



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 21, 2016 – 201 W. 14th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

Minutes

Directors Present: Clint Walker, Julia Li, Hal Real, Mike Cattermole, John Kane, Henry Smith, Bob Goff, Christian Willauer

Directors Absent: John Pierson, Mia Davenport-Chaney, Penny Marshall

Others Present: Felicia Wenell, Kelly Davenport, Bill Ray, Melanie Reiser, Matt Kong, Ariel Furbush (student), Yeithmi Garcia (student)

- I. **Roll Call and Determination of Quorum** – The Meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. The Secretary noted the presence of a quorum, and the meeting commenced.
- II. **Approval of Minutes** – Henry Smith moved that the minutes of the March 17, 2016 meeting be approved as read, and Bob Goff seconded this motion. The Board was polled, and the motion passed unanimously.
- III. **School Report** – Felicia Wenell presented the school report, indicating that we are now in the 4th quarter and report cards have just gone out. 8th grade statewide testing will take place in the first two weeks of May. Four students have heard that they have received a full ride to the University of Delaware. On the culture side, we collaborated with the police and Downtown Visions to address an incident involving the presence of students from other schools at Rodney Square. We are going to begin recruiting an Assistant Dean of Students to replace Jackie Adam-Taylor who resigned. We are in the process of recruiting and hiring teachers for next year, and we are excited about our early hires.

Two representatives from Student Council presented on upcoming student activities including a snack sale and a Culture Day.

- IV. **Enrollment/Recruitment 2016-17** – We were 92% enrolled on April 1, exceeding the State requirement of 80%. We have 111 new students fully enrolled and a waiting list in 9th and 10th grade. Our next goal is to be 100% enrolled by May 1, as that is the enrollment date our first payment is based off of.
- V. **Finance Report** – Bill Ray presented the financials for the month ending March 31, 2016. We are on target to break even if we bring in \$80,000 of fundraising. Bill Ray presented a new financial dashboard form to the Board. Presently we are on target to meet 4 out of 7 financial ratios put forth by the Delaware Department of Education. Bill Ray noted that we need two more parent volunteers on the CBOC.

- VI. **Fundraising Update** – Kelly Davenport presented the March Development Report. We have raised \$114,600 toward our \$300,000 fundraising goal for 2015-16. Our annual fundraising event, Bridge to Wisdom is being held on May 19th. This year's honoree will be David L. Cohen and reception will be held on the 43rd floor of the Comcast Building in Philadelphia.
- VII. **Safety Plan** – Melanie Reiser presented Freire Wilmington's Comprehensive School Safety Plan that complies with the Emergency Preparedness Guidelines developed by the Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security. Henry Smith motioned to adopt the Comprehensive School Safety Plan, and Christian Willauer seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was approved unanimously.
- VIII. **MOA with Police** – Melanie Reiser presented a standard Memorandum of Agreement with the Wilmington Police Department. Henry Smith motioned to adopt the MOA with the Wilmington Police Department, and John Kane seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was approved unanimously.
- IX. **Governance Update**
 - Melanie Reiser will do a Board member Doodle poll to gauge best availability for meetings in summer 2016.
- X. **Midtown Brandywine Committee Update** – Paul Ramirez sat down with the committee and the biggest issue remains parents dropping off students in front of the school. The school is responding with an additional 20 minutes of administrative coverage. Lights are no longer an issue.
- XI. **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 8:59 am.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at 201 W. 14th Street, Wilmington, DE.