

PPPCS, Inc. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

August 19, 2020

Meeting held by Zoom

Members Attending: Sarah Sandoval-Mohapatra (presiding), Ankit Aggarwal, Julie Neale Taylor, Tasha F. Johnson, Paul Rishar, Lazette Wells, John Wesby, Natasha Perry, Chuck Conner, Jenna Adams, Charletta McLean (joined at 8:05pm), Astrid Bharath-Pierce; *ex officio*: Jane Lindenfelser

Absent: Candace Caraco, Aaron Fries, Pat Irish, Chris Scott

Staff Guests: Chad Kramer, principal of Patterson Park Public Charter School (PPPCS); Emily Augustine, principal of Clay Hill Public Charter School (CHPCS); Heather Savino, nonprofit staff; Risa Joab, Bess Aquila, instructional staff; Doug Bahr, parent; Alexis Suskin-Sperry, Assistant Principal of PPPCS

**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. Opening Items

A. Sarah **called the meeting to order** at 7:05 pm.

B. **Record Attendance & Guests** (see above) – The guests were introduced and welcomed.

C. **Public Comment:** There was none.

D. **Consent Agenda***: The consent agenda was approved unanimously. It included June and July minutes, Executive Committee minutes, Academic Excellence Committee report, Board Calendar, and Board Role in Addressing Staff Demands – approved unanimously (Ankit, Motion & Paul, Second)

II. Teachers-at-Large Report* - Jenna and Natasha began the presentation by introducing themselves, personally and professionally.

Jenna went over PPPCS's Summer Work, specifically Summer Fun Camp and K Readiness Camp, Curriculum Audits, and New Teacher Summer Institute.

Tasha asked about the reason for the long-term substitute. The long-term substitute is for a teacher on paternity leave.

III. Parents-at-Large Report – Astrid and Julie began the presentation by introducing themselves, personally. Julie went over the nomination and election process for the upcoming HOPPP meeting. They are looking forward to welcoming the new parents this year. Sarah stated that if HOPPP needs anything from the Board to support this process to reach out.

IV. School and Growth Update* - Jane said happy new year and thanks all the employees who worked over the summer, from camp to the operations team, and the Board who has operated as a life-long for PPPCS. Jane also said thank you to all those who are parents, because it is difficult to work at home with kids. Jane began by overviewing our three major priorities, Academic Excellence, Equity, and Bright Future. Jane said the 2020-2021 goals are still under construction. Jane provided an update on the administration's response to the staff demands. Jane expressed administration is listening, clarifying & reflection, and acting, in this order. Jane expressed there is a lot of work to do before we bring staff back next week and provide staff with concrete next steps in response to the demands. Jane expressed challenges about meeting the demands, related to capacity, cost, and the need for involvement of people outside of administration. There were no questions.

V. Principal's Report* - PPPCS - Chad provided a summer update regarding new hires, fall opening, communication strategy, materials distribution, and professional development. Chad provided a link to the full presentation on Fall Opening to the BCPSS Board for members to look over. Chad shared the priorities for instructional content for ELA and Math in the Fall. Chad gave an update on grant submissions, particularly for technology, new interventions, and materials. PPPCS is hoping to give one device to each family that needs it by the start of school. Chad gave an update on the Fall Virtual Schedule and the need to: 1. Balance connection & content 2. Provide high quality student learning 3. Be flexible 4. Adhere to district guidance. Each homeroom will be smaller in Fall 2020 to create more room for personal connection and prepare for the potential hybrid model. Chad has shared the state mandates around attendance, immunization, and staff evaluations have not changed. Chad prepared a Summer PD Preview. Lazette asked about extra curriculars and cost savings by not being in-person. Chad said there are discussions about extra curriculars but not a solidified plan. Chad said he is being conservative with the spending because we are expecting a decrease in state and federal funding in the future. Jane thanked Lazette for prompting them to look ahead at savings. Sarah thanks Chad and the team for all the work during this difficult time.

CHPCS – Emily shared that CHPCS is on track and excited for a Fall 2021 opening. Emily said the Founding Group took July off but meet earlier this month. The group welcomed future teachers at PPPCS to the Founding Group in August. Sarah thanked Emily for all the work she is doing helping PPPCS and keeping the train moving on CHPCS.

Jane stated we received the CHPCS contract from BCPSS. Jane said she has an outstanding question that have not been answered: What happens if we signed and the pandemic puts us back another year? Paul asked if Alan Sun reviewed the contract and Jane said he reviewed and wrote most of it. Tasha brought up the “terminate upon convenience” clause and said she think this would address the issue of if the pandemic pushed us back. Tasha also asked if PPPCS supplements the BCPSS's principal review. Jane said no. Tasha stated a concern about the culture around two schools, two charters and one operator when reviewing contract. The Board approved unanimously (Motion, Paul & second, Ankit) to sign the contract with the caveat that the board wants an update about the raised question above.

VI. Finance Committee* Paul presented the CHPCS draft budget to review. The Finance Committee has advised that we be conservative when spending money, and the budget has been constructed with this in mind. The budget is divided into an operating and capital budget, with no use of per pupil funds. Next month we will ask for formal approval of this budget.

Norma Rosaria was presented as a nominee to the Finance Committee. This nomination was presented in the hopes of bringing an accountant to the Committee. The Board unanimously approved the nomination (Motion, John & second, Lazette).

VII. Governance Committee* - Sarah asked every board member to fill out the two COIs by September 1st. Sarah asked every board member to fill out the Board Directory by September 1st. Jane presented the proposal to add a Facilities Committee to the Board and expressed the vision for this committee is to provide oversight of the nonprofits operator's buildings and spaces. The Board unanimously approved for the addition of the Facilities Committee (Motion, Ankit & second, Lazette).

VIII. Development Committee* - Heather reviewed the FY 21 Development Goals and Purpose. John reviewed the Board Member goals and roles in Development at PPPCS. John asked every board member to prepare and set up for their annual development conversation.

IX. Executive Committee* – Sarah reviewed the Fund's purpose and encouraged all members to review the Fund bylaws. Paul said the Fund acts as an asset manager and is looking to expand its role. Jane introduced Omari Todd, professionally and personally. The Board unanimously approved the nomination of Omari Todd to the Fund (Motion, John & second, Char). Tasha suggested we should consider the Fund Board looking into what PPPCS can monetize as a first project. Sarah invited Board Members to the Board Presentation at Staff Orientation.

X. Closing Items – Sarah went over the attachments to the agenda. Sarah adjourned the meeting at 8:38pm.