



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

February 14, 2018

Location: 1026 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Board attendees: Paul Archibald, Bill Brinkman, Gerald Escovitz, Nicole Jenkins, Chris Moore, Eric Muller (via phone), Bruce Lesser, Beth Packel, Lorraine White, Chris Zagacki

Board members absent: David Bryant, Nick Fels, Lisa Hoffstein, Bruce Levine, Michael Maholick

Other attendees: Leigh Botwinik, Kelly Davenport, Dawn Eubanks, Aliya Griffin, Sarah Grugan, Matt Johnson (via phone), Max Matthews, Johnny Mills, Laura Parise, Bill Ray, Julia Regan Fanelli, Dave Shahriari, Scott Solomon, Hillary Sorin, Khaleh Walker (FCHS student representative), Gianni Williams (FCHS student representative), Jimmi Young-Hamilton (TECH Freire student representative)

8:06 AM, meeting called to order.

I. Public Comment

- a. There was no public comment.

II. Resolutions

- a. Elect Aliya Griffin to the Board of Directors
 - i. The Board meets Aliya Griffin, co-Chair of the Freire Charter School Alumni Association, and reviews her resume.
 - ii. Aliya Griffin recuses herself during the discussion and vote regarding her membership on the Board.
 - iii. Bill Brinkman makes a motion to elect Aliya Griffin to the Board of Directors of Freire Charter School. Paul Archibald seconds the motion.
 - iv. Paul Archibald, Bill Brinkman, Gerald Escovitz, Nicole Jenkins, Eric Muller, Bruce Lesser, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- b. Minutes from December 13, 2017 Board Meeting
 - i. The Board reviews the minutes from the December 13, 2017 Board Meeting.
 - ii. Beth Packel makes a motion to approve the minutes. Bill Brinkman seconds the motion.
 - iii. Paul Archibald, Bill Brinkman, Gerald Escovitz, Nicole Jenkins, Eric Muller, Bruce Lesser, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- c. EITC Funds and Robotics Donation
 - i. Bill Ray reviews a memo recommending that the Board approve receipt from the Freire Foundation of \$100,889 of EITC funds, \$37,500 of pledged EITC funds, and \$22,500 of donations restricted for robotics.
 - ii. Paul Archibald makes a motion to approve receipt of the funds, pending approval from the Freire Foundation Board of Directors. Bill Brinkman seconds the motion.
 - iii. Paul Archibald, Bill Brinkman, Gerald Escovitz, Nicole Jenkins, Eric Muller, Bruce Lesser, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- d. Form 990
 - i. Bill Ray reviews Freire Charter School's Form 990 for the 2016-17 year.

- ii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve the Form 990. Bill Brinkman seconds the motion.
 - iii. Paul Archibald, Bill Brinkman, Gerald Escovitz, Nicole Jenkins, Eric Muller, Bruce Lesser, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- e. Revisions to TECH Freire Bylaws
 - i. Max Matthews reviews proposed changes to the Bylaws of TECH Freire Charter School's Board of Directors, noting that Freire Charter School's Board is being asked to approve a proposed change in the length of TECH Freire Board members' terms, from two years to three years.
 - ii. Bill Brinkman makes a motion to approve the proposed change. Bruce Lesser seconds the motion.
 - iii. Paul Archibald, Bill Brinkman, Gerald Escovitz, Nicole Jenkins, Eric Muller, Bruce Lesser, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- f. Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors on January 25, 2018
 - i. The Board reviews the minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors from January 25, 2018.
 - ii. Paul Archibald makes a motion to approve the minutes. Beth Packel seconds the motion.
 - iii. Paul Archibald, Bill Brinkman, Gerald Escovitz, Nicole Jenkins, Eric Muller, Bruce Lesser, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.

III. School Reports

- a. Student Council Update
 - i. Khaleh Walker and Gianni Williams share an update on the work the Student Council has done so far in the 2017-18 school year, noting that Student Council is working to help integrate black history more fully into Freire's curriculum.
- b. Alumni Association Update
 - i. Aliya Griffin, a 2008 Freire High School graduate and Co-Chair of the Freire Charter School Alumni Association, reviews the Alumni Association's work to build its membership and engagement with current students. Aliya notes that the Alumni Association currently meets quarterly and is making an effort to recruit more recent graduates into its membership.
- c. School Report and Data Packet
 - i. Chris Zagacki reviews up-to-date data for Freire Middle School, including year to date information on average daily attendance rates, attrition, and suspensions. Chris notes that on the School District of Philadelphia's annual School Performance Report, Freire Middle School was ranked 4th in the city out of 37 middle schools. Chris reviews ongoing preparations for the upcoming PSSAs.
 - ii. Chris Moore reviews up-to-date data for Freire High School, including year to date information on average daily attendance rates, attrition, and suspensions. Chris notes that Freire High School was ranked 14th out of all high schools in the city on the SPR.
 - iii. Leigh reviews key statistics and talking points that Board members can refer to when discussing Freire with potential friends of the school.
- d. Philadelphia Inquirer Articles
 - i. The Board reviews two articles discussing charter schools in Philadelphia, and discusses the current political environment for charter schools.

IV. Financials

- a. December 2017 Financial Packet
 - i. Bill Ray reviews Freire Charter School's December 2017 financials.
- b. Middle School Building
 - i. Beth Packel notes that Freire Middle School's landlord will not be renewing the school building's lease, and that an appraisal of the building took place today.

V. Advancement

- a. Advancement Update
 - i. Hillary Sorin updates the Board on year to date advancement and fundraising progress. Kelly Davenport discusses advancement planning and brainstorming.
 - ii. Hillary discusses the upcoming Summer Uptown event, noting that the event will honor Steve Goodman, that David L. Cohen will present an award honoring Steve, and that Bob Moul and Austin Hendrix are co-chairing the event.
 - iii. Hillary explains the recent Calculator Club volunteering event that was held at Freire Middle School.
- b. Advancement Committee
 - i. Hillary notes that the Advancement Committee has met twice, and has a third meeting coming up.

VI. Board Committee Reports

- a. Education Committee
 - i. Gerald Escovitz and Leigh Botwinik review the Education Committee's recent work, noting that in March Freire teachers and leaders will visit high-performing schools in Washington, DC. Leigh notes that FS Investments is running a family education program at Freire High School focused on helping families learn to invest money.
- b. Safety/Property Committee
 - i. Max Matthews notes that façade improvements to Freire High School's building are currently underway.

VII. Governance

- a. Statements of Financial Interests
 - i. The Board reviews the Statement of Financial Interests forms that need to be filled out for 2017.
- b. Director of Learning
 - i. Kelly Davenport notes that hiring for a Director of Learning has been put on hold until the spring, when more education-focused candidates are likely to be available.

10:13 AM, meeting adjourned.