

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

1600 Vine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102

November 16, 2020

6:00 PM

**LOCATION:**

ZOOM

**MINUTES**

**SECTION I: CALL TO ORDER AT 6:23 PM**

**A. Roll Call**

<b><u>Board Members:</u></b>	<b><u>By Invitation: Non-Board Members:</u></b>
Javier Kuehnle – Chairman (“JK”) William Bradley Leach – Vice Chairman (“WL”) Kristin Kubach – Secretary (“KK”) Ronald Pigliacelli- Treasurer (“RP”)	Angela Ciccante Rachel Ravior  Angela Corosanite Dr. Jason Corosanite  Michael Thomson Michael Danyo
Board Members Absent:	
Evelt Vertil (“EV”) Krista Alexander (“KA”)	Daniel H. Saidel, Esq. David Annecharico, Esq. Abigail Lipow, Esq. Jessica Bassett  January Teti Julia Viola Keri Gleason Melissa Quarracino Adrienne Capone  Thayne Dibble, STS Director of Compliance Joe McBride, STS Director of Security

**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

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RP

VOTE:

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#### **R201116.01 Approval: November 16, 2020 Agenda**

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School approves of the **November 16, 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

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#### **R201116.02 Approval: October 19, 2020 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 **October 19, 2020**.

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

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

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#### **R201116.03 Approval: September 21, 2020 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 September 21, 2020.

##### *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 David Annecharico. 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>None</i>	<i>None</i>

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

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**R201116.04 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:***

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Angela Corosanite</i>	<p><i>Philadelphia Performing Arts' report was previously disseminated to the Board.</i></p> <p><i>Mrs. Corosanite gave the report on Mrs. Puleio's behalf. Noted that Allison Hussey found a company that can supply the schools with the necessary program and software and new state-of-the-art testing equipment for IEPs in order to maintain compliance. Students will come into the building to be tested for their IEP; students and psychologists are located in separate classrooms and speak via microphone. All IEPs are in the process of being reviewed and updated as required.</i></p> <p><i>Almost 100 percent of seniors have applied to college at this time. Counselor Susan Thomas is meeting with all senior students and their parents on Zoom calls to discuss</i></p>

	<i>college. Ms. Thomas continuously updates the administration on the number of students with scholarship offers.</i>
<i>Angela Ciccante</i>	<i>Parent teacher conferences will begin at all campuses during the last week of November.</i>
	<i>Report cards for the quarter are also being prepared.</i>

### C. Report of String Theory Schools

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#### R201116.05 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.

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

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Angela Corosanite</i>	<i>String Theory Schools' report was previously disseminated to the Board.</i>  <i>STS and PPA met with Charles Calvanese in order to begin the renovation process for 2632 S. Broad Street. Frank Fortino has drafted the plans for the renovations.</i>  <i>PPA will move to keep 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at 2600 S. Broad Street for their 5<sup>th</sup> grade year, instead of moving to Vine Street, which will return to 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.</i>
<i>Ron Pigliacelli</i>	<i>Asked whether current 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will report to Vine Street. Mrs. Corosanite responded that current 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will report to Vine Street Campus when students physically return to school as planned in February.</i>

### D. Report of General Counsel

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#### R201116.06 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>
<i>Daniel H.</i>	<i>Mr. Saidel reported that the greatest concern currently is</i>

<i>Saidel</i>	<p><i>that students will not show progress during standardized testing due to being physically out of school for so long. Further concern that the State will not be able to adjust standardized testing to take the pandemic into account.</i></p> <p><i>Predicted that there will be an uptick of special education lawsuits against all schools next year due to the inability to provide effective education to these children via virtual learning. Noted that Santilli &amp; Thomson should keep in mind the strong possibility of needing additional services and legal services when drafting PPA's budget for next year.</i></p> <p><i>Also discussed the question of how the School District will use testing statistics for charter renewals and non-renewals based on test scores taken during the virtual learning period.</i></p>
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**E. Report of Business Controller**

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**R201116.07 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 Santilli & Thomson and hereby incorporates into these minutes by reference the financial statements and the documents presented by Santilli & Thomson to the board.

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

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Michael Danyo</i>	<p><i>Santilli &amp; Thomson's report has been previously disseminated.</i></p> <p><i>PPA is waiting on some large receivables from the State, which will be coming soon. PPA reconciled a security grant. All other expenditures are in line. Certain line items have increased, but there are overall savings due to virtual learning.</i></p>

**SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS**

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**R201116.08 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

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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.

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Comment: Terms and Conditions</b>
Giampietro & Sons Construction LLC	\$2,250	Expansion of Special Needs Classroom at PPA East – Phase I
Giampietro & Sons Construction LLC	\$7,250	Expansion of Special Needs Classroom at PPA East – Phase II
Cenova Inc.	Various Rates	Winter Weather Maintenance
Atlantic Refrigeration Equipment Company, Inc.	\$11,269	Expansion of Special Needs Classroom at PPA East
Atlantic Refrigeration Equipment Company, Inc.	\$8,929	Expansion of Special Needs Classroom at PPA East
Mark Cement Contractors	\$9,650	Expansion of Special Needs Classroom at PPA East
PresenceLearning	\$6,800	Remote platform for administering Psychoeducational assessments
At Locks Locksmith	\$3,600	Adding door access keycard system at PPA West and tying system into new security system
Laredo Mechanical LLC	\$8,784	Renewal of Inspection Agreement for PPA East
Fante For Flooring, LLC	\$7,125	Expansion of Special Needs Classroom at PPA East
Fairwold Academy at PHMC	4010 Slot	Placement for Student M.W.

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

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

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**R201116.09 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.

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
Micro Technology Group, Inc.	\$46,703.94	Cameras, Software, and Tech Equipment
Zoom Video Communications, Inc.	\$14,600.00	Software
Artificial Lawns, LLC	\$27,510.00	Repairs and maintenance for building
Advance Gourmet	\$27,362.14	Equipment

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

Who	What
Board	General Discussion

MOOT

**R201116.10 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:

HIRES		
NAME	TITLE	SALARY

TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE

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

Who	What

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**R201116.11 String Theory Corporate Incubator Fellowship**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School ratifies the award of a String Theory Corporate Incubator Fellowship to:

- Minkee Blue
- Lisa Jane Russell
- BSD Coding Academy
- EJ Hendley Consultants
- Kindling

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

Who	What

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<i>Board</i>	<i>General Discussion</i>
<i>Jason Corosanite</i>	<i>Incubator Fellows are not currently in the building on a daily basis. These are the same companies that were approved last year, and that did great work with students. Currently, these Incubator Fellows are being approved in anticipation that they will be able to work with students in the spring.</i>

**R201116.12 String Theory Schools EITC Renewal Application**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School hereby ratifies the String Theory Schools EITC Renewal Application for the 2020-2021 school year, as presented.

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

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

**B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- NEXT BOARD MEETING: JANUARY 18, 2021

Angela Corosanite discussed the children’s garden at PPA East Campus in a lot off of Ritner Street, and that PPA is in the process of enclosing the garden from the street.

**ADJOURNMENT AT 6:39 PM**

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