



TECH Freire

Charter High School

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October 11, 2017

Location: 1026 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Board attendees: David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matthew Johnson, Sakinah Rahman (Phone), David Shahriari, Scott Solomon, Lanora Wells

Board members absent: Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine

Other attendees: Leigh Botwinik, Tom Caramanico, Stacey Carlough (Freire High School staff representative), Kelly Davenport, Celine Derricks (Freire High School student representative), Jamira Johnson (TECH Freire student representative) Max Matthews, Johnny Mills, Bill Ray, Hillary Sorin

8:07 AM, meeting called to order.

I. Public Comment

- a. There was no public comment.

II. Executive Session

- a. Matthew Johnson makes a motion for the Board to enter executive session to discuss ongoing litigation. David Bryant seconds.
- b. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matthew Johnson, Sakinah Rahman (Phone), Scott Solomon, Lanora Wells vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- c. The Board holds executive session from 8:07 AM to 8:18 AM.

III. Resolutions

- a. Resolution of Stockton lawsuit and return of funds
 - i. David Bryant makes a motion to pay \$220,000 in a settlement of the Stockton lawsuit using TECH Freire's operating funds, pending final review by Bruce Lesser and Kelly Davenport, and to authorize Kelly Davenport to sign the settlement on behalf of TECH Freire. Matthew Johnson seconds.
 - ii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matthew Johnson, Sakinah Rahman (Phone), Scott Solomon, Lanora Wells vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
 - iii. David Bryant makes a motion for TECH Freire Charter School to return \$305,000 paid out of the escrow account related to the Stockton lawsuit to Freire Charter School. Dawn Eubanks seconds.
 - iv. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matthew Johnson, Sakinah Rahman (Phone), Scott Solomon, Lanora Wells vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- b. Minutes from September 13, 2017 Board Meeting
 - i. The Board reviews the minutes from the September 13, 2017 Board Meeting.
 - ii. David Bryant makes a motion to approve the minutes. Matthew Johnson seconds.

- iii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matthew Johnson, Sakinah Rahman (Phone), Scott Solomon, Lanora Wells vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- c. Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors from October 23, 2015
 - i. The Board reviews the minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors from October 23, 2015. These minutes are being adopted as part of the official corporate record of TECH Freire Charter School.
 - ii. David Bryant makes a motion to retroactively approve the minutes. Matthew Johnson seconds.
 - iii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matthew Johnson, Sakinah Rahman (Phone), Scott Solomon, Lanora Wells vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- d. Teacher Equity Plan
 - i. Max Matthews reviews the updated Teacher Equity Plan and explains that the Board is required to review the plan to receive Title I funds.
 - ii. David Bryant makes a motion to approve the Teacher Equity Plan. Matthew Johnson seconds.
 - iii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matthew Johnson, Sakinah Rahman (Phone), Scott Solomon, Lanora Wells vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- e. 2017-2018 Textbook Review
 - i. Max Matthews explains that under school code for the City of Philadelphia, and stated in the school's Bylaws, the Board of Directors is responsible for approving the course of study and textbooks used by the school at the start of each year.
 - ii. Matthew Johnson makes a motion to approve the list of textbooks for the 2017-2018 school year. David Bryant seconds.
 - iii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matthew Johnson, Sakinah Rahman (Phone), Scott Solomon, Lanora Wells vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- f. Parent Complaint Policy
 - i. Max Matthews reviews the updates to the Parent Complaint Policy for the Board to approve.
 - ii. Matthew Johnson makes a motion to approve the Parent Complaint Policy. Dawn Eubanks seconds.
 - iii. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matthew Johnson, Sakinah Rahman (Phone), Scott Solomon, Lanora Wells vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- g. Line of Credit
 - i. Kelly Davenport notes that TECH Freire will have a Line of Credit formally written from their landlord, Building Hope, once the Stockton lawsuit has been officially settled.
 - ii. Kelly reviews the terms of the Line of Credit as explained by Building Hope.
 - iii. David Bryant makes a motion to authorize the Line of Credit as long as the terms defined currently appear in the formal agreement. Matthew Johnson seconds.
 - iv. David Bryant, Dawn Eubanks, Matthew Johnson, Sakinah Rahman (Phone), Scott Solomon, Lanora Wells vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.

