



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

APRIL 8, 2026 | 8 AM

MEETING ID: 835 8472 8755

LOCATION: FREIRE CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL (1026 MARKET STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Doreese Bull, Dawn Eubanks, Linda Kilpatrick, Bruce Lesser, Scott Solomon

OTHERS PRESENT: Kiara Allison, Paul Archibald, Leigh Botwinik, Promise Evans, Brian Galetto, Jamilah Gibbs, Londyn Henderson, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Linda Kilpatrick, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Chris Moore, Kathleen O'Connell, Katie Pollard, Tanza Pugliese, Paul Ramirez, Melanie Reiser, Mya Smith Reynolds, Scott Solomon, Rhianna Stockbridge, Madeline Weckel, Matt Wranovixc, Nathan Yufer, Andrea Zepp

Meeting Start, 8:07 AM

I. Public Comment

- A. Matt Wranovixc of Local 274 representing Hospitality Workers, shared concerns related to the working conditions at the Hilton Garden Inn, which is currently owned by Acres Commercial Realty who employs Freire Charter School board member, Linda Kilpatrick, and Freire Schools board members, Eldron Blackwell and David Bryant.

II. Executive Session

- A. Scott Solomon makes a motion to enter into executive session at 8:10 AM "To discuss any matter involving the ... evaluation of performance ...of any specific ... current ... employee... employed ... by the agency;" and "To consult with an attorney or other professional advisor regarding information or strategy in connection with litigation or with issues on which identifiable complaints are expected to be filed." Bruce Lesser seconds.
- B. Doreese Bull, Dawn Eubanks, Linda Kilpatrick, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor. There are no votes against or abstentions.
- C. The TECH Freire Charter School board exits Executive Session at 8:29 AM and reconvenes the public meeting.

III. Resolutions

- A. Review & Approve Minutes from February 4, 2026 (*Attachment 3A*)*
 - 1. The board reviews the minutes from February 4, 2026.
 - 2. Dawn Eubanks makes a motion to approve. Bruce Lesser seconds.
 - 3. Doreese Bull, Dawn Eubanks, Linda Kilpatrick, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor. There are no votes against or abstentions.
- B. Review & Approve Teacher Equity Plan (*Attachment 3B*)*
 - 1. The board reviews the Teacher Equity Plan.
 - 2. Dawn Eubanks makes a motion to approve. Bruce Lesser seconds.
 - 3. Doreese Bull, Dawn Eubanks, Linda Kilpatrick, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor. There are no votes against or abstentions.
- C. Approve Slate of Staff (*Attachment 3C*)*
 - 1. Dawn Eubanks makes a motion to approve. Linda Kilpatrick seconds.
 - 2. Doreese Bull, Dawn Eubanks, Linda Kilpatrick, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor. There are no votes against or abstentions.
- D. Review & Approve 2026-2027 School Calendar (*Attachment 3D*)*
 - 1. The board reviews the 2026-2027 School Calendar.
 - 2. Dawn Eubanks makes a motion to approve. Bruce Lesser seconds.



3. Doreese Bull, Dawn Eubanks, Linda Kilpatrick, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor. There are no votes against or abstentions.
- E. Review & Approve Significant Disproportionality Correction Plan (*Attachment 3E*)***
 1. The board reviews the Significant Disproportionality Correction Plan. Leigh Botwinik provides an explanation about TECH's identification and strategy using MTSS.
 2. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve. Dawn Eubanks seconds.
 3. Doreese Bull, Dawn Eubanks, Linda Kilpatrick, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor. There are no votes against or abstentions.
- F. Review & Approve 2026-2027 Board Meeting Schedule (*Attachment 3F*)***
 1. The board reviews the 2026-2027 Board Meeting Schedule.
 2. Dawn Eubanks makes a motion to approve. Linda Kilpatrick seconds.
 3. Doreese Bull, Dawn Eubanks, Linda Kilpatrick, Bruce Lesser, and Scott Solomon vote in favor. There are no votes against or abstentions.
- G. Approve KW Settlement***
 1. Dawn Eubanks makes a motion to approve a settlement agreement with a former employee on the terms presented to the Board.

