

**PHILADELPHIA PERFORMING ARTS: A STRING THEORY**  
**CHARTER SCHOOL**

1600 Vine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102  
January 20, 2020  
6:00 PM

**Location:**

1600 Vine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102

**MINUTES**

**SECTION I: CALL TO ORDER AT**

**A. Roll Call**

<b>Board Members:</b>	<b>By Invitation: Non-Board Members:</b>
Javier Kuehnle – Chairman (“JK”) William Bradley Leach – Vice Chairman (“WL”) Ronald Pigliacelli- Treasurer (“RP”) Evelt Vertil (“EV”) Krista Alexander (“KA”)	Angela Puleio Aaron Gerwer Angela Ciccante  Angela Corosanite Dr. Jason Corosanite  Michael Thomson Michael Danyo
Board Members Absent:	
Kristin Kubach – Secretary (“KK”)	Daniel H. Saidel, Esq. David Annecharico, Esq. Abigail Lipow, Esq.

**B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY DANIEL H. SAIDEL**

*1. 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

**R200120.01 Approval: January 20, 2020 Agenda**

BL

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing

SECOND  
 RP  
 VOTE:  
 X PASS  
 [ ] FAIL

Arts: A String Theory Charter School approves of the **January 20, 2020** Agenda of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School.

*Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:*

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

**D. Approval of Minutes**

MOTION  
 BL  
 SECOND  
 RP  
 VOTE:  
 X PASS  
 [ ] FAIL

**R200120.02 Approval: November 18, 2019 Minutes**

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School approves of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School Board of Trustees Board minutes for **November 18, 2019**.

*Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:*

<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 Daniel Saidel. I serve as General Counsel to the 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 that you might supplement your comment with 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.

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Rakeem Jeter</i>	<i>Speaking on behalf of Amin Branch; Chess coach of Amin</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>If Amin was to be brought to Africa by his mother, Nadira Branch, who is a Fulbright scholar, Ms. Branch is under the impression that Amin will be brought up on truancy charges</i></li> </ul>
<i>Leneider Davis</i>	<i>Family friend of Nadira Branch</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Ms. Davis explained that Ms. Branch is the recipient of a great honor, the Fulbright Scholarship</i></li> </ul>

	- <i>She stated that Ms. Branch is fighting to give her son a chance to elevate himself</i>
<i>Mark Harrel</i>	<i>Chair of 51<sup>st</sup> Ward in South Philadelphia</i> - <i>Acquaintance of Ms. Branch</i> - <i>He states that Ms. Branch has a wonderful opportunity to go to Africa</i> - <i>He further states that the 51<sup>st</sup> Ward is in full support of Ms. Branch</i>
<i>Janeene Robinson</i>	<i>Adopted Aunt of Nadira Branch</i> - <i>Spoke in support of Ms. Branch in general</i>

UPON MOTION BY JAVIER KUEHNLE AND SECOND BY WILLIAM BRADLEY LEACH, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY MOVED TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING CONFIDENTIAL AND LEGALLY PRIVILEGED MATTERS.

UPON MOTION BY RONALD PIGLIACELLI AND SECOND BY WILLIAM BRADLEY LEACH, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES UNANIMOUSLY MOVED TO ENTER OPEN SESSION.

### **B. Report of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School**

MOTION  
BL  
SECOND  
RP  
VOTE:  
X PASS  
[ ] FAIL

#### **R200120.03 Report of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School**

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School accepts Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School report and hereby incorporates into these minutes by reference the written reports of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School presented to the board.

#### ***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

<b><i>Who</i></b>	<b><i>What</i></b>
<i>Angela Puleio Angela Ciccante</i>	<i>Philadelphia Performing Arts' report has been previously disseminated to the Board.</i>

### **C. Report of String Theory Schools**

MOTION  
RP  
SECOND  
BL  
VOTE:  
X PASS

#### **R200120.04 Report of String Theory Schools**

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School accepts the String Theory Schools report and hereby incorporates into these minutes by reference the written reports of String Theory Schools presented to the board.

[ ] FAIL

**Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:**

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
Jason Corosanite Angela Corosanite	Over the summer, Michelle Faulkner drafted a policy with respect to exceptional children not showing progress. Any exceptional child not showing progress will have an academic plan put in place and approved by the Board. The report includes a list of children who did not make progress, and the proposed academic plans for those children.

**D. Report of General Counsel**

MOOT

**R200120.05 Report of General Counsel**

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School accepts the General Counsel’s report and hereby incorporates into these minutes by reference the written reports of Sand & Saidel P.C. as presented to the board.

**Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:**

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>

**E. Report of Business Controller**

MOTION

BL

SECOND

RP

VOTE:

X PASS

[ ] FAIL

**R200120.06 Report of Business Controller**

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School reviews and accepts the Financial Report of M. Thomson and hereby incorporates into these minutes by reference the financial statements and the documents presented by M. Thomson to the board.

**Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:**

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
Michael Thomson	Santilli & Thomson’s report was previously disseminated to the Board.  Mr Danyo explained that some budget adjustments were made – currently Performing Arts is operating at a \$1.5M surplus  SPED costs have increased and, and the rate from the

	<i>School District has increased – the proposed budget has been adjusted accordingly</i>
--	--

**SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS**

MOOT

**R200120.07 Professional Services Contracts**

RESOLVED, the Professional Services Contracts, proposals and associated reports listed below are hereby accepted and ratified;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the CEO, in consultation with the general counsel and business controller are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate the terms and conditions of any agreement between Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School and the Contractors listed below for the enumerated professional services; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, any officer of this Board is directed and authorized to execute any document necessary to effect this resolution.

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions

*Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:*

Who	What

MOOT

**R200120.08 Purchases Contracts**

RESOLVED, the Purchases Contracts and associated reports listed below are hereby accepted and ratified;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the CEO, in consultation with the general counsel and business controller are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate the terms and conditions of any agreement between Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School and the Contractors listed below for the enumerated purchase services; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, any officer of this Board is directed and authorized to execute any document necessary to effect this resolution.

MOTION  
 RP  
 SECOND  
 BL  
 VOTE:  
 X PASS  
 [ ] FAIL

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions

**Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:**

Who	What

**R200120.09 Human Resources**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School accepts the human resources changes, modifications and additions as presented below:

<b>HIRES</b>		
NAME	TITLE	START DATE
Rachel Neitzke	Substitute	12/09/19
Keith Reed	Food Service Aide	12/12/19
Natalia Spiewak	ELL Teacher	12/16/19
Terri Allen	Teacher	01/06/20

<b>TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS</b>		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Amelia Osterhoudt	SPED Teacher	12/20/19

**Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:**

Who	What
Board	General Discussion

MOTION  
 KA  
 SECOND  
 RP  
 VOTE:  
 [ ] PASS  
 X FAIL

**R200120.10 Expulsion of Student KG**

RESOLVED, student KG is permanently expelled from Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School effective January 20, 2020;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Board of Trustees on file with Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School and the record of the formal expulsion hearing of KG (“Hearing Record”) is adopted; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Hearing Record is made a part of KG’s permanent record.

*By Roll Call Vote:*

Javier Kuehnle – *nay*

William Bradley Leach – *nay*  
 Kristin Kubach – *absent*  
 Ronald Pigliacelli- *nay*  
 Evelt Vertil - *nay*  
 Krista Alexander - *nay*

UPON MOTION BY RON PIGLIACELLI AND SECOND BY WILLIAM BRADLEY LEACH, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED LEGAL MATTERS.

UPON MOTION BY RON PIGLIACELLI AND SECOND BY WILLIAM BRADLEY LEACH, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ENTER OPEN SESSION.

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

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

MOTION  
 BL  
 SECOND  
 RP  
 VOTE:  
 X PASS  
 [ ] FAIL

**R200120.11 Independent Financial Audit Year ended June 30, 2019**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School approves of the Independent Financial Audit for the year ended June 30, 2019.

*By Roll Call Vote:*

Javier Kuehnle – *aye*  
 William Bradley Leach – *aye*  
 Kristin Kubach – *absent*  
 Ronald Pigliacelli- *aye*  
 Evelt Vertil - *aye*  
 Krista Alexander - *aye*

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Michael Danyo</i>	<i>Philadelphia Performing Arts’ audit was previously disseminated to the Board.</i>
	<i>The audit was clean with no findings. Revenue has increased \$3.8M from the previous year; the fund balance has increased \$1.7M, and cash has increased \$2.9M</i>

TABLED

**R200120.12 Excessive Truancy**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School finds the following students to be in chronically truant status:

Name	Absences	Unexcused	Tardies
AF	16	15	0
ZL	48	48	77

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School accepts the report/s of the Administration with respect to each above identified student, and ratifies the proposed academic probation as presented; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Principal is hereby directed to reconvene a meeting within three (3), but no more than five (5), school days with each of the Parent/Guardian/s and Student/s named above for the purpose of revisiting or developing a new School Attendance Improvement Plan (SAIP). Such meeting and SAIP will incorporate the academic probation proposal, further explore and discuss any barrier(s) to regular school attendance and clarify actions required of all parties to the SAIP to resolve attendance and related academic issues.

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

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

**B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- NEXT BOARD MEETING: FEBRUARY 17, 2020

**ADJOURNMENT AT 7:09 PM**

MOTION

RP

SECOND

BL

VOTE:

X PASS

[ ] FAIL