



**Board Meeting  
September 21, 2021**

<u><b>Board Member Attendance</b></u>	
<p><b><u>Present (by phone or video):</u></b>            Michela English, Chair            Jenny Abramson            Collette Bruce            Patrick Clowney            Hadley Cooper            Nicole Davy            Terry Eakin            Ahmad Hajj            Mercedes Kearney            Emily Lawson            Maura Marino</p>	<p><b><u>Absent</u></b>            Judy Lansing Kovler            Sterling Thomas</p>
<p><b><u>Others Present:</u></b>            Laura Maestas, Chief Executive Officer            Katie Severn, President and Chief Academic Officer            Dan Englander, Chief Operating Officer/Chief Finance Officer            Aliesha Maye, Chief of School Operations            Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio, Chief of External Affairs            Lara Fu, Associate Director of Special Projects</p> <p>Kearney Shanahan, Counsel</p>	

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

English directed the Board’s attention to the June Board meeting Minutes. Terry Eakin motioned that the Board approve them. Hadley Cooper 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 and Katie Severn provided an update on reopening, regarding COVID-19 mitigation and implementation of DC Prep’s new program model. English inquired about feedback from teachers on reopening. Severn responded with perspective. Maura Marino asked how the Board can best support DC Prep staff with advocacy efforts. Maestas responded with

perspective. English inquired about staff vaccination rates and staff response to the DC's vaccine mandate for educators. Maestas responded with perspective. Eakin inquired about the likelihood of staff resignations due to DC's vaccine mandate. Maestas responded with perspective.

English invited Mercedes Kearney and Patrick Clowney to share their children's feedback on the return to in-person learning. Kearney and Clowney responded with perspective. Severn shared further updates on virtual school and staffing, as well as virtual instruction for students in quarantine.

Next, Dan Englender provided an update on the status of negotiations to secure the new home of Anacostia Middle Campus to open for SY2022-23. In August, the DC Council approved the long-term lease of the anticipated new home by DC Prep. Financing for both the first phase of renovations for the anticipated new home and refinancing for other campuses is anticipated to be finalized later in the year. The Finance Committee will bring full materials for review and approval at that time. English asked Englender to provide further details on the financing. Englender responded with perspective.

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio provided an update on community engagement in certain areas of Ward 8 and asked the Board to approve the move of Anacostia Middle Campus to the anticipated new home in SY2022-23. Marino motioned that the Board approve this Motion. Eakin 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. Eakin inquired about possible uses for another piece of real property that DC Prep owns. Ribeiro-Yemofio responded that discussions with the community regarding the property are ongoing.

On behalf of the Governance Committee, Emily Lawson motioned that the Board elect Patrick Clowney as Board Chair. Eakin seconded the Motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members listed above as "Present" voted to approve the Motion. Clowney was unanimously elected as Board Chair.

Lawson introduced Lisa Cullins, Pam Steptoe, Daniel Fine, and Chevy Cleaves as candidates to be elected as members of the Board. Abramson inquired about the fundraising capacity of the Board. English responded with perspective. On behalf of the Governance Committee, Lawson motioned that the Board elect Cullins, Steptoe, Fine, and Cleaves as Board Members. Eakin seconded the Motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members listed above as "Present" voted to approve the Motion. Cullins, Steptoe, Fine, and Cleaves were unanimously elected as members of the Board, effective November.

At approximately 6:25 pm, Eakin motioned for the Board to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel matters (pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(10)). Abramson 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 7:15 pm, the Board left the Closed Session and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Maestas, Chief Executive Officer

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