

FIRST PHILADELPHIA PREPARATORY
CHARTER SCHOOL
4300 TACONY STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19124

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

LOCATION:
ZOOM CONFERENCE

DATE & TIME:
JUNE 26, 2024
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

SECTION I: CALL TO ORDER

Opening Colloquy

This meeting of the First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School Board of Trustees is hereby called to order. The time is 6:02pm p.m. My name is Anita Vega-Kaiser. I am the President of this Board of Trustees, and I will facilitate this meeting.

This meeting is being held via teleconference. This is a public meeting that was properly noticed in the Philadelphia Daily News and pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. The public notice included instructions for how the public could participate in tonight's meeting.

All members of the public are welcome to sit and listen to the Board of Trustees conduct its business tonight. Members of the public who have registered with the Administrative Office to participate in public comment by 5:00 p.m. on the day before this scheduled meeting may participate in public comment. At this time, I would ask that the Executive Administration submit the list of commenters to our General Counsel. Comments will be limited to three minutes unless the Board decides to grant additional time.

At this time, I will ask that Roll Call be taken.

A. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:	By Invitation: Non-Board Members:
Anita Vega-Kaiser – President Teresa Grumbrecht – Vice-President John Bish - Treasurer Barbara L. Saunders – Secretary Dr. Martha J. Ritter Board Members Absent: ShoShana Skates	Deborah Smith Ashley Redfearn Kristine Magargee Scott Kramer Peter Costa Dean Krebs, Esq. Mydirah Littlepage-Saunders Katrina Osterhoudt Filiatrault, Esq. Deanna Smith Jessica Marsico Erina Pearlstein Victoria Lou

B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY ANITA VEGA-KAISER

I would like to state, for purposes of the Minutes of this meeting, that the Board of Trustees did not meet in Executive Session prior to this meeting.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:

 BARBARA L. SAUNDERS

 SECOND:

 JOHN BISH

 VOTE:

 PASS

 FAIL

R240626.01 Approval of the June 26, 2024 Agenda

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the June 26, 2024 Agenda.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

R240626.02 Minutes of the May 24, 2024 Meeting

MOTION:
TERESA
GRUMBRECHT

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the May 24, 2024 meeting of the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School.

SECOND:
BARBARA L.
SAUNDERS

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

VOTE:
 PASS

FAIL

MOTION:
TERESA
GRUMBRECHT

R240626.03 Minutes of the June 5, 2024 Meeting

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the June 5, 2024 meeting of the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School.

SECOND:
BARBARA L.
SAUNDERS

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

VOTE:
 PASS

FAIL

SECTION II: REPORTS

A. COMMUNITY COMMENT

None

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

A. FIRST PHILADELPHIA PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL

a. Ms. Deborah Smith, CEO of FPPCS

- i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the June 2024 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
- ii. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the HR changes on the Agenda, noting reasons for resignations, including relocation, going to school full time, leaving teacher profession, and leaving for another opportunity;*

- iii. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board facility updates with fire alarm upgrade and bathroom upgrades; and*
 - iv. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the strategic plan with support for administrative staff*
- b. *Dr. Erina Pearlstein, Principal at FPPCS*
- i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the June 2024 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Discussed Goal of increasing Academic outcomes by 5% on PSSA/Keystones; and*
 - iii. *Noted data is not yet available but FPPCS is continuing to implement targeted group strategies and utilizing bi-weekly meetings; however, STAR data showed various anticipated increased in proficiency.*

Ms. SHOSHANA SKATES, TRUSTEE, JOINED THE MEETING AT 6:17PM

- c. *Ms. Deanna Smith, Principal*
- i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the June 2024 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board; and*
 - ii. *Discussed academic goals;*
- d. *Ms. Jessica Marsico, Principal*
- i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the June 2024 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Discussed academic goals;*
 - iii. *Discussed Grades 3 & 4 actions to strive towards goal;*
 - iv. *Noted proficiency increase did not meet across the board, though Basic was reduced; and*
 - v. *Discussed Goal to increase attendance to at least 90% daily attendance*
- e. *Regarding DEI:*
- i. *Dr. Pearlstein discussed efforts to incorporate key DEI tenants; noted 4 community events to celebrate diverse cultures; and that there will be a 7Mindset event per grade; and*
 - ii. *Ms. Deanna Smith shared that would be Cultural celebration every month*
- f. *Board*

