

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

LOCATION:
ZOOM CONFERENCE

DATE & TIME:
SEPTEMBER 25, 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 6:02 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 John Bish - Treasurer Barbara L. Saunders – Secretary Dr. Martha J. Ritter Board Members Absent: Teresa Grumbrecht – Vice-President ShoShana Skates	Deborah Smith Ashley Redfearn Scott Kramer Peter Costa Dean Krebs, Esq. Liam Young Mydirah Littlepage Saunders

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:

 MARTHA RITTER

 VOTE:

 PASS

 FAIL

R240925.01 Approval of the September 25, 2024 Agenda

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the September 25, 2024 Agenda.

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:

 MARTHA RITTER

 VOTE:

R240925.02 Minutes of the August 28, 2024 Meeting

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the August 28, 2024 meeting of the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

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

SECTION II: REPORTS

A. COMMUNITY COMMENT

Community Comment Colloquy (General Counsel)

Good evening. My name is Dean Krebs, and I am with Sand & Sidel, P.C., General Counsel to the First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School Board of Trustees. Will you please state your name for our records?

You will have three minutes to address the Board of Trustees. Any documents or communications with which you might supplement your comment should be submitted to me. I will keep the time and notify the Board when three minutes have elapsed.

This Board may choose not to comment, question, or respond in any way to your public comment. I will begin the time now.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>

A. FIRST PHILADELPHIA PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL

a. MS. DEBORAH SMITH, CEO OF FPPCS

- i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the September 2024 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
- ii. Reviewed and discussed with the Board upcoming Middle school events; and*
- iii. Reviewed and discussed with the Board upcoming High School events.*

b. MS. ANITA VEGA-KAISER, PRESIDENT

- i. Expressed appreciation for the school administration providing certain types of information requested by the Board in the monthly report.*

B. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS

a. MS. ASHLEY REDFEARN, CEO OF APS, AND MR. SCOTT KRAMER, CTO OF APS

- i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the September 2024 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board;*

C. BUSINESS CONTROLLER

a. **MR. SAMUEL MERCANTI, SANTILLI & THOMSON, LLC**

- i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the August 2024 financial report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
- ii. *Informed the Board that the annual audit was ongoing;*
- iii. *Informed the Board that there was \$26M cash; and*
- iv. *Informed the Board that there was \$3.5M in disbursements.*

D. GENERAL COUNSEL

a. *Dean Krebs, Esq.*

- i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the resolutions on the Agenda.*

SECTION III: OLD BUSINESS

NONE

SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

MOTION:
 BARBARA
 L.
 SAUNDERS
 SECOND:
 SHOSHANA
 SKATES
 VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R240925.03 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:

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

MOTION:
 MARTHA
 RITTER
 SECOND:
 BARBARA
 L.
 SAUNDERS
 VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R240925.04 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.

HIRES / RATE CHANGE / POSITION CHANGE / RETURN LOA		
NAME	TITLE	START DATE
Shamir Fitzgerald (new hire)	Instructional Assistant	8/30/2024
Santana Roelis (new hire)	SPED Instructional Assistant	9/16/2024

TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS / LOA		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Shakirah Walker (termination)	Instructional Assistant	9/13/2024

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:
 MARTHA
 RITTER
 VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R240925.05 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
The Pathway School	\$68,750	Private Placement
UHS of Doylestown, LLC d/b/a Behavioral Health	<u>Daily Rate</u> Emotional Support School Full Day – RSY: \$262 Emotional Support Half Day – RSY: \$151 Emotional Support School – ESY: \$166 Emotional Support Elementary School Full Day – RSY: \$280 Emotional Support Elementary School Half Day – RSY: \$151 Emotional Support Elementary - ESY : \$171 Autism School Full Day- RSY : \$396 Autism School Half Day – RSY: \$212 Autism School – ESY: \$250 Autism II School Full Day – RSY: \$16 Autism II School Half Day – RSY: \$251	Staffing Services

	<p>Autism II School – ESY: \$272</p> <p>Elementary ID School Full Day – RSY: \$425</p> <p>Elementary ID School Half Day – RSY: \$256</p> <p>Elementary ID School – ESY: \$278</p> <p>60 Day Diagnostic Program: \$358</p> <p>ASD 60 Day Diagnostic: \$375</p> <p>Interpreter Services: \$582</p> <p>C Print Captionist Services: \$489</p> <p><u>Ancillary Services (per hour)</u></p> <p>Personal Care Aide or 1:1: \$27</p> <p>Physical Therapy: \$186</p> <p>Occupational Therapy: \$175</p> <p>Speech Therapy: \$135</p> <p>Feeding Team Services : \$175</p> <p>Augmentative Assistive Communication Services: \$154</p>	
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	<p>Brain Steps Services: \$135</p> <p>Vision Services: \$181</p> <p>Orientation and Mobility Services: \$181</p> <p>Technology for Visions Services: \$181</p> <p>Hearing Services (including Audiology): \$209</p>	
Kokua Education	<p><u>Daily Rate</u></p> <p>Daily Guest Teacher: \$309/day</p> <p>Long-Term Guest Teacher: \$367/day</p> <p>Half-Day Guest Teacher: \$173/day</p> <p><u>Hourly Rate</u></p> <p>Excess Hours: \$58/hr</p> <p>Excess LT Hour: \$69/hr</p>	Staffing Services
CadeKids	N/A	MOU for Substance Abuse Professionals
Brett DiNovi	\$21,600	Social Skills Programming

