

**Board Meeting**

**May 18, 2021**

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| Board Member Attendance |
| Present (by phone or video):Michela English, ChairJenny AbramsonCollette BrucePatrick ClowneyHadley CooperNicole DavyTerry Eakin Ahmad HajjMercedes KearneyJudy Lansing Kovler Emily Lawson Maura Marino | **Absent**Sterling Thomas |
| Others Present:Laura Maestas, Chief Executive OfficerKatie Severn, President and Chief Academic OfficerDan Englender, Chief Operating Officer/Chief Finance OfficerNeils Ribeiro-Yemofio, Chief of External AffairsLara Fu, Associate Director of Special ProjectsKearney Shanahan, Counsel |

Michela English called the meeting to order at approximately 5:20pm. A quorum was present by video.

English directed the Board’s attention to the January Board transcript. The transcript will serve as the minutes for the January Board meeting. Terry Eakin motioned that the Board approve them. Judy Kovler seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members listed above as “Present” voted to approve the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Laura Maestas provided an update on reopening. DC Prep continues to evaluate potential change through a student lens and assess how to best support staff through change.

DC Prep is at the beginning of its phased reopening process. Some in-person events, such as graduation, are upcoming.

Over the summer, DC Prep’s summer school will serve students at all campuses. DC Prep expects that all students will return for in-person learning, with the exception of those with medical conditions that make it necessary for them to participate in the virtual program.

Maestas emphasized that it is impossible to “return to normalcy” within one year. She presented the Board with examples of areas in which DC Prep is investing stimulus funds. English reminded the Board that the Board is delaying budget discussions until its June meeting.

Kovler inquired about Medicaid reimbursement for certain expenses. The matter will be looked into and a report back provided in a subsequent Board meeting.

Patrick Clowney asked for clarification regarding monies spent for building modifications for the Anacostia Middle Campus. He mentioned that, as an additional resource, he will share with DC Prep best practices from the Harvard School of Public Health on creating safe school environments.

Maestas provided an update on DC Prep’s revised school plan. She directed the Board’s attention to the initiatives detailed in the school plan.

Katie Severn added that DC Prep has held multiple all-staff meetings and family town hall meetings throughout the process to provide updates and solicit feedback.

Clowney noted that, as a parent, he feels the information provided at family town hall meetings is communicated effectively, but asked about family participation during the meetings.

Severn responded that in addition to the full town hall meeting upcoming on May 27, staff will also be attempting to connect with each family that they serve to have an individual conversation and answer any questions they have about the school plan and reopening. DC Prep plans to invite families back into the buildings this summer to see the building improvements and modifications in person.

Mercedes Kearney noted that the biggest hurdle in getting information out about reopening will be family participation and engagement.

Jenny Abramson suggested looking at attendance by day of the week and time of day to see if there are any wide variations in attendance of town hall meetings.

Severn noted that based on certain data--including strong re-enrollment rates, higher participation rates on family surveys, and participation in individualized outreach in early April—there are positive signs that a number of families are able to get the information they need.

Nicole Davy suggested that campuses occasionally use their morning meetings as a chance to invite parents to ask questions.

Abramson suggested recording the town hall meetings, as other schools have done, as a way to communicate information to families.

Maestas reiterated that DC Prep’s goal is to do all that DC Prep can so that families have the information they need to be prepared to return to in-person learning.

Maestas presented the Board with a draft updated list of DC Prep’s organizational values.

The Board expressed its support for the list of values.

Dan Englender and Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio provided a brief update on the team’s work to secure a long-term lease on the building for the Anacostia Middle School.

Ribeiro-Yemofio provided an update on the team’s engagement with the Ward 8 community, particularly within the Fort Stanton community.

At approximately 6:20pm, Abramson motioned for the Board to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters (pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(10), as well as D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(12)). Eakin seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members listed above as “Present” voted to approve the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

At approximately 7:15pm, the Board left Executive Session and returned to open session. Eakin motioned to adjourn the Board meeting. Kovler seconded. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members listed above as “Present” voted to approve the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

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| Laura Maestas, Chief Executive Officer |
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