



CHESTER CHARTER SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

7:00pm, Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Date of Approval: August 15, 2017

Call to Order: The Board of Trustees for the Chester Charter School for the Arts held a public Board Meeting in Aston, PA on June 20, 2017. 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 Don Delson, Co-Vice President Barbara Klock, Scott Beaumont, Benjamin Berger, Marcine Pickron-Davis, Co-Vice President Maurice Eldridge and Head of School Akosua Watts. Absent: Dion Lewis, Steven Piltch, Joan Richards, Ramona Jones

Public Comments: No Comments. Present: None

Approval of Minutes

- The Board reviewed and adopted the Minutes of the May 16, 2017 meeting of the Chester Charter School for the Arts Board of Trustees subject to changes provided during review discussion.
 - Motion – Maurice Eldridge
 - Second – Barbara Klock

President's Report

Donald Delson (President) –

- Reported that the new campus is on budget and on time for occupancy on August 1, 2017.
- Adopted motion to relocate the school and all administrative offices from 200 Commerce Drive to the new campus at 1500 Highland Avenue upon receipt of the Certificate of Occupancy.
 - Motion: Scott Beaumont
 - Second: Donald Delson
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 4
- Discussed report from S&P (Standard & Poor's) ratings review process.
- Highlighted the goal for CCSA to maintain the BB+ rating.
- Reviewed the draft Board Meeting schedule for 2017-18.
 - The Board came to consensus to accept the meeting schedule for 2017-18.

Financial Report

Scott Beaumont (Finance Committee, Chair)

- Reported that the New Campus is on time and on budget.
- Provided insight about communications with the bond rating analysts from Standard & Poor's.
- Highlighted positive financial results as of May 31, 2017 including consistent and on time payments from the Chester Upland School District.

- Shared an overview of the FY2018 school budget and balance sheet projection through the year.
- Adopted resolution to approve FY2018 school budget
 - Motion – Maurice Eldridge
 - Second – Benjamin Berger
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 4
- Shared updates about construction project costs including costs for furniture, kitchen, and moving and health sciences.
- Don Delson, President noted that \$2.6 million of the school's fund balance as of June 30th, 2017 is a result of private donations from the Chester Fund rather than public funding resources.
- Adopted a motion to commit a cumulative amount of \$4.6 million of the school fund balance as committed Fund Balances. These funds are committed to the expansion of the High school and related matters.
 - Motion: Maurice Eldridge
 - Second: Donald Delson
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 4

School Report

Akosua Watts (Head of School) –

- Shared school highlights including arts integrations projects and partnerships.
- Discussed Organizational Chart for the 2017-2018
- Reviewed the staffing list for 2017-2018 including salaries, non-renewals, resignations and promotions.
- Shared highlights on new staffing positions and staffing shifts for the 2017-2018 school year
- Adopted motion to approve the staffing list presented for the 2017-18 school year.
 - Motion: Don Delson
 - Second: Maurice Eldridge
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 4
- Adopted motion to approve the School Improvement Report
 - Motion: Don Delson
 - Second: Maurice Eldridge
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 4

Facilities Report

- No report

Strategic Planning Report

- Marcine Pickron-Davis provided an update about progress of strategic planning.
- Reported that the Board will meet in August to continue ongoing discussions about strategic planning and finalize the process.
- Discussed the importance of the CCSA Board to increase capacity to support the development efforts of The Chester Fund on behalf of the school.
- Don Delson, President reminded Board members make contributions to the annual fund by June 30, 2017.
- Adopted motion to accept the Strategic Plan subject to final review.
 - Motion – Scott Beaumont
 - Second – Barbara Klock
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 4

Governance and Nominating

- Benjamin Berger discussed proposal regarding terms for current CCSA Board members
- Adopted motion to amend the Bylaws to initiate staggered terms to be effective July 1, 2017.
 - Motion – Barbara Klock
 - Second – Marcine Pickron Davis

- Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 4
- Adopted motion to initiate staggered terms as outlined in Groups A, B, C (see exhibit) suggested by the CCSA Governance and Nominating Committee
 - Motion: Scott Beaumont
 - Second: Maurice Eldridge
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 4
- Discussed term limits with maximum services of 3-year terms. The Governance Committee will continue to review term limits and officer terms for future discussion.
- Adopt motion to re-elect officers for next year for all offices.
 - Motion – Scott Beaumont
 - Second – Donald Delson
 - Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 4

Academic Affairs

- Barbara Klock provided update on the Health Science Program internship/mentorship with Lankenau Medical Center.
- Discussed programming and funding for the Health Science Program and other partnerships including a gift from the Eugene Lang Foundation.
- Shared partnership with Swarthmore to serve as academic tutors for upcoming school year.
- Explained that Hilary Sorin will resign from her role at The Chester Fund on June 23, 2017.

Human Resources

- No Report

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday August 15, 2017 at 7:00 pm preceded by an Executive Session at 6:30 pm.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at pm 8:39

Rachel Cameron, Operations Coordinator (serving as Secretary)