



TECH Freire

Charter High School

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 13, 2017

Minutes

Place: 1026 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Board attendees: David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matt Johnson, Bruce Lesser, David Shahriari, Scott Solomon

Board members absent: Bruce Levine, Sakinah Rahman, Lanora Wells

Other attendees: Leigh Botwinik, Bill Brinkman, Tom Caramanico, Kelly Davenport, Gerald Escovitz, Sarah Grugan, Ron Lomax-Bey, Max Matthews, Johnny Mills, Bill Ray, Julia Regan Fanelli, Hillary Sorin, Jupiter Suarez (student representative), Nasir Weaver (student representative)

10:04 AM, meeting called to order.

I. Executive Session

- a. Bruce Lesser makes a motion for the Board to enter executive session to discuss ongoing litigation. Matt Johnson seconds.
- b. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matt Johnson, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- c. The Board holds executive session from 10:04 AM to 10:22 AM.

II. Public Comment

- a. There was no public comment.

III. Resolutions

- a. Review & Approve Minutes from Board Meeting on June 14, 2017
 - i. The Board reviews the minutes from its meeting on June 14, 2017.
 - ii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve the minutes. Matt Johnson seconds the motion.
 - iii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matt Johnson, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- b. Slate of Staff
 - i. Max Matthews reviews an up-to-date Slate of Staff for TECH Freire Charter School, noting that TECH Freire's charter specifies that the Board of Directors must vote to approve all new hires, employee terminations, and salaries as the means of fulfilling its responsibilities under the school code
 - ii. The Board recognizes that there are no conflicts of interest present on the Slate of Staff.
 - iii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve the Slate of Staff. Matt Johnson seconds.
 - iv. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matt Johnson, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.

- c. Student and Family Handbook
 - i. Max Matthews reviews the student handbook for TECH Freire Charter School for the 2017-18 school year, noting that the revised handbook includes updates to TECH Freire's attendance policy.
 - ii. Matt Johnson makes a motion to approve the Student and Family Handbook. David Bryant seconds.
 - iii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matt Johnson, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- d. Charter Schools Office Data MOU
 - i. Max Matthews reviews a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the School District of Philadelphia's Charter Schools Office and TECH Freire Charter School regarding TECH Freire's student data.
 - ii. The Board discusses the merits and risks of signing the proposed MOU, and develops a proposal to amend the language in section 5.a to limit the scope of purposes for which the Charter Schools Office may use the data to be disclosed.
 - iii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve the signing of the MOU with the amendments discussed. Matt Johnson seconds.
 - iv. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matt Johnson, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- e. Movement of PSP Funds
 - i. Bill Ray reviews a memo recommending that the Board of Directors approve receipt of \$65,590 of PSP grant funds from Freire Foundation.
 - ii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve receipt of the funds. Matt Johnson seconds.
 - iii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matt Johnson, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- f. Re-approve 2016-17 Lease Reimbursement
 - i. Bill Ray reviews TECH Freire Charter School's 2016-17 lease reimbursement form to be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. He notes that the amounts listed on the form were previously approved at the June Board Meeting, but that the form could not be accepted by the DOE unless the Board approved the form after July 1st, when the official 2016-17 form was released.
 - ii. David Bryant makes a motion to approve the lease reimbursement form. Bruce Lesser seconds.
 - iii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matt Johnson, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- g. CIPA Internet Safety Policy
 - i. The Board reviews the proposed CIPA Internet Safety Policy for the 2017-18 school year. Max Matthews explains the purpose of CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act) to the Board along with the methods the school uses to protect students while online.
 - ii. David Bryant makes a motion to approve the Internet Safety Policy. Bruce Lesser seconds.
 - iii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matt Johnson, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- h. EL Policy and Program Guide
 - i. Max Reviews the revised English Learner Policy, to which the Board approve revisions at its meeting in June as the ESL/Bilingual Policy. The purpose of the revisions

proposed at this time is to align the policy with new guidelines released by the state over the summer.

- ii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve the EL Policy and Program Guide. Matt Johnson seconds.
- iii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matt Johnson, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- i. 2017-2018 Admissions Policy
 - i. Max Matthews reviews the updated Admissions Policy for students entering Fall 2018.
 - ii. The Board proceeds to approve the document, but under recruitment changing “make every effort” to “endeavor” and under backfill enrollment remove the phrase “in the best way feasible.”
 - iii. David Bryant makes a motion to approve pending proposed Board changes. Matt Johnson seconds.
 - iv. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matt Johnson, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.

IV. School Reports

- a. Academic Plan and Data Packet
 - i. Dave Shahriari and Sarah Grugan present to the Board on collected data from the previous academic year and plans for the coming year.
- b. Student Representatives
 - i. TECH Freire students Jupiter Suarez and Nasir Weaver speak with the Board about why they chose to return to TECH Freire and the sense of community they feel at school.
- c. Staff Representative
 - i. Dean of Students Ron Lomax-Bey speaks with the Board about TECH Freire’s Deans’ Office, mentoring students, and the importance of making sure school discipline positively impacts students’ behavior without removing students from class.

V. Financials

- a. June 2017 Financial Package
 - i. Bill Ray reviews TECH Freire's financial report for June 2017.

VI. Advancement

- a. Advancement Packet
 - i. Hillary Sorin, Director of Advancement at Build the Future, reviews the advancement activities undertaken in the last 60 days and discusses plans for the future.

VII. Governance

- a. 2017-2018 TECH Freire Board Schedule and Contact Sheet
 - i. The Board reviews an up-to-date meeting schedule and Board roster for the 2017-18 year.

12:19 PM, meeting adjourned.