



PCCS Remote Board of Director's Meeting Approved Meeting Minutes - Open Session

Tuesday, July 28, 2020 6:30 PM

Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 697 198 8979
Password: 159304

Call to Order – Roll Call

- Meeting was called to order by President Nell Anen at 6:37pm CST.
- In Attendance
 - PCCS Board:
 - Nell Anen – President
 - Stacey White – Treasurer
 - Abe Janis
 - JoAnn Stewart
 - Devon Mann – departed at 7:31pm
 - Marcelo Chiodi – Vice President
 - Jim Mertz - Secretary
 - Dan Fedor
 - Demetri Georgatsos
 - Staff:
 - Geoff Deigan – Executive Director
 - Tony Zamiar
 - Jessica Loustauna
 - Robert Freeman
 - Jim Loustaunau
 - September Larson
 - Christine Jeffery
 - Andy Thomas
 - Tammy Steinbeck
 - Katherine Mui
 - Jana McGeever
 - Peter Zaragoza
 - Megan Ottaviani
 - Susan Neil
 - Lisette Roman
 - Marnie McKee
 - Scott Stewart
 - Janette Siegel
 - Heather Jackson
 - Katy Barnett
 - Rachel Klug
 - Roxanne Turner
 - Public:
 - Veerendra K Pes
 - Kevin Hartwell
 - Rosie Dow
 - Sarah Crothers
 - Kristin Bos
 - Dayna Lorentz
 - Jim Strachan
 - Marta Leszczynski
 - Becky Anderson
 - Chenoa Kollman
 - Jill Gawne
 - Eileen Mooney
 - Agnieszka Wojc
 - Caryn Meyer
 - Emily Schaefer
 - Jennifer Mertz
 - Andy Yeaman
 - Callie Kindt
 - Becky Mosher
 - Laura Psimaras
 - Liz White
 - Jen Miller
 - Lisa Profenna
 - Sarah Crothers
 - Virginie Bottero
 - Tatyana Santam
 - Shane Patterson
 - Kevin Hartwell
 - Kevin Ausburn
 - Gabrielle White
 - Valerie Granfeldt
 - Crystal Maschek
 - Veronica Oleson
 - Deb Klemens
 - Susan Brophy
 - Memo Rodriguez
 - Benjamin Brzezi
 - Kathy Lopez
 - Jim Young
 - Tracy Erski

**Note: The list above may not be a complete listing of attendees on the virtual meeting. There were 100+ participants coming in and out at various time and not all attendees had names provided.*

Public Comment

- Robert Freeman – Prepared statement read to the board. Asking the board to move forward with remote learning on behalf of the staff to provide the safest environment for students, staff, and family. The union and their members are confident that remote learning is in the best interests of the students. Staff members should be considered equally in the safety considerations of safety
- Kristin Bos – Prepared statement read to the board. Extremely disappointed that students from a small, environmental based school is unable to return to classroom learning. Parents need more details on the content. Concern with instructional content. Has issue with the amount of time in front of a screen. Stressed expectation that teachers need to be available to students.
- Dayna Lorentz – Communicating concern for children who have IEPs. Does not feel PCCS is following ISBE guidelines for reopening.



- Surchan – expressing desire to be open for in person learning.
- Rosie Dow – Question regarding Wednesday’s that were “no screen time” during the spring. Is there any plan to do something similar the fall? Stated that she is in favor of in person classroom learning.
- Eva Cramer – Expressed her experience working in a “Covid hospital” and expressed her thoughts on our ability to open.
- Carol Alloian – Expressed her experience having family affected by Covid-19 and advocates for a slower opening. Has question regarding what steps are being taken to ensure school space is safe when we do reopen. Would like to better understand the curriculum.
- Veerendra K Pes – Asking if it is possible to opt for full-time remote learning until there is a vaccination, etc.

****Nell Anen noted we reached time and directed any additional questions be sent directly to the board at board@pccharterschool.org***

Discussion Agenda

1. Return to School Plan for August 2020
 - *Information on the full plan provided in the packet.*
 - *Dates in plan are guidelines. Final dates will be determined when Phase 4B and Phase 5 are announced.*
 - *Question regarding line item for “enrichment”*
 - *Question regarding help for parents that aren’t able to assist children. Geoff responded that those with 503 plans will have assistance. Regarding families that are struggling with child care, Geoff noted there are minimal resources the school can offer, but perhaps there are options available in the community.*
 - *Devon expressed concern with screen time for Kindergartners*
 - *Demitri inquiring if there has been consideration into using more textbook based materials to minimize the amount of computer facing time students (especially younger students) experience.*
 - *Suggestion/Question regarding plan to allow students to interact outdoors while the weather is good. Geoff indicated that majority would happen with Phase 4B.*
 - *Ask of the Board is to pass the resolution to start the school year with remote learning.*
2. Board Resolution for Return to School
 - *The ask tonight is to approve the resolution in general.*

***Request made to move up vote on action item 1A and 2A**

- 1A. Approve Return to School Plan August 2020
 - *Motion made by Stacey White. Second by Dan Fedor. Approved on roll call vote; carried all ‘Yes’.*
- 2A. Adopt Board Resolution for Return to School
 - *Motion made by Stacey White. Second by Dan Fedor. Approved on roll call vote; carried all ‘Yes’.*

***Return to Discussion agenda**

3. Board Goals Draft Framework
 - JoAnn expressed desire for Board to be more proactive vs reactive
 - Review of framework standards

STANDARD ONE: Governance

- A. The school has developed a long-term/strategic plan and revisits/revises it on an annual basis. The plan is communicated to the community.



