

Patterson Park Public Charter School, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

November 1, 2022

7:00 pm – via Zoom

Members Attending: Lazette Wells, (presiding), Pat Irish (recording), Lauren Stutzman, Ramond Sneed, Tasha Johnson, Lauren Eaton, Charletta, Jackie Quinones, Paul Rishar, Kim Francois, Astrid Bharath-Pierce (PAL-PPPCS), Chris Scott

Staff and Guests: Jane Lindenfelser, Miguel Cervantes del Toro (principal of Patterson Park Public Charter School), Natasha Perry (SAL-PPPCS), K-Shaud Watkins (SAL-PPPCS)

Absent: Abdel Piedramartel (translator), Emily Augustine (principal of Clay Hill Public Charter School), Raven Cooper (SAL-CHPCS), Anais Roman (SAL-CHPCS), Ankit Aggarwal, Jenna Adams (SAL-PPPCS), Charles Conner,

**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 president read the PPPCS Inc. mission, and the meeting was called to order at approximately 7:03 p.m.

Public Comment – No public comment

Consent Agenda* – None

II. Engagement Letter*

- Jane provided an update on EC's and PPPCS Inc.'s desire to pursue state funding and partner with professionals. She walked through the timeline for the state capital budget, notably that they are taking requests until mid-November. We sent our request last week. However, she and the EC believe that the school would benefit from outside help.
- Paul, Lazette, Pat, and Jane interviewed three firms. When evaluating the firms, they looked at experience, cost, and the proposed strategy. Based on that criteria, they selected Venable as the top candidate, notable because of the firm's experience with lobbying in education, specifically capital funding in education. Their experience surpassed what the team heard from other candidates. Additionally, Venable has credibility in areas where PPPCS Inc., would need to build relationships—both with decision makers and their staff members.
- Regarding cost, Venable was not the lowest-cost firm, but given negotiations and their lowering the price, it was reasonable to work with them. The engagement letter reflects a 12-month agreement. Looking ahead to end of fiscal year, EC would want this to go through the regular budget process.

- The Board asked questions and discussed the timeline to learn if we get funding; Jane noted that December, January, and April will be key months as the current legislative body makes their budget, transitions to new legislative session, and then the budget is finalized. The Board also discussed if there was an opportunity to tie payment to the desired outcome; this is not industry practice. Finally, the Board discussed whether there was an opportunity to approve for only six months so that we can explore negotiating the remainder. The EC said yes, and this informed the following motion:
- Paul requested a motion to select Venable to represent PPPCS Inc., at \$3,250 per month through April of 2023. Ramond moved, Charletta second. The motion was approved with ten yays and one nay.

III - Letter of Intent to purchase building

- Lazette and Paul previewed an update and the interest in writing a non-binding letter expressing PPPCS Inc.'s desire to purchase the building from the archdiocese. EC is in the process of reviewing the letter and the appropriate amount to put in it. We anticipate having updated construction estimates next Tuesday. The Facilities Committee moved their meeting so that they can review.

VI. Closing Items

- A. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.