IV. Financials

- A. February 2026 Financial Report (*Attachment 4A*)**
 1. Nathan Yufer presents the financial report. He reports that as of February 28, 2026, TECH Freire has a surplus of \$1.1M and is projected to end the year with a total surplus of \$418K. The average enrollment stands at 542.
- B. Presentation of Draft Budget for FY 2027 (*Attachment 4B*)**
 1. Nathan Yufer presents a draft budget for the upcoming school year. He explains that over the next two months he will work with school, network, and board leadership to continue revising the budget before bringing it to the board for final approval at the June board meeting.

V. Network Report

- A. Academic Planning**
 1. Paul Ramirez provides an update on academic planning to address proficiency in math and reading. He shares that two focal points of this work involve revamping the math curriculum across campuses and codifying the core instructional strategies that will drive student outcomes.

VI. School Report

- A. Staff & Student Report**
 1. Brian Galetto introduces Jamilah Gibbs, Head of School Culture at TECH Freire, who is driving our culture of belonging, while owning both attendance and discipline. Jamilah explains that, as seen on the dashboard, there has been a 21 day attendance streak in which daily attendance has been 90% or higher. She explains that their team used data to inform their recent attendance strategies and have been intentional about ensuring that academics and discipline lift students up and make them want to be present at school.
 2. Brian Galetto also introduces 11th grader Mya Reynolds-Smith. Mya shares that her dual enrollment Acting course at the Community College of Philadelphia recently came to end, and that she is really happy to have the opportunity and thoroughly enjoyed the course. As a student ambassador, Mya recently supported the Accepted Students Day event, where she was able to share her wisdom with incoming students. She is looking forward to the 4th quarter, volunteering at animal shelters this summer, and embarking on her senior year.
- B. Heads Report**
 1. Freire Network Dashboard (*Attachment 6*)
 - a) Brian Galetto shares that metrics are up across the board. He reiterates the work that Jamilah Gibbs is doing regarding Attendance and that he is really proud of the



students outcomes. He also shares that preliminary winter Keystone data shows a 7 point increase in Math, which makes the scores the highest in the school's history. He praises the instructional team and the math team for their efforts.

C. Graduation Update

1. Graduation will take place Monday, June 15 at 10:00am at The Dell Music Center (2400 Strawberry Mansion Dr, Philadelphia, PA 19132)

VII. Advancement

A. Advancement Report (*Attachment 7*)

1. Melanie Reiser reports that we have launched our spring fundraising push this month with a print appeal tied to the new Freire Schools vision. A digital appeal and active personal solicitation will follow. We will also be holding a couple small board-led friendraiser/fundraisers. The first of these events happened last night at Carpenter's Hall and was a great success.
2. Melanie shares that across the network board giving is currently at 73% and emphasizes the importance of reaching 100%, as we look to make grant requests in the upcoming year.

B. Political Landscape

1. Melanie notes that Freire Schools continues to pay close attention to any proposed charter regulation, budget cuts or proposed changes to the charter school renewal process.

VIII. Governance

A. Annual evaluation of Freire Schools Collaborative and Board self evaluation

1. Leigh Botwinik explains the annual evaluation process.

Meeting Adjourned, 10:12 AM

**Requires vote*

***Graduation details:* Monday, June 15 at 10:00am at The Dell Music Center (2400 Strawberry Mansion Dr, Philadelphia, PA 19132)

TCitation of reason for executive session: II.a.ii.: 65 Pa. C.S.A. § 708 (1) "To discuss any matter involving the ... evaluation of performance ...of any specific ... current ... employee... employed ... by the agency."

TCitation of reason for executive session: II.a.ii.: 65 Pa. C.S.A. § 708(a) (4):"To consult with an attorney or other professional advisor regarding information or strategy in connection with litigation or with issues on which identifiable complaints are expected to be filed."

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 10, 2025 at 8:00 AM** at 221 North Broad St.

TECH Freire Charter School provides a college-preparatory learning experience specializing in computer science and entrepreneurship with a focus on individual freedom, critical thinking, and problem solving in an environment that emphasizes the values of community, teamwork, equity, and commitment to peace.