- B. The board develops annual goals that align with the PCCS strategic plan and adopts an action plan developed by the executive director to meet the annual goals.
- C. The board regularly monitors progress on goals, effective instruction and student achievement with data-based information (including ensuring that terms of charter are met).
- D. The board annually evaluates the job performance of the executive director, including monitoring progress made on annual executive director objectives.
- E. The board conducts a self-evaluation to monitor its own performance and participates in professional development, including board training and seminars in compliance with ISBE regulations.
- F. Board member election process ensures a broad and appropriate range of expertise and experience.

STANDARD TWO: Board Governance /Operations

- A. The board has a procedure in place for reviewing established policies on a regular basis and developing new ones.
- B. The board closely adheres to its own procedures, protocols and policies for effective board operations.
- C. The board clearly understands its governance role and responsibilities, adheres to open meetings laws, and delegates PCCS operation responsibilities to the executive director.
- D. Board members publicly support the decision of the majority and speak with a unified voice.
- E. Board committees have a clear scope of responsibility and charges.
- F. The board participates in an annual retreat to build team relationships, review roles, responsibilities, and board operations and orient new board members.

STANDARD THREE: Board Relationships

- A. The board develops a collaborative relationship with the executive director. The Board has a clear understanding with the administration and staff regarding where board responsibilities begin and end.
- B. The board establishes effective communication with parents, students, staff and community members while respecting the chain of command and lines of responsibility.
- C. The board works with the executive director to gain input from the community using forums, survey instruments and other vehicles following agreed-upon procedures.
- D. The board actively generates support for PCCS through its vision and promoting educational opportunities for all students.
- E. The board is an advocate for PCCS's interests with legislators and other elected public officials.
 - a. Advocating to change how school funding works. Nell expressed this as a specific targeted goal.
 - b. Stacey indicated this was being addressed by the Outreach committee prior to Covid-19 delays.
- F. The board has adopted/approved a comprehensive set of personnel policies that are in line with all applicable state/federal laws & relations. Policies are updated at least every third year.

STANDARD FOUR: Budget and Finance

- A. The board adopts an annual budget that maximizes PCCS's resources in support of its mission/vision and monitors the budget throughout the year.
- B. The board keeps the community informed about the financial needs of the PCCS, seeks cost savings and operational efficiencies and invites community input.
- C. Board has adopted a long-term (i.e. 5-year, 10-year) financial plan in coordination with the school's overall long-term plans
- D. The board contracts with an independent auditor each year, review s the audit report, and takes any needed follow up action.
 - a. Stacey highlighted that the finance committee was working on long term financing plan prior to Covid-19 delays.

STANDARD FIVE: Ethical Leadership

- A. Board members actively promote the belief in the success of all students in PCCS.
- B. Board members act professionally as conscientious role models.
- C. Board members exercise their authority only as a board of the whole and recognize that no individual board member has authority to take individual action on behalf of the board.



- D. Board members avoid conflicts of interest and appropriately disclose if one arises
- E. The board has adopted and annually reaffirms its code of ethics.
- F. Individual board members prepare for meetings and participate constructively
 - a. JoAnn suggested development of a recruiting plan for the Board.
 - b. Dan highlighted opportunity for board to help other school organizations.
 - c. Suggested goal of having Governance Committee bringing strategic goals to tie in with building of board goals. (August 18th is next Governance meeting)

Closed Session:

Discussion related to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) - The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body.

- 4. New Employees

**Did not go into closed session. Staffing changes were discussed in open session.*

- Offer being made to Thomas West as an instructional assistant.

Consent Agenda:

- 5. Executive Director Report
 - *Nothing additional to add.*
- 6. June 2020 Interim Financials
 - Geoff noted the auditors will begin their audit at some point this week
 - Audit is due to ISBE on Nov 1st.
- 7. Motion to Approve Open Session Minutes of Previous Board Meetings
 - *Motion made by Dan Fedor. Second by Abe Janis. Approved on roll call vote; carried all 'Yes'.*
- 8. Motion to Accept Reports on Consent Agenda
 - *Motion made by JoAnn Stewart. Second by Dan Fedor. Approved on roll call vote; carried all 'Yes'.*

Public Comment: *There was no additional public comment.*

Action Agenda:

- 3A. Adopt Board Goal Framework
 - *Decision made to defer vote on this action item.*
- 4A. Approve Hire of New Employees
 - Offer made to Thomas West for the role of Instructional Assistant at \$14.50/hr
 - *Motion made by Stacey White. Second by Abe Janis. Approved on roll call vote; carried all 'Yes'.*

New Business:

- None

Adjourn:

- *Motion to adjourn made by Dan Fedor. Second by JoAnn Stewart. Approved on roll call vote; carried all 'Yes'.*
- *Meeting adjourned at 7:57pm CST*

Respectfully Submitted,

James Mertz

Board Secretary