IV. School Report

- a. Student Council Update
 - i. Jamira Johnson, current 11th Grader at TECH Freire, shares her story and how she was admitted to TECH Freire Charter School. She praised the school for being an excellent and challenging environment for students. Jamira thanked Dave Shahriari for being willing to listen to the students of TECH and for valuing their voice.

- b. TECH Freire Charter School Update
 - i. Dave Shahriari, CEO of TECH Freire, reports on the recent visit from the Eisenhower Fellowship to TECH Freire Charter School, stating that the event was a huge success and the school was well represented throughout the morning. The attendees were very impressed with the school building and the student's candor and unscripted honesty about their school.
 - ii. Dave notes the slight decrease in average daily attendance in comparison to last year. He states that, at this time, this decrease is not a cause for concern. 93% of TECH Freire's professional staff are certified, a major improvement over last year.
- c. Data Plan for 2017-2018
 - i. Leigh Botwinik shares the 2017-2018 Data Plan with the Board of Directors and encourages them to read the short study attached about the two metrics most closely linked to keeping students on track to graduate, daily attendance and passing grades.

V. Financials

- a. August 2017 Financial Packet
 - i. Bill Ray reviews the August 2017 financial report and notes that the school is on track to meet all School District Ratios.
- b. Audit Update
 - i. Bill Ray updates the Board on the status of the annual audit, noting that, at this time, the auditors have not identified any findings.

VI. Advancement

- a. Annual Report Update
 - i. Hillary Sorin, Director of Advancement, shares her plan for unveiling a new annual report, slated to go out during Winter 2018, with hopes of creating a magazine publication to be sent out to current donors in Spring 2018.
- b. Spring/Summer Fundraising Event
 - i. Hillary Sorin and Matthew Johnson discuss their proposal for a fundraising event, to be held at TECH Freire Charter School, during the Spring/Summer of 2018. This event would showcase student work created through the use of the 21st Century Grant Program.
 - ii. The purpose of this event would be to raise unrestricted funds to be used for technological purposes throughout the network.
- c. Advancement Committee
 - i. Hillary shares Kelly Davenport's recent title change, from Executive Director to Founder/CEO, with the Board of Directors.
 - ii. Hillary asks the Board to review the proposal to create an Advancement Committee and Advisory Council. The Advancement Committee would be Co-Chaired by Bruce Lesser and Matthew Johnson.

VII. Board Committee Reports

- a. Creation of 403(b) Committee
 - i. Scott Solomon appoints himself to join the 403(b) Committee for TECH Freire Charter School. If other Board Members are interested in joining the committee they are encouraged to email Bill Ray.
- b. Audit Committee
 - i. Bill Ray updates the Board on the status of the annual audit, noting that, at this time, the auditors have not identified any findings.

- c. Education Committee
 - 1. Gerald Escovitz reviews the first Education Committee Report with the Board of Directors and encourages them to ask questions about the findings. This report provides a brief summary of the national and international context within which Freire operates and outlines some future activities of the education committee.

VIII. Governance

- a. Trustee Expectations
 - i. Gerald Escovitz and Kelly Davenport review the updated trustee expectations with the Board of Directors.
- b. Build the Future Evaluation
 - i. Kelly Davenport shares the results of the 2017 Build the Future Evaluation with the Board of Directors. She notes that the leadership of Build the Future was charged with answering six key questions about their purpose and interaction with the schools.
- c. Build the Future Forum, November 30
 - i. Kelly invites the Board of Directors to participate in a network-wide forum on November 30, 2017, to discuss the six essential questions derived from the recent Build the Future Evaluation.

11:37 AM, meeting adjourned.