



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October 10, 2018

Location: 1026 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Board Members Present: William Brinkman, David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Anthony Royster, Scott Solomon

Board Members Absent: Lanora Wells

Other: Tyleaha Adams, Paul Archibald, Hilda Bacon, Leigh Botwinik, Kelly Davenport, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein (Phone), Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Max Matthews, Johnny Mills, Chris Moore, Beth Packel (Phone), Bill Ray, Maurice Roberts, Dave Shahriari, Adam Viscontto, Chris Zagacki, Steve (no last name given)

The meeting is called to order at 8:05 AM.

I. Public Comment

- a. Steve (no last name given), a current student at Temple University, introduces himself to the Board of Directors. Steve is currently studying diversity and inclusion in education.

II. Resolutions

- a. Review and Approve Minutes from Board Meeting on September 13, 2018
 - i. The Board of Directors review the minutes from the Board Meeting on September 13, 2018.
 - ii. Bruce Levine makes a motion to approve the minutes. William Brinkman seconds.
 - iii. William Brinkman, David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- b. Teacher Equity Plan
 - i. Max Matthews explains that the Teacher Equity Plan is an annual requirement for Title I schools to receive federal funding.
 - ii. Bruce Lesser makes a move to approve the Teacher Equity Plan. Bruce Levine seconds.
 - iii. William Brinkman, David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- c. 2018-2019 Textbook Review
 - i. Max Matthews explains that TECH Freire's school code requires the Board of Directors to review the list of textbooks the school plans to use throughout the school year.
 - ii. Dave Shahriari shares that TECH Freire is working to introduce more entrepreneurial course material throughout the school.
 - iii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve the list of textbooks for the 2018-2019 school year. William Brinkman seconds.
 - iv. William Brinkman, David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- d. Slate of Staff with Salaries
 - i. The Board of Directors reviews the Slate of Staff with Salaries for TECH Freire Charter School.

- ii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve the Slate of Staff with Salaries. Dawn Eubanks seconds.
- iii. William Brinkman, David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- e. Adoption of the Board Policy Directory
 - i. Max Matthews shares that Build the Future has been working to compile a list of all policies currently in place at TECH Freire. This Policy Directory will help keep track of each policy by introducing a new numbering system for organizational purposes.
 - ii. The Board agrees this document and forthcoming numbering system does not need to be approved by the Board.
- f. Addendum to Academic and Business Service Agreement, Director of Learning
 - i. Bill Ray explains Addendum I to the Academic and Business Services Agreement wherein Build the Future provides services for TECH Freire Charter High School. Bill notes this addendum was previously approved during the September Board Meeting. The updated version of the addendum includes language that states the fee for the Director of Learning is adjustable based on re-projections of the estimated prorated personnel cost.
 - ii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve the updated Addendum to Academic and Business Service Agreement for the Director of Learning. Dawn Eubanks seconds.
 - iii. William Brinkman, David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.

III. School Report

- a. Heads Report
 - i. September Data Packet
 - 1. Dave Shahriari shares that TECH Freire has enrolled grades 9-12 for the 2018-2019 school year, the first year the school is serving all four grade levels. Dave notes that 51% of the currently enrolled students are within the Strawberry Mansion catchment area, a condition of TECH Freire's charter.
 - 2. Dave notes that, last year, TECH Freire's average daily attendance was 89.3%. One of TECH's goals for the year is to increase that average daily attendance to above 90%. Dave shares a draft of the new incentive plan to encourage increased student attendance. This plan includes perks for students, like dress down days and special field trips, for consistently arriving to school on time.
 - 3. Dave shares that TECH Freire is continually working on supporting students and the difficulties they face outside of school. TECH Freire has plans to hire additional emotional support staff to engage with students and create a culture of support throughout the school.
 - 4. During September, TECH Freire seniors participated in 7 college presentations and have another 8 planned for October.
- b. Staff Update
 - i. Adam Viscontio, Student Services Administrative Specialist, introduces himself to the Board of Directors. Adam has recently taken over tracking student attendance at TECH Freire and coordinating the new attendance incentive plan along with Dave and other members of school leadership.
 - ii. Hilda Bacon, Director of Community Partnerships & Engagement at Build the Future, introduces herself to TECH Freire's Board of Directors. Hilda shares that 16 students from the Freire Network recently attended a discussion, hosted by Leadership Philadelphia, that examined the relationship between the Philadelphia Police and the community. The students watched a short film followed by a deep discussion with professionals and Leadership Philadelphia alum. The students received a standing ovation from the other participants because of their courageous participation and willingness to discuss such a sensitive topic. Freire has been invited to engage 30 additional students during the next discussion.
- c. Student Update

- i. Tyleaha Adams, a current 10th grade student at TECH Freire and former Freire Middle School student, introduces herself to the Board of Directors. Tyleaha is a TECH Freire Student Ambassador and math tutor. She shares that the teachers and staff at TECH Freire engage with students and incorporate them in decision making throughout the school. Tyleaha is grateful to be involved in new teacher interviews along with other students and current staff members.
- d. Building Update
 - i. Kelly Davenport shares that the new roof has been completed at TECH Freire. Currently, the school is in the bidding phase to fix a plumbing issue throughout the building.
- e. Education Committee
 - i. Leigh Botwinik shares the October Education Committee Report, highlighting the research around effectiveness of college degrees for different professions, the high percentage of special education students who attend Freire schools, and the upcoming site visits to other high performing charter schools throughout the region.
 - ii. The Board reviews the report and recommends a more detailed analysis which would focus on student college debt and a robust career readiness plan to aid Freire graduates in securing higher paying careers after college.
 - iii. Hilda Bacon shares that she is working on scheduling Career Awareness Days at each of the Freire schools to provide students with a broader understanding of potential career opportunities after high school and college.
- f. Charter Renewal Update
 - i. Max Matthews shares that TECH Freire is currently in the process of charter renewal. The recent financial and special education audits came back with no issues or findings.
 - ii. The Charter Office will conduct their first site visit on December 13, 2018.

IV. Financials

- a. August 2018 Financial Packet
 - i. Bill Ray reviews the August financials for TECH Freire Charter School. Bill notes that the school's cash on hand is growing at a strong pace.
- b. FY 2018 Audit Report
 - i. Bill notes that the recent financial audit was completed. A draft report should be received before the end of October.

V. Advancement

- a. Advancement Update
 - i. Kelly Davenport shares that the Advancement Committee has been working diligently on numerous grants for the Freire Network. The Advancement Committee has begun discussing next year's Bridge to Wisdom Honoree.

VI. Board Committee Reports

- a. Audit Committee
 - i. Bill notes that the recent financial audit was completed. A draft report should be received before the end of October.

VII. Governance

- a. TECH Freire's Board Visitation Day
 - i. Scott Solomon shares that TECH Freire Charter High School will be hosting a Board Visitation Day on Wednesday, November 7, 2018.

10:15 AM, meeting adjourned.