- i. *The Board inquired about breakdown of STAR testing highlights, and received clarification that the categories are assigned to each student*
- ii. *Board inquired as why certain grade levels were selected to which Ms. Smith expressed that the administration wanted to show positive and negatives; and*
- iii. *Board asked about when updates will be done by Middle School Spring STAR*
- g. *Dr. Pearlstein shared High School highlights, including Music in the Park*

B. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS

- a. *Ms. Ashley Redfearn, CEO of APS*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the June 2024 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Reminded Board of the Mission and Vision of APS;*
 - iii. *Discussed ongoing CEO collaboration across APS network;*
 - iv. *Discussed health and safety updates, including HVAC replacement , fire alarm and camera/voice system upgrade, and bathroom upgrades;*
 - v. *Shared enrollment data across APS network;*
- b. *Mr. Scott Kramer, CTO of APS*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the June 2024 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Informed that Board that there was a 70% return rate on employee engagement survey;*
 - iii. *Provide general reminders of the Talen Team’s responsibilities, including conducting review of applicants and certifications;*
 - iv. *Shared various external partnerships APS is engaging with to fill vacancies;*
 - v. *Shared various recruiting events being attended by APS.*
- c. *Ms. Kristine Magargee, CAO of APS*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the June 2024 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Reviewed and discussed updates from the ELA and Math curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, as detailed in the June 2024 APS report;*

- iii. *Updated the Board on recent activities of the Coaching Team*
- iv. *Shared with the Board the numerous pupil services activities being performed to support FPPCS, as detailed in the June 2024 APS report.*

C. BUSINESS CONTROLLER

- a. *Mr. Peter Costa, Santilli & Thomson, LLC*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the May 2024 financial reports, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the Fund balance document, noting increase in fund balance.*
 - iii. *Discussed having a professional development with Santilli & Thomson, LLC regarding financials.*
- b. *Board:*
 - i. *Inquired about why costs missing on summary sheet to which Mr. Costa expressed an updated page was provided and suspected it was a misprint.*

D. GENERAL COUNSEL

- a. *Dean Krebs, Esq.*
 - i. *Shared with the Board an illustration summarizing SDP’s Charter Evaluation Framework, noting emphasis on attendance and proficiency; and*
 - ii. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the Agenda.*

SECTION III: OLD BUSINESS

NONE

SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

MOTION:
 BARBARA
 L.
 SAUNDERS
 SECOND:
 TERESA
 GRUMBREC
 HT
 VOTE:

R240626.04 Report of the Business Controller

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School accepts the Financial Report of the Business Controller and all documents submitted thereby, which shall be incorporated into the record of this meeting.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

MOTION:

TERESA
GRUMBREC
HT

SECOND:

BARBARA
L.
SAUNDERS

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

R240626.05 Approval of 2023-24 Lease Reimbursement Application

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory charter school ratifies and approves of the application for reimbursement of a charter school lease for 2023-24

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

MOTION:

BARBARA
L.
SAUNDERS

SECOND:

TERESA
GRUMBREC
HT

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

R240626.06 Approval of 2023-24 Fund Balance

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School designates estimated ending fund balance for the year ending June 30, 2024, as follows:

Designated for Working Capital/School Performance	738,000
Available for Appropriation	22,130,000
Total Fund Balance	22,868,000

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

MOTION:

BARBARA
L.
SAUNDERS

SECOND:

TERESA
GRUMBREC
HT

R240626.07 Human Resources Resolution

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School accepts the Human Resources changes, modifications, and additions, as presented.

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

HIRES / RATE CHANGE / POSITION CHANGE / RETURN LOA		
NAME	TITLE	START DATE
Ezekial Alvarado (new hire/temp)	Summer Maintenance	6/10/24
Jeremiah Baez (new hire/temp)	Summer Maintenance	6/10/24
Sahrees Cole (new hire/temp)	Summer Maintenance	6/10/24

TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS / LOA		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Nicholas Gresh (resignation)	Teacher	6/7/24
Madeline Ochabillo (resignation)	Teacher	6/7/24
Lauren Shelmet (resignation)	Teacher	6/1/24
Clayton Davis (resignation)	Teacher	6/7/24
Ashley Tepper (resignation)	Teacher	6/7/24
Lucille Kezierski (resignation)	Teacher	6/7/24
Shamir Fitzgerald (resignation)	Classroom Assistant	6/7/24
Ashley Delbuona (resignation)	Teacher	6/12/24
Maria Perez (LOA)	Teacher	4/24/24

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

MOTION:

BARBARA
L.
SAUNDERS

SECOND:

TERESA
GRUMBRECHT

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

R240626.08 Professional Services Contract/s Resolution

RESOLVED, the Professional Services Contract/s and associated report/s listed below are hereby accepted and ratified;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the CEO, Business Controller, and General Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate contract/s for the professional services described below;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the President is authorized to execute any document or delegate any task necessary to effectuate this resolution.

