

## Board Meeting November 12, 2019

### **Board Member Attendance**

#### **Present:**

Patrick Clowney Hadley Cooper Nicole Davy Terry Eakin Michela English

Judy Kovler Mercedes Kearney

Emily Lawson Larry Nussdorf

### **By Phone:**

Maura Marino

Katie Severn, Chief Academic

Officer

#### Absent

Brian Jones Jenny Abramson Valerie Rockefeller

Dan Englender, CFO/COO

# **Others Present:**

Laura Maestas, Chief Executive Officer Suraj Patel, Chief Talent Officer Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio, Chief of Staff Kearney Shanahan, Counsel Rachel Dias, Director of Finance

The meeting opened with a round of introductions to welcome new members of the board and DC Prep's new chief of staff.

The Board discussed an amendment to the September minutes regarding AMC sites. Larry moved to approve the minutes, as amended. The board unanimously approved the September Board minutes, as amended.

Org Evolution. Laura presented the work the staff has undertaken related to Organizational Evolution, in particular the work the team is doing on Special Education programming. Laura shared a presentation that the DC Prep leadership team had shared with all DC Prep staff on DC Prep's commitment to inclusion, and how that can be seen in the way that DC Prep currently serves Special Education students, as well as the recommendations from the special education taskforce.

Finance. Larry, Chair of the Audit Committee, provided an update on the Financial Audit. DC Prep received a clean audit with no findings, from Marcum. Larry moved to accept the audit, Terry 2nded. The board unanimously accepted the audit. The board discussed various best practices related to audit and charged the audit committee & staff with discussing next steps and return to the board with a recommendation.

Rachel, Director of Finance, updated the board on two forms that Valerie (as Board Secretary) signed to authorize new signatories (Laura, Dan, Rachel) on BAML accounts.

Regarding the possible backup alternative for AMC of Frankford Street, Larry reminded the Board of: (1) the September Board decision regarding the refundable deposit on the Frankford Street site, (2) the decision process regarding the deposit becoming non-refundable, and (3) the approval to move forward with the Frankford Street purchase as a possible backup alternative.

After a recommendation from the Finance & Real Estate Committee, the full Board unanimously approved a resolution to pursue the recommended financing for 1619 Frankford Street if and when that backup alternative would be pursued for AMC.

**AMC Update**. Neils presented DC Prep's community engagement plan, and answered questions from the Board. The plan emphasizes further engagement of the Fort Stanton community to answer questions and share information, as well as to execute on the PCSB's strong encouragement to collaborate with the Fort Stanton community to secure a city owned building as the permanent home for AMC.

Laura updated the Board on efforts to kick off long-term lease negotiations with Building Pathways on the Birney Building. Emily moved, and Patrick seconded, to delegate the temporary authority to the Real Estate & Finance committee to execute, if needed, between now and the next board meeting, a lease at the Birney Building on behalf of DC Prep. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

**Public Comment**. No members of the public were present.

**Executive Session**. The Board went into Executive Session at 7:09 pm