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

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

MOTION:
SHOSHANA
SKATES
SECOND:
MARTHA
RITTER
VOTE:
[X] PASS
[] FAIL

R240925.06 Election of MyDirah Littlepage-Saunders as Trustee

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby elects MyDirah Littlepage-Saunders to the position of Trustee of the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School, effective September 26, 2024; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that MyDirah Littlepage-Saunders shall be administered the oath of office by legal counsel.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>B. Saunders</i>	<i>Abstained from voting due to Ms. Littlepage-Saunders being her daughter.</i>

MOTION:
BARBARA
L.
SAUNDERS
SECOND:
MARTHA
RITTER
VOTE:
[X] PASS
[] FAIL

R240925.07 Approval of Board Terms

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School ratifies and approves of the current Board terms, as presented below:

Cohort I

Teresa Grumbrecht: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027
MyDirah Littlepage-Saunders: September 26, 2024 – June 30, 2027

Cohort II

Shoshana Skates: June 22, 2023 – June 30, 2025
Anita Vega-Kaiser: June 22, 2022 – June 30, 2025

Cohort III

Dr. Martha Ritter: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026

ROLL CALL:

Anita Vega-Kaiser aye
Teresa Grumbrecht absent
John Bish - aye
Barbara L. Saunders - aye
Dr. Martha J. Ritter.- aye
ShoShana Skates - aye

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:
 MARTHA RITTER
 VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R240925.08 Approval of Board Officers

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees ratifies and approves of the extension of the term of those Officers described in Resolution R230628.11 from June 30, 2024 through September 25, 2024.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees ratifies and approves of the Board officers for the term of September 26, 2024 to June 30, 2025, as presented:

<i>OFFICER</i>	<i>NAME</i>
PRESIDENT	ANITA VEGA-KAISER
VICE-PRESIDENT	DR. MARTHA RITTER
TREASURER	TERESA GRUMBRECHT
SECRETARY	SHOSHANA SKATES

ROLL CALL:

Anita Vega-Kaiser aye
 Teresa Grumbrecht aye
 John Bish aye
 Barbara L. Saunders aye
 Dr. Martha J. Ritter aye
 ShoShana Skates aye

MOTION:
 BARBARA L. SAUNDERS
 SECOND:
 MARTHA RITTER
 VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R240925.09 Approval of Committee Members

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees ratifies and approves of the assigned Committee Members, as presented:

<i>Academic Data and Curriculum Committee</i>	
Vice-President	Dr. Martha Ritter
Chief Executive Officer	Deborah Smith
Appointee #1	Mydirah Littlepage-Saunders
Appointee #2	Vacant
<i>Personnel Committee</i>	
Secretary	Shoshana Skates
Chief Executive Officer	Deborah Smith
Appointee #1	Anita Vega-Kaiser
Appointee #2	Vacant

<i>Administrative Services Committee</i>	
Vice-President	Dr. Martha Ritter
Appointee #1	Shoshana Skates
Appointee #2	Vacant

<i>Fiscal Committee</i>	
Treasurer	Teresa Grumbrecht
Business Controller	Business Controller Designee
Appointee #1	John Bish
Appointee #2	Anita Vega-Kaiser

<i>Audit Committee</i>	
Appointee #1	Teresa Grumbrecht
Appointee #2	John Bish
Appointee #3	Anita Vega-Kaiser

<i>Nominating Committee</i>	
Appointee #1	Anita Vega-Kaiser
Appointee #2	Dr. Martha Ritter

<i>Discipline Committee</i>	
Appointee #1	Anita Vega-Kaiser
Appointee #2	Dr. Martha Ritter
Appointee #3	Shoshana Skates
Appointee #4	Teresa Grumbrecht
Appointee #5	Mydirah Littlepage-Saunders

ROLL CALL:

Anita Vega-Kaiser aye
Teresa Grumbrecht aye
John Bish aye
Barbara L. Saunders aye
Dr. Martha J. Ritter aye
ShoShana Skates aye

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>
<i>A.Vega-Kaiser</i>	<p><i>Identified individuals who would serve on each Committee.</i></p> <p><i>Expressed that APS and School Administration, if not already a member, would have a designee invited to attend the following Committees: Academic Data and Curriculum, Personnel, Fiscal, Audit, and Nominating.</i></p>

UPON MOTION BY BARBARA L. SAUNDERS AND SECOND BY DR. MARTHA RITTER, THE BOARD ENTERED INTO EXECUTION SESSION FOR PURPOSES DESCRIBED UNDER 65 PA. C.S. 708(A)(4)(5). SPECIFICALLY, TO DISCUSS RESOLUTION R240925.10 AND R240925.11 BELOW WHICH PERTAIN TO ALLEGED COMPENSATORY EDUCATION CLAIMS.

UPON MOTION BY BARBARA L. SAUNDERS AND SECOND BY DR. MARTHA RITTER, THE BOARD ENTERED INTO OPEN SESSION.

MOTION:
 BARBARA L. SAUNDERS
 SECOND:
 MARTHA RITTER
 VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R240925.10 Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement for Student No. 10085550

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.10085550, pending final legal review.

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:
 MARTHA RITTER
 VOTE:

R240925.11 Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement for Student No. 10112394

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.10112394, pending final legal review.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

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

MOTION:

R240925.12 Resignation Acceptance of John Bish

BARBARA L. SAUNDERS

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby accepts the resignation of John Bish, effective September 25, 2024.

SECOND:

SHOSHANA SKATES

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

VOTE:

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

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

MOTION:

R240925.13 Resignation Acceptance of Barbara L. Saunders

BARBARA L. SAUNDERS

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School hereby accepts the resignation of Barbara L. Saunders, effective September 25, 2024

SECOND:

SHOSHANA SKATES

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

VOTE:

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

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 23, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:58 P.M.

MOTION:

MARTHA RITTER

SECOND:

BARBARA L. SAUNDERS

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

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240925

FPPCS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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