

Patterson Park Public Charter School, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2022

7:00 pm at Clay Hill

Members Attending: Charles Conner (presiding), Pat Irish (recording), Raven Cooper (SAL-CHPCS), Natasha Perry (SAL-PPPCS), Anais Roman (SAL-CHPCS), Tasha Johnson, Lauren Eaton, Astrid Bharath-Pierce (PAL-PPPCS), Paul Rishar, Lauren Stutzman, Ramond Sneed

Absent: Ankit Aggarwal, Jackie Quinones, Julie Neale Taylor (PAL-PPPCS), Jenna Adams (SAL-PPPCS), Lazette Wells, Chris Scott, Kim Francois

Staff and Guests: Jane Lindenfelser, Emily Augustine (principal of Clay Hill Public Charter School), Miguel Cervantes del Toro (principal of Patterson Park Public Charter School), Abdel Piedramartel (translator), Jacob Holts, Scottie Wingfield, Domina Montoya

**Unless otherwise noted, an asterisk indicates there is a presentation or document archived online in the Google Drive linked to the meeting agenda. These are effectively part of the minutes.*

I. Introductory Items – The board vice president read the PPPCS Inc. mission, and the meeting was called to order at approximately 7:22 p.m. following a tour of Clay Hill.

Public Comment – No public comment

II. Debrief on school tour

- The Board debriefed on the Clay Hill school tour, with multiple members commenting on how inspiring it is to see the school evolve from an idea to reality and the energy present in the classroom and hallways.

III. Facilities and Finance*

- Paul Risha and Jane Lindenfelser provided update. Paul walked through the approximate numbers to purchase the building and for Phase 2 construction, which includes updates needed to HVAC power, and ADA access. Paul walked through the different sources of funding, including an approximately threshold for borrowing, grants, and capital funding from the state. However, even with all three categories falling in our favor, there remains a significant financial obligation for the organization to assume—an obligation with the potential to add significant risk.
- As a next step, PPPCS Inc., will write a non-binding letter of interest to purchase the building. In the near term, the Board will need to vote on a contract to re-engage our financial advisor Wye River who represented PPPCS Inc., though our last bond refinance. PPPCS Inc., will need to pursue tax-exempt re-financing in order to borrow for Phase 2 and building purchase in addition

to our existing debt. The Finance and Facilities committees are collaborating on the above next steps, and will provide a final recommendation to the Board as far in advance as possible.

- Ms. Lindenfelser provided financing updates, as she's been in contact with the organizations who funded CHPCS in Phase 1. Additionally, the EC is seeking proposals to work with lobbyist as we explore capital funding from the state.
- Chuck Commer disclosed a conflict with his firm, Venable, should PPPCS, Inc., select them. The Board discussed potential opportunities to collaborate with other organizations and the associated benefits and risks of doing so. Board discussed the need to communicate to school community the decision to partner with a lobbyist, should the Board decide to do so. Finally, Ms. Lindenfelser added context around the precedent for state funding for PPPCS, Inc. and charter school more broadly.
- Finally, Ms. Lindenfelser shared an update from recent meeting with BCPS Facilities. At this time, PPPCS Inc., will not need to submit a facilities plan by November but will need to do so by January.

IV. Consent Agenda*

- The consent agenda included the Development report, bereavement policy, September minutes, and PAL job description. Consent agenda was approved. (The vote was initially delayed due to not having a quorum.)

V. EC request vote for new AEC chair*

- Lauren Eaton was unanimously approved as new AEC chair.

VI. Staff at Large update*

- Ms Perry provided update for PPPCS. Mr. K-Shaud Watkins has been approved as the new SAL. Ms. Perry introduced new staff. Recent school activities included creating birthday bags for the food pantry, writing letters to veterans, and Hispanic Heritage week as part of Spirit Week. Additionally, several clubs and sports started this year, including media club.
- Ms. Roman and Ms. Cooper provided update for CHPCS. Ms. Roman started with glows and grows. Highlights included Mindful Parent Connection and solutions to school cleanliness. Ms. Roman shared the proactive approach the school is taking to handle racism and discrimination for students and staff; parents can put in a grievance through BCPS.

V. Parents/Guardians-at-Large Report*

- a. Ms. Bharath-Pierce presented. She provided background for why PAL description changed; description now more parent friendly so they can better understand why here and better connect/update parents to Board and ensure PAL is representative of the whole board.

VI. Schools Update*

- Ms. Lindenfelser presented, opening with Caught Yas. In her enrollment update, Ms. Lindenfelser shared that both schools surpassed budgeted enrollment. The enrollment strategy will continue to evolve but relationship building remains critical. Kindergarten applicants fell slightly short at both schools. Additionally student attrition was higher across both schools; expect to level out with CHPCSS.

- Mr. del Toro provided th PPPCS update. He reviewed BOY data, culture/climate, and school strategies to improve both. Please refer to slides for specifics.
- Ms. Augustine provided the CHPCS update. She reviewed BOY goals, and shared the need to articulate student progress to parents and external audiences. She highlighted STAR adaptive tests and CBMs as a way to do that. Please refer to slides for specifics on progress and focus areas.

VII. Governance Committee Report*

- Lauren Stutzman, committee chair, provided Governance update. She reviewed Work From Home Policy; Work From Home Agreement; and PTO Payout Correction. She asked Board to familiarize themselves with these.

VI. Closing Items

- A. The meeting adjourned at 9:4 pm.
- B. The next board meeting is November 16 at 7 pm. (virtual)