



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October 16, 2019 | 8:00 AM
1026 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Minutes

Board Members Present: William Brinkman, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Anthony Royster (Phone), Scott Solomon

Others Present: Paul Archibald, Kelly Davenport, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach (Phone), Johnny Mills, Chris Moore, Beth Packel (Phone), Bill Ray, Melanie Reiser, Maurice Roberts, Teryn Thomas, Charles Ware, Lorraine White, Chris Zagacki

Meeting start 8:06 AM

I. Public Comment

- a. There is no public comment.

II. Resolutions

- a. Review & Approve Minutes
 - i. The Board reviews the minutes from the Board Meeting on September 11, 2019.
 1. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve. William Brinkman seconds.
 2. William Brinkman, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Anthony Royster, and Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
 - ii. The Board reviews the minutes from the Special Board Meeting on September 26, 2019
 1. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve. William Brinkman seconds.
 2. William Brinkman, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Anthony Royster, Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- b. Slate of Staff with Salaries
 - i. The Board reviews the Slate of Staff with Salaries and discusses how raises are determined year-over-year.
 - ii. Dawn Eubanks makes a motion to approve. William Brinkman seconds.
 - iii. William Brinkman, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Anthony Royster, Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- c. 2019-2020 Textbook Review
 - i. Kelly Davenport reviews illustrative math for middle and high school students which helps students develop mathematical thinking skills through questioning, discussion, and real-world contexts. Teryn Thomas further explains the benefits of this new math curriculum and how it will be rolled out with staff throughout the network.
 - ii. Dawn Eubanks makes a motion to approve. William Brinkman seconds.
 - iii. William Brinkman, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Anthony Royster, Scott Solomon vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- d. Preliminary Terms for TECH Building Purchase
 - i. Bill Ray reviews the preliminary terms from PNC to TECH Freire if they choose to purchase the current building.
 - ii. The Board discusses the pros and cons of the preliminary terms and the benefits of purchasing the TECH Freire building. These terms include the full purchase of the building, including the necessary repairs to the building façade and a 30-year fixed bond with an option to refinance after 7 years. The terms also include a 1.10 Debt Service Coverage Ratio and 45 days cash on hand (starting at 30 and increasing to 45 by year 3).

- iii. Scott Solomon makes a motion (a) for Freire Schools to continue discussions around financing in connection with TECH Freire's Board of Directors (b) allowance to incur expenses up to \$50,000 in relation to negotiations and legal counsel as it pertains to purchasing the TECH Freire building and (c) authorization to spend over \$50,000 if financing is approved. All costs are expected to be rolled into the bond.
- iv. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve. Dawn Eubanks seconds.
- v. William Brinkman, Dawn Eubanks, Bruce Lesser, Anthony Royster, 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. October Data Report
 - 1. Charles Ware shares that TECH Freire leadership has been actively implementing measures to improve school culture, hallway management, and utilization of large group spaces.
 - 2. Charles notes that TECH Freire now has a multi-tiered system in place to progressively decrease the schoolwide suspension rate, giving parents a more collaborative approach to a student's corrective behavior.
 - 3. Charles notes that TECH Freire struggled to meet the STAR benchmark goals for students projected to score advanced or proficient on the PA Keystones. TECH Freire's leadership team is building awareness of the exam and highlighting its importance among students and staff as a first step towards stronger scores. Leadership will continue to support teachers and students through additional trainings and ensure there is enough technology available during testing.
 - 4. The school is implementing initiatives that will help communicate benchmarking and exam tips, tools, and resources to families via email, postal mail, and information sessions.
 - 5. Teryn Thomas and Kelly Davenport have been touring the building regularly to support the math teachers with the new illustrative math curriculum.
 - 6. Charles shares that numerous college information sessions have been scheduled for juniors and seniors over the coming months.
 - b. Staff Member Update
 - i. There is no staff member update at this time.
 - c. Student Council Update
 - i. There is no student council update at this time.
 - d. Alumni Update
 - i. There is no alumni update at this time.

IV. Financials

- a. September 2019 Financial Report
 - i. Bill Ray reviews the September 2019 Financial Report for TECH Freire Charter School. Bill notes that the finance team is monitoring enrollment closely to make sure enrollment numbers track with budget estimates. Bill notes the TECH Freire is fully staffed.
 - ii. Bill shares that TECH has not incurred any large unbudgeted expenses. With a higher enrollment and higher percentage of special education students, the school is in a strong financial place to maintain financial ratios.
- b. FY 2019 Audit Update
 - i. There are no audit findings, issues, or concerns. TECH Freire Charter School anticipates receiving the full audit report later this year.

V. Advancement

- a. Advancement Update
 - i. Melanie Reiser shares that the rebrand has received positive praise from shareholders across the network.
 - ii. Currently the advancement team is applying to several grants, cleaning up the database, and preparing for the upcoming annual appeal.

- b. Political Landscape Update
 - i. Melanie shares that the Mayor visited Freire Middle for a Town Hall organized by Great Philly Schools to kick off the annual Philly High School Fair.
 - ii. In the coming weeks several members of the Philadelphia Delegation will be visiting TECH Freire, including Malcolm Kenyatta.
 - iii. Kelly Davenport shares that state officials have been received daily pro-charter emails from parents. There is a charter school funding meeting taking place in Harrisburg next week.

VI. Board Committee Meeting

- a. Education Committee
 - i. No update at this time.
- b. Audit Committee
 - i. There are no audit findings, issues, or concerns. TECH Freire Charter School anticipates receiving the full audit report later this year.

VII. Governance

- a. TECH Board Immersion Day – Wednesday, October 23
 - i. Board Immersion Day at TECH Freire Charter High School was postponed. New details to be provided at December Board Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:11 AM.