

CHESTER CHARTER SCHOLARS ACADEMY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

6:30pm, Tuesday, December 17, 2019

Date of Approval: Tuesday, February 18, 2020

**Call to Order:** The Board of Trustees for the Chester Charter Scholars Academy held a public Board Meeting in Chester, PA, on December 17, 2019. The meeting convened at 7:00pm. An Executive Session took place in advance of the public Board Meeting to discuss personnel and litigation matters. Members of the Board in attendance (at the time of the call to order): President Barbara Klock, Don Delson, Ellen Milgrim, Marilyn Henkelman, Alice Turbville, Ramona Jones, Dion Lewis, Ian Wilcox (ph), Ben Berger (ph) Joan Richards (ph) and Head of School Akosua Watts. Absent: None

**Public Comments:** Public: Nolan Woodland (CCSA Grandparent) shared concern about suspensions for a Kindergarten student.

**Approval of Minutes**

- The Board reviewed and adopted the minutes of the November 17, 2019 meeting of the Chester Charter Scholars Academy Board of Trustees subject to changes provided during review discussion.
  - Motion – Don Delson
  - Second – Ellen Milgrim
    - Ayes: 11      Nays: 0      Absent: 0

**President's Report**

Barbara Klock (President)

- Moment for Mission – Barbara Klock shared her reflections and visions of CCSA, expressing that the bigger picture is to change the lives of the students we serve.
- Shared such topics and informational documents:
  - Early Childhood Education
  - Parent Involvement and Supportive Adults
  - Trauma Informed Care and Epigenetics
- Provided an update on the matters concerning the Chester Upland School District (CUSD) that was addressed during the December 4th hearing including:
  - CUSD under state receivership until 2022
  - The receiver appointment and financial recovery plan for the District; and
  - Efforts to require CUSD to consider proposals for charterization of all CUSD K-8 schools except one.
- Discussed Act 55 overview and training options for Charter School Trustees.
- Provided update of CCSA Foundation and annual fund status.

- Informed members about the intent to plan a CCSA Board Retreat in the spring of 2020.
- Distributed and reviewed the Responsibilities of the CCSA Board document, highlighting key areas including: board meeting attendance, committee work, financial support, etc.
- Don Delson provided update of the Endowment campaign including campaign goal, changes in structure of the campaign and the hope for a Wawa sponsored School celebration in the spring.

## Financial Report

Alice Turbiville (Finance Committee, Chair)

- Discussed the Condensed Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balances as of November 30, 2019 for Board members to review.
- Discussed the Financial Statements and Independent Auditors report of June 30, 2019.
- Motion to approve the Financial Statements for year ended June 30, 2019.
  - Motion – Don Delson
  - Second – Marilyn Henkelman
    - Ayes: 11      Nays: 0      Absent: 0
- Motion to approve the Resolution of the Committed Fund Balance designating \$3.7 million in committed fund balance for future operating costs associated with lease payments to CCSA Foundation, which secure the debt for the school building.
  - Motion – Barbara Klock
  - Second – Don Delson
    - Ayes: 11      Nays: 0      Absent: 0
- Update on the S&P Bond Rating review which took place in October with a report in December
  - No change in accounting principles BB+ rating with a stable outlook

## School Report

Akosua Watts (Head of School)

- Shared school highlights including:
  - Alumni pasta dinner-opportunity to speak with students about postsecondary life
  - Exploration of options for external module structure for small group settings
  - Four Professional goals: 1) Operational function of the school, 2) Communication with leadership, 3) Assist with development efforts and 4) Use data to inform instruction

## Motion to Adjourn

- Motion – Don Delson
- Second – Barbara Klock
  - Ayes: 11      Nays: 0      Absent: 0

**Next Board Meeting:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 7:00pm preceded by Executive Session at 6:30pm

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

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Rachel Cameron, (serving as Secretary)