



**YouthBuild Public Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting
February 18, 2021**

Trustees Present: Suraj Patel, Noel Bravo, Liz Grant, Andrew Patricio, Mary Blatch

YBPCS and TenSquare staff Present: Claire Libert, Janalee Jordan-Meldrum, and Jeff Cooper.

Ms. Grant, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm.

Action: Upon motion and second, the Board approved the Agenda as posted.

Action: Upon motion and second, the Board unanimously approved the December 20, 2020 minutes.

Leadership Update

Ms. Libert presented an update on the school's state of affairs. The school enrolled 11 new students in January, and 33 were withdrawn due to lack of attendance. YouthBuild plans continual enrollment on a monthly basis throughout the year.

The school continues to track PMF metrics. Seven students have shown significant growth in their CASAS performance since the Board last met in December, but the school still faces difficulties in getting students into the building to complete post-testing. YouthBuild is taking an aggressive outreach strategy to try to encourage students to come in to complete the post-test and has seen improvement in post-test completions since December.

Ms. Libert reported that GED completion rates are on track with last year's numbers, which is impressive given the circumstances of the pandemic. Students' difficulties in obtaining the state-issued IDs required as identification for the GED continues, as do YouthBuild efforts to advocate on students' behalf. The board further discussed potential solutions to the obstacles presented by students' lack of ID.

Ms. Libert also discussed the persistence being shown by the students who are parents and students' college readiness and job placements.

School staff are preparing for the return of in-person instruction, with the aim of starting with a return to in-person construction instruction. Many have received their first round of the vaccine. The school is surveying students to assess their desire to return to in-person instruction.

Board Committee Updates

School Performance Committee

Mr. Patricio stated that the Committee had met and discussed many of the same metrics presented by Ms. Libert during the leadership update. The Committee also discussed future work on the strategic plan.

Finance Committee

Mr. Patel presented the Finance Committee report, having met in January. The Committee reviewed financials and discussed consolidation of the schools' savings accounts at City First bank. The Committee had also reviewed the Form 990, which is included in the Board materials. The Finance Committee recommends that the Board vote to approve the consolidation of accounts.

Action: Upon motion and second, the Board unanimously approved the consolidation of the school's accounts at City First Bank.

The Committee also recommends that the Board vote to approve matching funds in the personnel 401k plan. Mr. Patel noted that the amount of the match was slightly above budget, but that was a good thing as it means that there is greater participation in the plan.

Action: Upon motion and second, the Board unanimously approved the 401k match.

Governance Committee

Ms. Blatch presented an amendment to the bylaws to reflect the application of the Open Meetings Act to D.C. public charter schools. She observed that the Governance Committee had noted a correction to be made regarding all meetings being open to the public. The Governance Committee recommended to the Board that the bylaws be amended accordingly.

Action: Upon motion and second, the Board unanimously approved the amendment of the bylaws to reflect the Open Meetings Act.

Ms. Blatch also explained that the school's Charter Goals document needed to be amended in order to use the CASAS test (instead of the TABE CLAS-E test) as the official measure of student progress for English learners. Because OSSE requires that all students take the CASAS tests, we have been administering both tests for three years now. Now that we have several years of data and are satisfied that the CASAS provides an equally reliable measure of English proficiency growth, we no longer need to administer both tests. However, we need to submit amended Charter Goals to PCSB to make this change.

Action: Upon motion and second, the Board unanimously approved the application to PCSB to amend the school's Charter Goals' business rules, to reflect the change from TABE CLAS-E to CASAS to measure ELs English proficiency growth.

Ms. Grant asked whether there was any further business to discuss. There being none, the meeting was adjourned.

Action: Upon motion and second, the Board vote adjourn the meeting at 6:36pm.