



**PCCS Board of Director's Meeting**  
**MINUTES Approved**

Tuesday, February 23, 2016 7:00 PM  
Comstock Bldg. – Muir Hall  
1591 Jones Point Road  
Grayslake, IL 60030

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**Call to Order**

President Ed Jamison

**Call to Order 7:06 PM**

Board President Ed Jamison

The minutes of a meeting of the PCCS Board of Directors held on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 in the Muir Hall of the Anna B. Comstock Building, 1531 Jones Point Road, Grayslake, Illinois.

**Members Present**

Ed Jamison, Board President  
Nick Kotzamanis, Vice President  
Brian Conlon, Treasurer  
Sean Daw  
Sue Ross  
Marcelo Chiodi  
Dan Fedor

**Members Not Present**

Angie Lewis, Secretary  
Jeff Barhorst

**Staff Present**

Geoff Deigan, Executive Director

**Others Present**

Various public.

**A quorum was present.**

**Pledge of Allegiance** led by Laura Luoma

**Recognition & Appreciation:** Open House Team

Executive Director

1<sup>st</sup> open house was hosted, with about 30-35 parents. Staff gave an overview presentation, answered questions and gave a tour of the school. 2<sup>nd</sup> open house is tomorrow evening in the Barn. In addition, PCCS is currently hosting the Spelling Bee section with over 40 schools participating. Lots of PCCS staff is participating in these events, going above and beyond with their effort. Thank you!

**Mission Moment:** One Earth Film Festival

Executive Director

PCCS will host a showing of the One Earth Film Festival film , “Saving Our Tomorrow” on Sat, Mar 5 at 3pm. All are encouraged to attend this family friendly event.

**Motion to Approve Agenda**

**Brian Conlon** made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by **Sean Daw**.  
On a roll call vote all 'yes' MOTION CARRIED.

### **Discussion Agenda**

1. Legal Bills -Franzcek Radelet GSL \$ 825.50 Lawsuit:\$ 1,548.50  
Note: Franzcek Radelet is now our Special Ed lawyer as well. Special Ed expenses are budgeted under the Special Ed budget.  
No further discussion
2. Timeline for Strategic Plan Update  
A separate special board meeting was recommended to discuss updates to the strategic plan drivers and points. This meeting will be targeted for April 2016.
3. March Meeting Schedule  
Discussed reschedule of March Board meeting so that it is after spring break. Plan is to reschedule to March 29, 2016.
4. 1st Reading Board Policy Amendments and Additions:
  - Personnel Series: 400.10, 400.11
  - Student Series: 500.05, 500.19, 500.21, 500.23
  - Instruction Series: 600.2, 600.4
  - Building & Grounds Series: 1000.5, 1000.10These policy changes were drafted by the administration to bring us into compliance with legal changes that are required by end of year. The policies were already reviewed by the Governance Committee. The Board had no comments or changes on the policies.
5. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – 200.20 Board Procedure on Policy Revisions  
The verbiage “Word document” is to be changed to “editable document” in the version reviewed at the meeting. No other changes requested.
6. Destruction of Closed Session Recordings  
Per school law, closed session recordings 18 months or older may be destroyed.
7. Bi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes  
Closed meeting minutes will be reviewed by Ed Jamison and he will come back to a future Board meeting with a recommendation to release as-is, redact/release, or leave closed. It was noted that minutes that include info on personnel, students, or legal issues should generally be kept closed.
8. Longhouse Capital Advisors Letter of Engagement  
Discussed in detail the financing of PCCS and future financing plans, as the current interest rate swap expires this fall. The finance committee has been assessing the appropriate financing vehicle that will allow PCCS the best rate possible and keep annual financing expense as constant as possible, since charter school law dictates that expenses can not exceed revenues in any given year. Discussed a proposal by Longhouse Capital whereby they will help PCCS determine the best financing arrangement.
9. Committee Updates  
Nick Kotzamanis provided an update from the Academic Committee. The committee had discussed PAARC results. PCCS’s performance in comparison to other Illinois schools remains consistent with other years. The committee had also discussed the roll-out of the ALEKS math program being used to supplement above grade level learning for students needing this in math. The program had just been kicked off as of the committee meeting, and another update will be provided at the next meeting.

### **Public Comment**

10 Minutes

No public present.

8<sup>th</sup> grade student Francesca Rizzo commented that she feels that PCCS’ dress code is unnecessarily conservative, sexist, and inconsistently enforced. She requested that the Board and administration consider changing the dress code immediately to address these issues.

