



**Board Meeting
November 9, 2021**

<u>Board Member Attendance</u>	
<p><u>Present (by phone or video):</u> Patrick Clowney, Chair Jenny Abramson Collette Bruce Chevalier Cleaves Hadley Cooper Lisa Cullins Terry Eakin Michela English Dan Fine Ahmad Hajj Mercedes Kearney Emily Lawson Pam Steptoe Sterling Thomas</p>	<p><u>Absent</u> <i>None</i></p>
<p><u>Others Present:</u> Laura Maestas, Chief Executive Officer Katie Severn, President and Chief Academic Officer Barry Brinkley, Chief of Staff Dan Englander, Chief Operating Officer & Chief Financial Officer Aliesha Maye, Chief of School Operations Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio, Chief of External Affairs Lara Fu, Associate Director of Special Projects Deseree Berryhill, DC Prep Teacher Kearney Shanahan, Counsel</p>	

Patrick Clowney called the meeting to order at approximately 5:15 pm. A quorum was present by video.

Clowney welcomed the four newly elected Board members – Chevalier Cleaves, Lisa Cullins, Dan Fine, and Pam Steptoe – and invited them to offer brief remarks.

Laura Maestas welcomed Barry Brinkley, DC Prep's new Chief of Staff, and Deseree Berryhill, one of DC Prep's teachers, and offered each an opportunity to make brief remarks.

Clowney directed the Board's attention to the September Board meeting Minutes. Terry Eakin motioned that the Board approve them. Michela English seconded the Motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members present at the September Board meeting and listed above as "Present" voted to approve the Motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion.

Maestas told the Board that DC Prep would like to renew its Contract with the DC Charter School Alliance. She explained that because of a conflict of interest by a Board member, Eakin, with respect to the renewal, the Board would vote regarding approval of the Contract. English motioned that the Board approve the Contract. Sterling Thomas seconded the Motion. Eakin abstained. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members listed above as "Present," other than those abstaining, voted to approve the Motion. The Board, exclusive of the member abstaining, unanimously approved the Motion.

Maestas provided an update on reopening. Clowney and Mercedes Kearney, as parents of students, offered comments on the reopening.

Englander provided an update on DC Prep's audit by its accountants. Englander provided comments on the audit and DC Prep's financial position. Englander reported that the Audit Committee of the Board had voted to recommend to the Board that the Board approve the audit. Eakin motioned that the Board approve the audit. Fine seconded the Motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members listed above as "Present" voted to approve the Motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion.

Englander then provided an update on the space for the new Anacostia Campus including the status of securing the space and the timeline for completion of the renovations. Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio noted the role of the DC Public Charter School Board regarding the new Campus.

Ribeiro-Yemofio commented on the response of the community to the Campus. Maestas informed the Board that Brinkley will be actively involved in community engagement work.

Englander provided an update on refinancing for the Benning and Edgewood campuses and renovations on the new Campus building. Englander reported that the Finance Committee of the Board voted to recommend to the Board that the Board authorize the following: (1) certain decisions regarding the bonds for the refinancing and interest rate aspects; (2) the authority of Englander and Maestas to sign the documents for the refinancing at closing; and (3) post-issuance procedures for compliance with the refinancing.

Emily Lawson asked Englander to provide further details on the debt of DC Prep. Englander responded with perspective.

Eakin motioned that the Board authorize the first two matters referred to above. English seconded the Motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members listed above as "Present" voted to approve the motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion.

Eakin motioned that the Board approve the third matter referred to above. English seconded the Motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members listed above as “Present” voted to approve the Motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion.

At approximately 6:00 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)). Lawson seconded the Motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members listed above as “Present” voted to approve the Motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion.

At approximately 7:10 pm, the Board left the Closed Session and returned to Open Session. Abramson motioned to adjourn the Board meeting. English seconded the Motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members listed above as “Present” voted to approve the Motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Maestas, Chief Executive Officer

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