



# Freire

---

## Charter Wilmington

### MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 19, 2019 | 8:00 AM

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

#### Minutes

Directors Present: John Kane (Video Call), Marnie Kelly (Video Call), Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Mark Stellini, Clint Walker, Nathan Will, Christian Willauer

Others Present: Leigh Botwinik, Kelly Davenport, Nate Durant, Gloria Grantham, Ruble Harris, Julia Li, Max Matthews, Paul Ramirez, Bill Ray, Maurice Roberts

8:00 AM, meeting called to order.

#### **I. Public Comment**

- a. There is no public comment.

#### **II. Executive Session**

- a. Mark Stellini makes a motion to go into Executive Session. Nathan Moser seconds.
- b. The Board enters Executive Session at 8:03 AM to consult with the Board's professional advisor regarding information and strategy in connection with issues on which identifiable complaints are expected to be filed.
- c. The Board remains in Executive Session to discuss and protect personnel matters in which the names, competency and abilities of individual employees are involved.
- d. The Board exits Executive Session at 8:39 AM.

#### **III. Review & Approval of Minutes**

- a. The Board reviews the minutes from the June 20, 2019 Board Meeting.
- b. Nathan Moser makes a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on June 20, 2019. Christian Willauer abstains because she was not present for the June Board Meeting.
- c. The motion does not pass. Revised minutes to be voted on at October Board Meeting.

#### **IV. School Reports**

- a. Heads Report
  - i. Admissions Update
    1. Paul Ramirez shares the admission goal for the year is 475 students. Freire Wilmington currently has 485 students enrolled. Paul credits his staff, in partnership with Freire Schools, for creating a strategic approach which has returned great results.
  - ii. Staff/Faculty Update
    1. Paul Ramirez provides the Board with an updated organizational chart for Freire Wilmington. Paul shares that he will directly oversee the special education services department and teaching staff. Paul explains how restructuring the leadership team and roles will ensure stronger development and management.

2. Paul shares that Freire Wilmington has successfully filled all open positions for the 2019-20 school year including 3 new math teachers.
- iii. Building Update
  1. There is no building update at this time.
- iv. September Data Packet
  1. Paul Ramirez reviews the September Data Packet with the Board, which highlights the year-over-year test scores. Paul reassures the Board that academic success remains the core priority of the school.
  2. Freire Wilmington continues to meet or exceed state test score requirements.
  3. Paul notes that statistically students who are enrolled for multiple years are more likely to score higher on assessments.
- v. 2019-2020 School Plan
  1. Paul Ramirez reviews the 2019-20 School Plan with the Board. Paul highlights that the school is now using a nationally rated math curriculum. The school's goal is 5%-8% improvement over 2018-19 state assessment scores. Paul notes the comparisons between Freire Wilmington and other schools across the state.
  2. Paul Ramirez reviews the culture and operations priorities with the Board. Freire Wilmington hopes to achieve improved student attendance and on-time arrival to school. The goal is 90% sustainability in both areas.

## **V. Financials**

- a. June 2019 Financial Report
  - i. Bill Ray reviews the June 2019 financial report. The focus right now is ensuring that Freire Wilmington has a high enough enrollment count to meet revenue needs.
  - ii. Freire Wilmington has met all other financial ratios for the previous school year and ended the year with a surplus of over \$953,000.
- b. August 2019 Financial Report
  - i. Bill Ray reviews the August 2019 financial report. The focus is on increasing enrollment.
  - ii. Freire Wilmington is projected to pass state financial performance ratios for the year which ended June 30, 2019. The school's cash on hand as of August 21, 2019 is \$2,957,297.
  - iii. Mark Stellini makes a motion to approve the August 2019 Financial Report. Nathan Will seconds. All in favor.
- c. FY 2019 Audit Update
  - i. Bill Ray shares that an official Audit Report has not been received and will be provided at the October Board meeting.
- d. Loan from Freire Foundation
  - i. Bill Ray reviews the proposed donation approval to accept the \$97,000 owed to the Freire Foundation for Freire Wilmington's 2015-2016 operating and start-up expenses. On March 20, 2019, Freire Foundation unanimously voted to forgive the loan and write it off as a donation.
  - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve the proposed donation. Mark Stellini seconds. All in favor.
- e. CBOC Update
  - i. There is no CBOC update at this time.

## **VI. Advancement**

- a. Advancement Update
  - i. Leigh Botwinik shares that the network is officially launching the Build the Future/Foundation rebrand today, changing the organizations name to “Freire Schools”
  - ii. The advancement team is working on planning an annual fundraiser and has tapped the Daniels Family to receive the Bridge to Wisdom Award.
  - iii. The advancement team is working on finding ways to expand the donor base for Freire Schools.
  - iv. Rebranding Update
    - 1. The rebrand will help tie the schools together to the Freire Foundation and the network office. The rebrand will make Freire Schools, formerly Build the Future, the main outward facing entity of the network. All schools will retain their individual identity.
    - 2. Leigh elaborates on the changes that will come because of the rebrand, including an updated website, social media pages, and other materials. The rebrand launched today September 19, 2019, Paulo Freire’s birthday.

## **VII. Policies & Agreements**

- a. JB Education Services Agreement
  - i. Mark Stellini makes a motion to approve the Education Services Agreement for student JB. Nathan Moser seconds. All in favor.
- b. Children’s Internet Protection Act Policy
  - i. Max Matthews shares that the Children’s Internet Protection Act Policy is in place to prevent students from accessing explicit or harmful content while on the internet.
  - ii. Christian Willauer a motion to approve the Children’s Internet Protection Act Policy. Nathan Moser seconds. All in favor.

## **VIII. Governance**

- a. Board Self Evaluation
  - i. The Board reviews the Board Self Evaluation.
  - ii. Board members acknowledge that there is a need for improvement in attendance, advancement and development.
- b. 2018-2019 Board Meeting Schedule
  - i. The Board reviews the board meeting schedule for the coming school year.
- c. Board Contact Information Sheet
  - i. The Board reviews the contact information sheet.
- d. Board Immersion Day 2019
  - i. Maurice Roberts reminds the Board that Freire Wilmington will host a Board Immersion Day on Thursday, October 17, 2019.

## **IX. Midtown Brandywine Update**

- a. There is no update at this time.

9:26 AM, Meeting Adjourned