Mr. Rizzo commented that he is in agreement with his daughter’s comments regarding dress code. He also commented that he feels there is a significant gap in math instruction for PCCS students where are ready for above grade level material. He strongly encouraged the Board and administration to implement a strong program for these students prior to school starting next year.

Mrs. Rizzo commented that she agreed with her husband’s comments regarding math instruction and added that Francesca had approached her 8<sup>th</sup> grade math teacher at the beginning of the year because they were being taught material they had already learned in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

Geoff Diegan responded to Francesca that he would look into the dress code concern before the end of the school year.

## **Closed Session**

**Nick Kotzamanis** made a motion to move into closed session, seconded by **Dan Fedor**.  
On a roll call vote all 'yes' MOTION CARRIED. Board left for closed session at 8:11pm.

Discussion Related to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity

1. Employment of Staff Member(s)

Board returned from closed session at 8:15pm.

Upon return from closed session, there was additional general open session discussion. **Brian Conlon** commented that he was not in disagreement with the current dress code. This was followed by general discussion that, if revised, the dress code should be written as to not propose bias as to who has to follow the various rules.

## **Consent Agenda**

1. Director's Report - includes School Team and Business Manager's Report
2. Financial Statements
3. Treasurer's Report
4. PSO Report
5. ~~Motion to Approve Open Session Minutes of Previous Board and Committee Meetings~~
6. Motion to Accept Reports on Consent Agenda

**Brian Conlon** made a motion to approve the consent agenda, **Sean Day** seconded. On a roll call vote all 'yes'; MOTION CARRIED.

## **Public Comment**

10 Minutes

No public comment.

## **Action Agenda – New Business**

1A – Authorize Payment of Legal Bills- \$ 2,374.00

**Brian Conlon** made a motion to approve payment of Legal Bills – \$2,374.00, **Sean Day** seconded.  
On a roll call vote all 'yes'; MOTION CARRIED.

5A – Adopt Board Procedure on Policy Revisions

**Brian Conlon** made a motion to adopt Board Policy on Policy Revisions, **Dan Fedor** seconded.  
On a voice vote all 'ayes'; MOTION CARRIED.

6A – Approve Destruction of Closed Session Recordings

**Dan Fedor** made a motion to destroy closed session recordings prior to Aug 2014, **Marcelo Chiodi** seconded.

On a voice vote all 'ayes'; MOTION CARRIED.

8A – Authorize Longhouse Capital Advisors Letter of Engagement

**Sean Daw** made a motion to authorize the letter of engagement with Longhouse Capital Advisors up to \$20,000, **Nick Kotzamanis** seconded.

On a roll call vote all 'yes'; MOTION CARRIED.

10A -Approve Employment of Staff Member(s)

**Sue Ross** made a motion to approve hiring of:

- Erin McCormick as a long term substitute at \$15/hr
- Noel Johnson as a teacher substitute at \$14/hr, an IA substitute at \$12.50/hr, and a lunch substitute at \$10.50/hr
- Jeffery Hill as a teacher substitute at \$14/hr, an IA substitute at \$12.50/hr, and a lunch substitute at \$10.50/hr
- Ann Brighten as a teacher substitute at \$14/hr, an IA substitute at \$12.50/hr, and a lunch substitute at \$10.50/hr
- Matthew Johnson as a IA at \$13/hr with full benefits through the end of the school year

**Dan Fedor** seconded.

On a roll call vote all 'yes'; MOTION CARRIED.

New Business

**Dan Fedor** recommended that the administration consider bringing coding in as an option as part of the RTI pilot program. It was discussed that this should go to the academic excellence committee.

## Adjourn

**Dan Fedor** made a motion to adjourn, **Brian Conlon** seconded.

On a voice call vote all 'ayes'; MOTION CARRIED at 9:03PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ross

Board Member

Thank you for attending the meeting of the PCCS Board of Education. You are asked to limit your remarks to the Public Comment opportunities and to fewer than four minutes. Respect and courtesy toward everyone present is expected. Public comment by any person acknowledged is not to be interrupted by anyone else. Individual board members do not respond to public comment, nor does the board at its business meeting engage in discussion with the public.

For questions or comments, please e-mail the Board at [board@pccharterschool.org](mailto:board@pccharterschool.org). Board e-mails are received and responded to by the Board President as soon as possible, usually within a week. Other board members are also informed of these correspondences prior to each monthly board meeting. The PCCS Board of Directors:

Jeff Barhorst  
Sean Daw  
Sue Ross

Brian Conlon  
Ed Jamison  
Dan Fedor

Marcelo Chiodi  
Nick Kotzamanis  
Angie Lewis