

PHILADELPHIA PERFORMING ARTS: A STRING THEORY
CHARTER SCHOOL

1600 Vine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102
September 21, 2020
6:00 PM

LOCATION:
Zoom Conference

MINUTES

SECTION I: CALL TO ORDER AT 6:21 PM

A. Roll Call

Board Members:	By Invitation: Non-Board Members:
Javier Kuehnle – Chairman (“JK”) William Bradley Leach – Vice Chairman (“WL”) Kristin Kubach – Secretary (“KK”) Ronald Pigliacelli- Treasurer (“RP”) Evelt Vertil (“EV”) Krista Alexander (“KA”)	Angela Puleio Angela Ciccante Rachel Ravior Angela Corosanite Dr. Jason Corosanite Michael Thomson Michael Danyo
Board Members Absent:	Daniel H. Saidel, Esq. David Annecharico, Esq. Abigail Lipow, Esq. January Teti Julia Viola Melissa Quarracino Adrienne Capone

B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY DANIEL H. SAIDEL

2. I'd like to state, for purposes of the Minutes of this meeting that on September 21, 2020, the Board of Trustees met in Executive Session for the following purposes under 65 P.S. § 708:

(X) Consultation with Professional Advisor or Attorney. To consult with its attorney or other professional advisor regarding information or strategy in connection with litigation or with issues on which identifiable complaints are expected to be filed.

X) Discuss Confidential Matters. To review and discuss agency business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of information or confidentiality protected by law, including matters related to the initiation and conduct of investigations of possible or certain violations of the law and quasi-judicial deliberations.

Additional Notes for Minutes of Meeting:

C. Approval of Agenda

MOTION
JK
SECOND
KK
VOTE:
X PASS
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R200921.01 Approval: September 21, 2020 Agenda

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School approves of the **September 21, 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
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VOTE:
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R200921.02 Approval: August 17, 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 **August 17, 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

MOTION
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R200921.03 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:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Angela Ciccante Rachel Ravior</i>	<i>Philadelphia Performing Arts' report has been previously disseminated to the Board.</i>
	<i>Discussed how proud the administration is of students, parents, and teachers. PPPA had attendance ratings in the high 90s for the first week of school.</i>
	<i>Attendance at the middle school is much better than it was during the spring. Students are better used to the schedule now. The administration is particularly concerned about 5th graders' adjustment to schedule and iPads. Staff members have "pods" of students who they see every Wednesday to check in with on a variety of issues and to act as a contact for their parents in order to make sure every student is receiving individualized attention. The pods have been very successful so far.</i>

	<i>High school counselors did surveys of students on the first day, and most students felt optimistic or felt that they were adjusting and were confident that the year would turn out well.</i>
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C. Report of String Theory Schools

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R200921.04 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.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Angela Corosanite</i>	<i>String Theory Schools' report has been previously disseminated to the Board. All administrators and leaders of schools have worked very hard. The summer was very intense getting ready for the school year, but the staff rose to the occasion.</i>
<i>Jason Corosanite</i>	<i>A summit occurred at Vine Street Campus, with White House executive director on prisoner reentry, dept. of energy, on stemming the school to prison pipeline, including Laura Roosevelt, FDR's great granddaughter. This was a great opportunity to participate in some grant opportunities and connect with others across the nation.</i>

D. Report of General Counsel

MOTION
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R200921.05 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>
<i>Daniel H. Saidel</i>	<i>Expressed pleasure to hear of 90% attendance for virtual learning.</i>

	<p><i>Noted that schools may have to prepare for the whole year may be virtual due to uptick of cases in Europe.</i></p> <p><i>Children must attend virtual classes. Concerned that parents will not allow children to attend or fail to enforce attendance, which will affect testing.</i></p>
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E. Report of Business Controller

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R200921.06 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>
<i>Michael Danyo</i>	<p><i>Santilli & Thomson’s report has been previously disseminated to the Board.</i></p> <p><i>S&T did budget adjustments due to call with S&P to review ratings. The new projected surplus is \$1.4M. PPA is currently doing \$82K better than originally budgeted.</i></p>

SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS

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R200921.07 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
Laredo Mechanical LLC	\$9,422	Replacement of RTU-4 Compressor at 2600 S. Broad Street
Mark Cement Contractors	\$2,750	Sidewalk work at 1600 Vine Street
Martin Luther School d/b/a Gemma Services	\$286/ per diem and various rates for related services	Tuition and related services for Students B.P. and I.W.
Empirical Pediatric Therapy	\$2,050/week	Provision of special education services for student T.T.
Lakeside Youth Service	\$37,265.40	APS Tuition for Student D.S.
Fairwold Academy	\$48,600 and various rates for related services	APS Tuition for Student J.R.
Community College of Philadelphia	Various rates	Provision of dual enrollment academic programming for high school students

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

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

R200921.08 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.

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
Achieve 3000 Inc.	\$25,460.00	Software
Corporate Interiors	\$12,154. 69	Equipment
Dreambox Learning	\$26,850.00	Software
Great Minds	\$49,400.00	Software
Jamf Software	\$50,481.00	Software
McGraw Hill Education	\$18,571.32	Books
McGraw Hill Education	\$11,826.64	Books
Micro Technology Group, Inc.	\$42,007.00	Firewall – ESSER Grant
PowerSchool Group, LLC	\$56,329.27	Administrative Software

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

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

MOTION

JK

SECOND

KK

VOTE:

X PASS

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R200921.09 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:

HIRES		
NAME	TITLE	HIRE DATE
Anissa Alexander	Teacher	8/9/2020
Miranda Anderson	Special Education Teacher	8/9/2020
Michael Barrett	Climate Officer	9/14/2020
Alexis Bennett	Instructional Coach	7/1/2020
Jarret Berenson	Teacher	8/9/2020
Marena Bondi	Special Education Teacher	8/6/2020
Christine Ewell	Counselor	8/9/2020
Christopher Hoffer	Teacher	8/9/2020
Ronald Jones	Climate Officer	8/9/2020
Josiah Keller	Teacher	8/9/2020
Nicole Kennedy	Teacher	8/9/2020
Kerri Klatcher	Special Education Teacher	8/31/2020
Sarah Komins	ESOL Teacher	8/9/2020
Christopher Kucewicz	Teacher	8/9/2020
Logan Leeds-Ezell	Counselor	8/9/2020
Dorothy Lemanski	Special Education Teacher	8/9/2020
Morgan Luck	Special Education Teacher	8/9/2020
Kailee McWilliams	Teacher	8/9/2020
Andrew Phillips	Department Chair for School Design	7/1/2020
Sarah Pinkerton	Special Education Teacher	8/9/2020
Andres Rodriguez	Teacher	8/9/2020
Carl Salerno	Student Support Programs Coordinator	7/1/2020
Renee Seler	Teacher	8/9/2020
Joanna Sinclair	Teacher	8/31/2020
Cymone Smith	Truancy and Attendance Coordinator	8/9/2020
Robert Snyder	Teacher	8/31/2020
Van Tsang	Community Engagement	8/31/2020
Eric Worley	Dean of Culture	8/9/2020

TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Lucy Bates-Campbell	Teacher	6/30/2020
Daniel Borenstein	Teacher	6/30/2020
Jessica Cephass	Security	9/4/2020
Christian Fetterhoff	Teacher	6/30/2020
Aaron Gerwer	Head of School	6/30/2020
Brittany Latronica	Counselor	8/15/2020
Anthony Miller	Climate Coordinator	6/30/2020

Kathryn O'Brien	Teacher	8/15/2020
Chaim O'Deens	Truancy and Attendance Coordinator	8/15/2020
Jazmine Pena	Pathway Assistant	6/30/2020
Karen Raezer	Administrative Assistant	6/30/2020
Joshua Santiago	Security	6/30/2020
Meghan Schaefer	Special Education Teacher	6/30/2020
Maggy Simon	Teacher	6/30/2020
Joseph Tabasco	Teacher	6/30/2020
Jillian Vandermark	Teacher	6/30/2020

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
Board	General Discussion

MOTION

R200921.10 PPA School Wide Plan

JK

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School hereby approves and ratifies the Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School school-wide plan.

SECOND

KK

VOTE:

X PASS

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Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
Board	General Discussion

MOTION

R200921.11 Municode

KK

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School hereby approves of Municode, sts.municipalcodeonline.com, as presented.

SECOND

JK

VOTE:

X PASS

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Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
Board	General Discussion

MOTION

R200921.12 Confidential Settlement Agreement in re: A.D.

RP

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School hereby approves of and ratifies the Confidential Settlement Agreement in re: A.D., as presented.

SECOND

JK

VOTE:

X PASS

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Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
Board	General Discussion

ABSTAIN –
KRISTIN

KUBACH

MOTION

WL

SECOND

KK

VOTE:

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R200921.13 Safety and Security Plan

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School hereby ratifies the Executive Session to Review the Safety and Security Plan, as presented.

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: OCTOBER 19, 2020

ADJOURNMENT AT 6:34 PM

MOTION

KK

SECOND

JK

VOTE:

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