



FREIRE

CHARTER WILMINGTON

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OCTOBER 22, 2020 | 8 AM

VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL

MEETING ID: 820 3629 6105 | PASSWORD: 172051

Board Members Present: Sheela Dattani, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Mark Stellini, Tara Terry, Clint Walker, Nathan Will, Christian Willauer

Others Present: Leigh Botwinik, Olivia Burgess, Kelly Davenport, Nate Durant, Max Matthews, Jamaikah Medwinter (10th grader), Bill Ray, Melanie Reiser, Madeline Weckel

8:03 AM, Meeting Start

- I. Public Comment
 - a. There is no public comment at this time.
- II. COVID Reopening*
 - a. Madeline Weckel shares that, starting at the end of November, her team hopes to increase supports for high needs students through small group in-person hybrid instruction. Madeline also shares the students would be allowed to enter the school by grade one day a week and participate in online learning along with a staff member and a SPED teacher.
 - b. Nate Durant shares one challenge the school is facing is how to serve students while maintaining a safe environment.
 - c. Christian Willauer makes a motion to approve the reopening of Freire Charter Wilmington at the end of November for groups of students with the most need. David Singleton seconds.
 - d. Sheela Dattani, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Mark Stellini, Tara Terry, Clint Walker, Nathan Will, Christian Willauer vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
- III. Review & Approval of Minutes
 - a. The board reviews the minutes from the September 24, 2020 board meeting.
 - b. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Mark Stellini seconds.
 - a. Sheela Dattani, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Mark Stellini, Tara Terry, Clint Walker, Nathan Will, Christian Willauer vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
- IV. School Report
 - a. Staff Update
 - i. Nathan Moser shares that student attendance has increased drastically but some teachers are struggling with students turning in their work. Before COVID, the Freire Wilmington staff pushed to make sure assignments were turned in on time by putting reminders on the board, having bins for work to be turned in, etc. In a virtual learning environment, it is more challenging to track who has submitted their work and .
 - ii. Madeline Weckel shares asynchronous work is the most difficult for students to complete since students can do it on their own time while at home.
 - b. Teacher Update
 - i. Slate of Staff with Salaries (*Attachment 4A*)*
 - a. Nathan Will makes a motion to approve. Christian Willauer seconds.
 - b. Sheela Dattani, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Mark Stellini, Tara Terry, Clint Walker, Nathan Will, Christian Willauer vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.

- ii. Organizational Chart (*Attachment 4B*)
 - a. No comment at this time.
 - c. Student Update (Jamaikah Medwinter 10th grade)
 - i. Jamaikah Medwinter shares that communication during virtual learning has been average. She notes that she is comfortable asking questions to the teachers, but she can become distracted by everything going on at home. Jamaikah also participates in Freestyle Friday, an after-school club that takes place each week.
 - d. Heads Report
 - i. Madeline Weckel shares that currently Freire Wilmington's Professional Learning Communities are up and running for the content teams with bi-weekly staff meetings. Darren Rainey, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, leads the Humanity team meetings during the bi-weekly staff meetings. Darren also collaborates with ELA teachers across the Freire Network.
 - ii. Nate Durant shares that the IT team has been working nonstop to make sure everything runs smoothly in virtual learning. Stan Harman, the network's Director of IT, and Sushma Gautam have purchased hotspots for student who do not have adequate Wi-Fi at home. Deb Seyler, Director of Student Services at Freire Wilmington, helps deliver meals to students daily with a count of over 500 meals distributed directly to students' homes.
 - iii. September 2020 Data Packet (*Attachment 4C*)
 - a. The board reviews the September 2020 Data Packet.
 - e. Admissions Update
 - i. Madeline Weckel notes that the unit count period starts next Wednesday and will run through November 13, 2020. During this time, Freire Wilmington will report student assignment and attendance data to determine the number of students actively attending/participating in Freire Wilmington's virtual instruction. Freire Wilmington anticipates the final unit count will be similar to last year.
 - ii. Clint Walker shares that he spoke with Katie Pollard, Assistant Head of Freire Wilmington, who shared that 6 student have been accepted to college so far this year. Two of these students have been accepted into Historically Black Colleges.
- V. Financials
 - a. September 2020 Financial Report (*Attachment 5A*)*
 - i. Bill Ray shares that not much has changed from a financial standpoint since the last board meeting. Currently there are no budget concerns.
 - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Sheela Dattani seconds.
 - iii. Sheela Dattani, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Mark Stellini, Tara Terry, Clint Walker, Nathan Will, Christian Willauer vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
 - b. FY 2020 Audit Report (*Attachment 5B*)*
 - i. Bill Ray shares that all financial ratios have been met and, as of the close of the current fiscal year, the School's Governmental Fund (the General Fund) reported an ending balance of \$879,162.
 - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Christian Willauer seconds.
 - iii. Sheela Dattani, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Mark Stellini, Tara Terry, Clint Walker, Nathan Will, Christian Willauer vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
 - c. CBOC Update
 - i. Bill Ray shares that currently there is a parent position open on the CBOC Board. Bill asks the board to send him any recommendations.
- VI. Advancement
 - a. Advancement Report (*Attachment 6A*)
 - i. Melanie Reiser shares The Advancement Committee of the joint boards met on September 29, 2020 to strategize the Freire Schools fundraising efforts for FY21. The committee decided to increase our network-wide fundraising target by \$25K per campus, with Freire Wilmington opting for a \$50K increase due to the early Sonecha Family Foundation pledge and historical board giving. As such, our fundraising target for FY21 is \$525,000 of which

\$400,000 is required to meet our budgeted fundraising obligations to the schools.

- ii. The Freire Wilmington Fundraising Committee also met on October 26, 2020 and agreed to move our customary fall cultivation event (i.e. Breakfast with our kids) to a virtual format in late November or early December.
- b. Talking Points (*Attachment 6B*)
 - i. Melanie Reiser reviews the talking points with the board.
- VII. Policies and Agreements
 - a. Nothing to report at this time.
- VIII. Midtown Brandywine Committee Update
 - a. Nothing to report at this time.

8:58 AM, Meeting Adjourned