADJOURNMENT AT 7:04 P.M.**

MOTION:  
BLS  
SECOND:  
EA

VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

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