



# Freire

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## Charter High School

### MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October 16, 2019 | 8:00 AM

Minutes

Location: 1026 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Board Members Present: Paul Archibald, William Brinkman, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Bruce Lesser, Beth Packel (Phone), Lorraine White

Others Present: Kelly Davenport, Dawn Eubanks, Raquel Leach (Phone), Johnny Mills, Chris Moore, Bill Ray, Melanie Reiser, Maurice Roberts, Anthony Royster (Phone), Scott Solomon, Teryn Thomas, Charles Ware, Chris Zagacki

Meeting start 8:06 AM

#### I. Public Comment

- a. There is no public comment.

#### II. Resolutions

- a. Review & Approve Minutes
  - i. The Board reviews the minutes from the Board Meeting on September 11, 2019.
  - ii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve. William Brinkman seconds.
  - iii. Paul Archibald, William Brinkman, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, 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. Slate of Staff with Salaries
  - i. The Board reviews the Slate of Staff with Salaries and discusses how raises are determined year-over-year.
  - ii. William Brinkman makes a motion to approve. Lorraine White seconds.
  - iii. Paul Archibald, William Brinkman, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, 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. 2019-2020 Textbook Review
  - i. Kelly Davenport reviews illustrative math for middle and high school students which helps students develop mathematical thinking skills through questioning, discussion, and real-world contexts. Teryn Thomas further explains the benefits of this new math curriculum and how it will be rolled out to the staff.
  - ii. Paul Archibald makes a motion to approve the 2019-2020 Textbook Review list. Lorraine White seconds.
  - iii. Paul Archibald, William Brinkman, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, 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 Report

- a. Heads Report
  - i. October Data Report
    1. Freire Charter High School
      - a. Chris Moore shares that the year has started strong in both attendance and suspension numbers. Chris notes the classrooms feel tighter, more demanding, and have stronger rigor. Teryn and Kelly have been visiting the building to help support the math teachers with the new curriculum.

- b. From student activities, Chris shares that the students have created a new Boys' Soccer Team and the homecoming dance will take place later this month.
  - c. Freire High is offering 4 unique electives for seniors to choose from this year. Additionally, college representatives will be visiting with juniors and seniors over the coming months.
  - d. Lisa Hoffstein shares that she and Kelly Davenport will be presenting at an education conference in Amsterdam in mid-November. Their presentation is focused on Freire and what it means to provide a social justice education. Part of their presentation includes a short film that Lisa and Erin Sieber, a Freire Schools staff member, are currently producing.
2. Freire Charter Middle School
- a. Chris Zagacki shares that one of the middle school's main focuses this year is on co-teaching between special education teachers and general education teachers. This model allows the special education students to be immersed in the class with the rest of the students. This also allows the classes to have additional support and curbs the needs for sub coverage if one teacher is absent.
  - b. Chris shares that the school recently started the Junior National Honors Society, Girls Club, and Boys Club. The Girls and Boys clubs are safe spaces for students to build community with fellow classmates and mentors.
  - c. Chris and Andrea Zepp will be visiting with City Council Member Mark Squilla next week to discuss the issues pertaining to Ludlow Street.
  - d. Chris also shares that there is serious pride in the school and the students enjoy wearing FCMS swag. The recent swag order reached over \$10,000, a first for Freire Middle School.
- b. Staff Member Update
    - i. There is no staff member update at this time.
  - c. Student Council Update
    - i. There is no student council update at this time.
  - d. Alumni Update
    - i. There is no alumni update at this time.

#### **IV. Financials**

- a. September 2019 Financial Report
  - i. Bill Ray reviews the September 2019 Financial Report for Freire Charter School. Bill notes that the finance team is monitoring enrollment closely to make sure enrollment numbers are on track with budget estimates. Bill notes the middle school is fully staffed and the high school is looking to hire for three positions.
  - ii. Bill notes the high school will need to spend around \$100,000 to replace the HVAC unit in the coming months. With a higher enrollment, the school is in a strong financial place to afford this unexpected expense.
- b. FY 2019 Audit Update
  - i. There are no audit findings, issues, or concerns. Freire Charter School anticipates receiving the full audit report later this year.

#### **V. Advancement**

- a. Advancement Update
  - i. Melanie Reiser shares that the rebrand has received positive praise from shareholders across the network.
  - ii. Currently the advancement team is applying to several grants, cleaning up the database, and preparing for the upcoming annual appeal.
- b. Political Landscape Update
  - i. Melanie shares that the Mayor visited Freire Middle for a Town Hall organized by Great Philly Schools to kick off the annual Philly High School Fair.
  - ii. In the coming weeks several members of the Philadelphia Delegation will be visiting TECH Freire, including Malcolm Kenyatta.

- iii. Kelly Davenport shares that state officials are receiving daily pro-charter emails from parents. There is a charter school funding meeting taking place in Harrisburg next week.

**VI. Board Committee Meeting**

- a. Education Committee
  - i. No update at this time.
- b. Audit Committee
  - i. There are no audit findings, issues, or concerns. Freire Charter School anticipates receiving the full audit report later this year.
- c. 403(b) Committee
  - i. No update at this time.
- d. Safety Committee
  - i. No update at this time.

**VII. Governance**

- a. FCHS Board Immersion Day – Wednesday, October 23
  - i. Chris Moore invites all Board Members to participate in Board Immersion Day schedule for next Wednesday, October 23 at 8 AM.
- b. FCMS Board Immersion Day – Wednesday, November 20
  - i. The FCMS Board Immersion Day has been rescheduled to November 20. All Board Members are invited to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 10:11 AM.