

MEMPHIS STREET ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

2950 MEMPHIS STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19134

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

LOCATION:
ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

DATE & TIME:
FEBRUARY 14, 2024
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

SECTION I: CALL TO ORDER

Opening Colloquy

This meeting of the Memphis Street Academy Charter School Board of Trustees is hereby called to order. The time is 6:12 p.m. My name is Sandra Farmer. I am the President of this Board of Trustees, and I will facilitate this meeting.

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:
Michelle Campellone Pablo Mateo Miguel Diaz Amber Wanner	Steven Bilski Ashley Redfearn Kristine Magargee Scott Kramer
Board Members Absent: Sandra Farmer Barbara L. Saunders	Samuel Mercanti Dean Krebs, Esq.

B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY SANDRA FARMER

I'd 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:

R240214.01 Approval of the February 14, 2024 Agenda

PABLO MATEO

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Memphis Street Academy Charter School hereby approves the February 14, 2024 Agenda.

SECOND:

MIGUEL DIAZ

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

VOTE:

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

PASS

FAIL

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION:

R240214.02 Minutes of the January 10, 2024 Meeting

PABLO MATEO

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Memphis Street Academy Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the January 10, 2024 meeting of the Board of Trustees of Memphis Street Academy Charter School.

SECOND:

AMANDA WANNER

VOTE:

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

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 & Saidel, P.C., General Counsel to the Memphis Street Academy 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>

B. MEMPHIS STREET ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL CEO

- a. *Mr. Steven Bilski, CEO of MSA*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the February 2024 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Shared the enrollment and attendance data with the Board;*
 - iii. *Reviewed and discussed various compliance action being taken by the school, including Food Service, ESSER monitoring, an A-TSI Title I School Plan;*
 - iv. *Shared facility updated with the Board;*
 - v. *Shared various school events, including National School Choice Week and Wild Things Preserve;*
 - vi. *Shared STAR Reading and Math data with the school; and*
 - vii. *Updated Board on recent Kensington Caucus event.*

MS. SANDRA FARMER JOINED THE MEETING AT 6:42PM

C. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS CEO

- a. *Ms. Ashley Redfearn, CEO of APS*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the February 2024 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board; and*
 - ii. *Shared the importance of Kensington Caucus and how the pervasive and dangerous environment where certain charter schools are located should be taken into consideration when evaluating them.*

- b. *Mr. Scott Kramer, CTO of APS*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the February 2024 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board; and*
 - ii. *Discussed resolution about Point Park, noting Point Park is the only online program for credentials and that, currently, staff are directed there and can use certain tuition reimbursement towards it. About 40 staff members across the network showed up to a recent event about Point Park and discussed the intended authorization being purposed by the resolution. Indicates the costs is ~\$14k*
 - iii. *Mr. Steven Bilksi, CEO of APS*
 - 1. *Updated Board on status of transitioning contractors to full-time staff*
 - 2. *Board discussed other strategies for employee retention, including questioning whether 'same-day' pay could be an option.*
 - iv. *Ms. Kristine Magargee, CAO of APS*
 - 1. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board ELA and Math instructional updates, noting recent learning walk at MSA;*
 - 2. *Shared coaching team updates with the Board; and*
 - 3. *Shared data team updates with the Board;*

D. BUSINESS CONTROLLER

- a. *Mr. Samuel Mercanti, Santilli & Thomson, LLC*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the December 2023 financials, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Informed that Board that the school had 136 days of cash; \$234k is due soon for ESSER funding; and there was \$344k in outstanding accounts payable.*

E. GENERAL COUNSEL

- a. *Dean Krebs, Esq.*
 - i. *Reminded the Board of SOFI form obligations; and*
 - ii. *Reviewed the Agenda with the Board*

SECTION III: OLD BUSINESS

SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

MOTION:

MICHELLE
CAMPELLONE

SECOND:

AMANDA
WANNER

R240214.03 Report of the Business Controller

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Memphis Street Academy 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:

VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

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

MOTION:
MIGUEL DIAZ
SECOND:
AMANDA
WANNER

R240214.04 Human Resources Resolution

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Memphis Street Academy Charter School accepts the Human Resources changes, modifications, and additions, as presented.

VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

HIRES/POSITION CHANGE/SALARY CHANGE		
NAME	TITLE	START DATE
Danielle Sweeney (new hire)	7 th Grade School Counselor	2/20/24
Kelly Nichols (new hire)	Reading Interventionist	2/26/24

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS/NON-RENEW		
NAME	TITLE	END DATE
<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

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

MOTION:
MIGUEL DIAZ
SECOND:
MICHELLE
CAMPELLONE

R240110.05 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.

VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
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Liberty Door Services	\$16,032.76	Amendment of services agreement for additional work to complete school doors project The amount reflects the sum of the original cost with the additional cost.
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Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
Board	General discussion

MOTION:
MIGUEL DIAZ
SECOND:
MICHELLE
CAMPELLONE
VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R240214.06 Point Park University MOU

WHEREAS, Point Park University (“PPU”) has a program to allow for uncertified teachers to become certified (the “Program”).

WHEREAS, Memphis Street Academy Charter School (“MSA”) and PPU desire to enter into a partnership whereby uncertified MSA staff are enrolled in the Program to become certified and MSA shall pay the applicable tuition to PPU on behalf of those uncertified MSA staff to allow such uncertified MSA staff to become certified as part of the Program (the “Agreement”).

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of MSA hereby authorizes the CEO, in consultation with the business controller and legal counsel to negotiate the terms of the Agreement and to enter into such Agreement with PPU.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of MSA hereby authorizes the CEO, in consultation with the business controller and legal counsel, to negotiate and enter into agreements with those uncertified MSA staff member who become enrolled in the Program as part of the Agreement for the repayment of tuition MSA paid on their behalf.

Who	What
Board	Expressed intent that this resolution does not convey a right upon any staff member to be able to participate in the Program through MSA or that MSA shall pay any staff member’s tuition, but rather such discretion is left with the CEO and contingent upon the budget
S. Kramer/ S. Bilski	Informed the Board that 5-7 staff members have expressed interest at MSA.

UPON MOTION BY PABLO MATEO AND SECOND BY MICHELLE CAMPELLONE, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MEMPHIS STREET ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PURPOSES DESCRIBED UNDER 65 P.S. §

708(A)(4). SPECIFICALLY, TO DISCUSS MEMPHIS ST. ACAD. CHARTER SCH. AT J.P. JONES V. SCH. DIST. OF PHILADELPHIA, NO. CV 22-02760, IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA WHICH RELATES TO CERTAIN DISCRIMINATION AND DECLARATORY ACTION CLAIMS.

UPON MOTION BY PABLO MATEO AND SECOND BY MICHELLE CAMPellone, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MEMPHIS STREET ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL ENTERED INTO OPEN SESSION.

B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT BOARD MEETING: MARCH 13, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT AT 8:03P.M.

MOTION:

MIGUEL DIAZ

SECOND:

PABLO MATEO

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL