

Commonwealth Charter Academy (CCA) MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at 8:30 AM

Held at the following location and via teleconference:

1426 N. 3rd Street Harrisburg, PA 17102

I. Call to Order

Mr. Dyer called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. when all participants were present. The school was open for the public to attend.

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Ralph Dyer, Lil Jackson, Jeffrey Piccola (in person); Michelle Ciora,

Cheryl Lozier, Marcie Mulligan, Rob Barr (via phone).

Guests in Person: Maurice Flurie, School CEO; Tom Longenecker, COO; Sharon Pallotta,

Christine Hakes, Jennifer Clarke, Joyce Good, Sandy Emerich, Paulie Zozos, Ryan Baker, Faith Russo, School Staff; Phil Murren, Board

Counsel.

III. Executive Session

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:31 a.m. Executive Session was held to discuss Special Education matters, contractual negotiations and legal issues.

The following action items resulted from Executive Session:

Action Item i. Approval to Enter Into an Agreement with AndCulture to Develop Proprietary Product at the Price Quoted.

Action Item j. Approval to Grant Authority to CEO, Board President and Board Counsel to Negotiate and Settle Special Education Litigation Matters Not to Exceed \$50,000.

Action Item k. Approval of Special Education Services for Two Students as Described in Executive Session at the Rates Negotiated.

Action Item I. Approval to Authorize Administration to Resist Payment for Out of State Placement of the Student Discussed During Executive Session.

Action Item m. Approval to Authorize Administration to Support the Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools (PCPCS) Intervention as Described in Executive Session.

[Cheryl Lozier left the meeting at 8:56 AM and gave her proxy to Michelle Ciora. Lil Jackson left the meeting at 9:32 AM and gave her proxy to Jeffrey Piccola. Rob Barr left the meeting at 10:30 AM and gave his proxy to Mr. Dyer].

[Public Session began at 9:54 AM].

IV. Public Comment

There were no public comments made at this time.

V. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Dyer informed the Board that Action Items (i.) through (m.) were added to the agenda. There being no further items to discuss, a motion was made by Jeffrey Piccola and seconded by Michelle Ciora as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the November 16, 2016 meeting of the Commonwealth Charter Academy Board of Directors, as amended, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Approval of Consent Items

Mr. Dyer asked the Board if there were any items from the Consent Items they wanted moved to Action Items for discussion, or tabled. There being no further items to discuss, a motion was made by Michelle Ciora and seconded by Jeffrey Piccola as follows:

RESOLVED, the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from October 12, 2016 Board Meeting
- b. Approval of Board Payables
- c. Approval of Staffing Report

The motion passed unanimously

VII. Approval of Action Items

- a. Approval of Williamsport Lease
- b. Approval of Philadelphia Center City Lease
- c. Approval of Johnstown Lease

The Board discussed the Williamsport, Philadelphia Center City and Johnstown leases. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Michelle Ciora and seconded by Jeffrey Piccola as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Approval of the Williamsport, Philadelphia Center City and Johnstown leases is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

d. Approval of 2016-17 CCA Comprehensive Plan

The Board discussed the 2016-17 CCA Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Dyer thanked Marcie Mulligan for editing the Plan. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Marcie Mulligan and seconded by Jeffrey Piccola as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Approval of the 2016-17 CCA Comprehensive Plan is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

e. Approval of 2016-17 School Goals

The Board discussed the 2016-17 School Goals. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Michelle Ciora and seconded by Jeffrey Piccola as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Approval of the 2016-17 School Goals is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

f. Approval of COO Contract and Accompanying Board Resolution

The Board discussed the COO contract and accompanying Resolution during Executive Session. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Jeffrey Piccola and seconded by Michelle Ciora as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Approval of COO Contract and Accompanying Board Resolution is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

g. Approval of Special Education Teacher Stipend

The Board discussed the Special Education Teacher Stipend. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Michelle Ciora and seconded by Jeffrey Piccola as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Approval of the Special Education Teacher Stipend is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

h. Approval of Board Resolutions

The Board discussed the Board Resolutions. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Michelle Ciora and seconded by Jeffrey Piccola as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Approval of the Board Resolutions is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

i. Approval to Enter Into an Agreement With AndCulture to Develop Proprietary Product at the Price Quoted.

The Board discussed the agreement with AndCulture during Executive Session. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Michelle Ciora and seconded by Jeffrey Piccola as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Approval to Enter Into an Agreement With AndCulture to Develop Proprietary Product at the Price Quoted is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

j. <u>Approval to Grant Authority to CEO, Board President and Board Counsel to Negotiate</u> and Settle Special Education Litigation Matters Not to Exceed \$50,000.

The Board discussed the approval to grant authority to CEO, Board President and Board Counsel to negotiate and settle Special Education litigation matters not to exceed \$50,000 during Executive Session. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Jeffrey Piccola and seconded by Michelle Ciora as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Approval to Grant Authority to CEO, Board President and Board Counsel to Negotiate and Settle Special Education Litigation Matters Not to Exceed \$50,000 is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

k. <u>Approval of Special Education Services For Two Students as Described in Executive Session at the Rate Negotiated.</u>

The Board discussed the Special Education services for two students during Executive Session. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Jeffrey Piccola and seconded by Michelle Ciora as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Approval of Special Education Services For Two Students as Described in Executive Session at the Rate Negotiated is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

I. <u>Approval to Authorize Administration to Resist Payment for Out of State Placement of the Student Discussed During Executive Session.</u>

The Board discussed the authorization of the administration to resist payment for out of state placement of the student discussed during Executive Session. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Michelle Ciora and seconded by Jeffrey Piccola as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Approval to Authorize Administration to Resist Payment for Out of State Placement of the Student Discussed During Executive Session is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

m. <u>Approval to Authorize Administration to Support the (PCPCS) Pennsylvania Coalition of</u> Public Charter Schools Intervention as Described in Executive Session.

The Board discussed the approval to authorize administration to support the (PCPCS) Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools intervention during Executive Session.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Michelle Ciora and seconded by Jeffrey Piccola as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Approval to Authorize Administration to Support the (PCPCS) Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools Intervention as Described in Executive Session is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Oral Reports

- a. No Board Counsel Report
- b. CEO Report
 - i. Student Academic Achievement (FBO #1)
 - Dr. Flurie discussed the iReady data with the Board. He informed the Board that the iReady data helps CCA make strategic decisions in content as data accumulates over time.
 - ii. Curriculum, Courses and Learning Management Systems (FBO #2)
 - Dr. Flurie informed the Board that CCA is looking at multiple LMS's and pilot programs.
 - iii. Commonwealth Charter Academy Brand (FBO #3)
 - Dr. Flurie updated the Board on his visit to Erie and his appearance on TED Talk. He shared with the Board that it was a great experience personally and great exposure for CCA as he received tremendous feedback from attendees at the VIP reception.
 - Dr. Flurie informed the Board that he visited Pittsburgh and met with representatives from UPMC Children's Hospital. While there he also met with the representatives of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce and "113 Industries" researchers.
 - Dr. Flurie informed the Board that he and Mr. Longenecker met with the Auditor General on November 15, 2016 and it was a cordial meeting.
 - Dr. Flurie informed the Board that PDE will visit CCA on November 30, 2016 for the Charter Renewal.

c. COO Report

i. <u>Facilities Update</u>

Mr. Longenecker thanked the Board for their support of his position.

Mr. Longenecker updated the Board on the PSECU building. Work has begun on the design, heating system and the HACC lease transfer. Mr. Longenecker thanked the Board for their support of the new leases for Williamsport and Philadelphia Center City. He informed the Board that improvements are being made at the Johnstown site.

Jeffrey Piccola asked how parents know about the drop-in center. Mr. Longenecker informed the Board that teachers inform parents about the drop-in centers. Community campaigns are also performed by CCA in the areas that the centers are located.

Mr. Longenecker was pleased to inform the Board of the (ITS) Instructional Technology Support reimbursement. Since processing payment with Orrstown Bank, the cost has decreased from \$246,000 to \$45,900 with a savings of about \$200,000 for CCA.

Mr. Longenecker informed the Board that the second "Tours with Tom" has been recorded and will be released to families/staff in mid-December.

d. Financial Reports

Christine Hakes updated the Board on business office activity and informed the Board that the 2015-16 Audit will be brought to the Board for review in January. The Auditor will be invited to attend the January Board meeting.

Christine Hakes reviewed the financial report with the Board. Ryan Baker reviewed the revenues and cash schedule. Faith Russo reviewed the expenditures.

The reports were included in the Board packet.

IX. Information Items

Mr. Dyer added that he represented the Board when he traveled to Erie to watch Dr. Flurie's TED Talk. Mr. Dyer congratulated Dr. Flurie as the TED Talk made a great impact on the Erie community. He encouraged the Board members to listen to Dr. Flurie's TED Talk. Dr. Flurie thanked Mr. Dyer for making the trip to Erie.

X. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date January 11, 2017 at 8:30 AM.

Mr. Dyer inquired if there was any other business or discussion. There being no further business or discussion, he noted that the next Board meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2017 starting with an executive session. The Board being at the end of its agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 AM.

Sharon Pallotta, Assistant Secretary