



### MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 15, 2017

201 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

#### Minutes

*Directors Present: Clint Walker, Trish Blessing, Julia Li, Bob Goff, John Kane, Christian Willauer, Mia Davenport*

*Directors Absent: None*

*Others Present: Paul Ramirez, Felicia Wenell, Bill Ray, Leigh Botwinik, Johnny Mills, Marnie Kelly*

- I. Roll Call & Determination of Quorum** – The meeting was called to order at 8:09 AM. The President observed that the Board had a quorum and the meeting commenced.

#### II. Review & Approval of Minutes

- a. John Kane moved to approve the minutes from the meetings on April 27, 2017 and May 18, 2017. Julia Li seconded the motion. All in favor.

#### III. Development

- a. Leigh Botwinik discussed the development report for the fiscal year. She noted that Bridge to Wisdom was a success with a total of \$346,000 being brought in as revenue. It is believed this number is down from last year because of the excitement around last year's honoree, David Cohen. Freire Wilmington will have reached 87% of their annual fundraising goal once the two outstanding pledges have been received.
- b. Build the Future has hired a Director of Development, Hillary Sorin, who will be starting on July 5, 2017.

#### IV. Finances

- a. Bill Ray reviewed the May Financials for Freire Wilmington and noted that the school was on pace to meet all school district mandated financial benchmarks. There are no substantial accounts receivable or payable at this time and the school's expenses are projected to be on budget at the end of the fiscal year. John Kane made a motion to approve the May Financial Package. Julia Li seconded the motion. All in favor.
- b. Bill Ray reviewed the proposed budget for the 2017-2018 school year. John Kane made a motion to approve the proposed budget. Christian Willauer seconded. All in favor.
- c. Approve Movement of Donation Funds from Freire Foundation – Bill Ray explained that the Board needed to approve a transfer of funds from the Freire Foundation. This money was raised by Freire Wilmington and is being held by the Foundation. Trish Blessing made a motion to approve the movement of funds. Bob Goff seconded the motion. All in favor.

## **V. Governance**

- a. Clint Walker shared that Hal Real has resigned from his position on the school's Board of Directors due to changing work situations. He will be joining the Freire Foundation Board.
- b. Clint Walker shared that Henry Smith has retired and recently resigned from his position on the school's Board of Directors.
- c. Re-Election Board Members and Officers – Bob Goff made a motion to reelect the current officers until June 2018 as indicated on the attachment, namely Clint Walker as President and Christian Willauer as Secretary. Julia Li seconded the motion. All in favor.
- d. Board Meeting Dates for 2017-2018 – Christian Willauer made a motion to accept the proposed Board Meeting dates for the 2017-2018 school year. John Kane seconded the motion. All in favor.

## **VI. Policy Adoption**

- a. Schoolwide Plan and the Family Involvement Policy – Bob Goff moved to approve the schoolwide plan required in order to use the school's Title I funds to serve all students. Julia Li seconded the motion. All in favor.
- b. Family Involvement Policy - Bob Goff made moved to approve an updated family involvement policy required under Title I. Julia Li seconded the motion. All in favor.

## **VII. School Updates**

- a. Staff Member Update - Julia Li updated the Board on the state of the school at the end of year. She said the school year was a huge success.
- b. School Report – Paul Ramirez shared that the student growth on the Smarter Balanced assessment increased overall. He informed the Board that the results would be coming soon but he expected the scores for math and reading would be quite high. Additionally, Paul expressed his excitement with the incredibly high teacher retention rate Freire Wilmington has going into the 2017-2018 school year. Felicia gave an update on school culture, explaining that the overall culture for both students and staff is very strong. She mentioned the excitement surrounding summer break. A panel of students were recently involved in taste testing a few food vendors to help choose which school lunch provider they enjoyed most. Freire Wilmington is in the final stages of implementing a new lunch program for next school year.
- c. School Performance Dashboard – Leigh Botwinik presented the school performance dashboard. She noted that Freire Wilmington lost very few students during May and June. Average daily attendance has significantly increased since last year, averaging an increase of 4 percentage points. Out of school suspensions were lower for both May and June as compared to last school year. Leigh also reviewed admissions numbers.
- d. Website Monitoring Report – Clint Walker explained that the State conducts monthly reports to ensure that the school's website complies with regulations. Freire Wilmington met all standards with one exception related to posting Board minutes for the April 27 Board Meeting. Clint explained that the current Board Meeting was the first time the Board had quorum to vote and approve those minutes, which was the reason for the delay.

## **VIII. Midtown Brandywine Committee Update**

- a. Letter Addressing Midtown Brandywine Neighbor's Association – Bob Goff discussed Freire's response letter to the Midtown Brandywine Neighbor's Association. He noted that the association would like a policy to show how Freire Wilmington will react to students and

parents not complying with the Midtown Policies. Bob also expressed a need to create an avenue where neighborhood members could submit complaints to the school.

**IX. Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 8:54 AM.