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
Stenton Corp.	\$36,940	Interior Painting Project
BSI	\$11,000	CM for Internal Painting Project
Cedar Crest College	Dual Credit Academy: \$200/3-credit course	Dual Credit Agreement 5-Year Term
GAMUT Behavioral Services	BSC: \$115/hr BCA: \$80/hr Crisis Intervention Specialist: \$42/hr RBT: \$40/hr ABA: \$37.52/hr CABA: \$42/hr	2024-25 SY Staffing Services

GHR Education	RN: \$63/hr LPN: \$52/hr CSN: \$73/hr Paraprofessional: \$33/hr RBT: \$43/hr BCBA: \$95/hr PT: \$85/hr OT: \$85/hr SLP: \$90/hr	2024-25 SY Staffing Services
A&J Personal Touch Cleaning Service	\$45,950/month	2024-25 SY Facility cleaning vendor
The Pathway School	\$8,300/student	ESY Placement Two (2) Students
Vanguard	\$8,300/student	ESY Placement Three (3) Students
Step-Up Academy	Student #1: \$12,250 Student #2: \$11,350	ESY Placement Two (2) Students
Delta-T	\$4,000/student	ESY Placement Three (3) Students
Vanguard	\$85,000/student	Private Placement Four (4) students

Green Tree	\$368.87/day/student	Private Placement
	\$219.14/day/student	Supplemental 1:1 Service
		One (1) Student

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

MOTION:

BARBARA
L.
SAUNDERS

SECOND:

TERESA
GRUMBRECHT

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

R240626.09 Purchase Contract/s Resolution

RESOLVED, the Purchase Contract/s and associated report/s listed below are hereby accepted and ratified;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the CEO, Business Controller, and General Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate terms and conditions for the Purchase Contract/s described below;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the President is authorized to execute any document or delegate any task necessary to effectuate this resolution.

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
OfficeBasics	\$24,755.66	Desks

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>
<i>D.Smith</i>	<i>Noted that desks were for students and administration</i>

MOTION:

BARBARA
L.
SAUNDERS

SECOND:

TERESA
GRUMBRECHT

VOTE:

[X] PASS

R240626.10 Stewart Contract Authorization

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School authorizes and approves of the CEO, in consultation with the Business Controller and General Counsel, to negotiate and enter in the contract(s) with Stewart, as presented.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the President is authorized to execute any document or delegate any task necessary to effectuate this resolution.

[] FAIL

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>Directed FPPCS to proceed with purchasing, rather than leasing</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

UPON MOTION BY BARBARA L. SAUNDERS AND SECOND BY TERESA GRUMBRECHT, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN 65 PA.C.S. 708(A)(4)(5)(7) AND OTHER CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS. SPECIFICALLY, TO DISCUSS RESOLUTION R240626.11 BELOW, WHICH RELATES TO THE ANNUAL REPORTS REQUIRED UNDER 24 PA. STAT § 13-1309-B(C)(5) AND 13-1302-E, AND RESOLUTION R240626.12, R240626.13, R240626.14 TO DISCUSS ALLEGED COMPENSATORY EDUCATION CLAIMS

MOTION:

R240626.11 Approval of Safety, Security and Threat Report

BARBARA L. SAUNDERS

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves of the Safety, Security, and Threat report, as presented

SECOND:

TERESA GRUMBRECHT

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

MOTION:

R240626.12 Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement for Student No. 9808809

BARBARA L. SAUNDERS

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves of the Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement between itself and Student No. 9808809, pending final legal review.

SECOND:

TERESA GRUMBRECHT

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

MOTION:
BARBARA
L.
SAUNDERS

R240626.13 Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement for Student No. 9703459

SECOND:
TERESA
GRUMBREC
HT

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves of the Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement between itself and Student No. 9703459, pending final legal review.

VOTE:
[X] PASS
[] FAIL

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

MOTION:
BARBARA
L.
SAUNDERS

R240626.14 Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement for Student No. 9551490

SECOND:
TERESA
GRUMBREC
HT

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves of the Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement between itself and Student No. 9551490, pending final legal review.

VOTE:
[X] PASS
[] FAIL

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT BOARD MEETING: AUGUST 28, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT AT 8:47 P.M.

MOTION:

BARBARA L. SAUNDERS
SECOND:

TERESA GRUMBRECHT

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL