



## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**APRIL 28, 2022 | 8 AM**

**VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL**

**MEETING ID: 873 3840 6056 | PASSWORD: 503852**

Board Members Present: Sheela Dattani, Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Robert Mansell, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry,

Others Present: Kristen Altman, Kate Bayard (Midtown Brandywine Committee), Leigh Botwinik, Olivia Burgess, Kelly Davenport, Nate Durant, Candice Fontaine, Glenn Koker (Midtown Brandywine Committee), Bill Ray, Melanie Reiser, Quentin Williams (10<sup>th</sup> Grader, Freire Wilmington), Maddie Weckel, Lilian Wehbe- Kobeissi

Meeting Start, 8 AM

- I. Public Comment
  - a. There is no public comment at this time.
- II. Executive Session
  - a. Approval of Funding
  - b. Authorization of Accepting Funds for 201 W. 14<sup>th</sup> St – David Singleton (Attachment 2)\*
    - i. The board makes a motion to move into Executive Session at 8:02 AM to discuss approval and acceptance of funding for Freire Charter School Wilmington. Sheela Dattani seconds.
    - ii. The board makes a motion to adjourn Executive Session at 8:22 AM. Sheela Dattani seconds.
    - iii. David Singleton and Clint Walker share the declaration of official intent of Freire Charter School Wilmington to reimburse certain expenditures from proceeds of indebtedness.
    - iv. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Sheela Dattani seconds.
    - v. Sheela Dattani, Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Robert Mansell, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
- III. Review & Approval of Minutes
  - a. Minutes from Board Meeting on February 17, 2022 (Attachment 3A)\*
    - i. The board reviews the minutes from February 17, 2022.
    - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Evelyn Davies seconds.
    - iii. Sheela Dattani, Evelyn Davies, Robert Mansell, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Jilian Mackenzie vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
  - b. Minutes from Board Meeting on March 24, 2022 (Attachment 3B)\*
    - i. The board reviews the minutes from March 24, 2022.
    - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Evelyn Davies seconds.
    - iii. Sheela Dattani, Evelyn Davies, Robert Mansell, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Jilian Mackenzie vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
- IV. School Report
  - a. Staff Update
    - i. Maddie Weckel notes the recent data to track diversity within Freire Wilmington campus currently holds 54% of instructional staff who identify as POC and the total percentage of staff who identify as POC is at 62%.
  - b. Student Update
    - i. Maddie Weckel introduces Quentin Williams (10<sup>th</sup> Grade Student/Class President, Freire Wilmington), Quentin shares his most recent experience with preparing for college courses and expresses his concerns regarding time management when it comes to applying to

scholarships and keeping his grades up. Quentin expresses his love for Freire, teachers/staff, and the after-school programs.

- c. Admissions Update
  - i. Maddie Weckel shares Freire Wilmington is ahead of the enrollment mark this year in comparison to last year and praises Aisha Monroe, Johnny Mills, Katie Pollard, and the admissions team for their hard work.
- d. Heads Report
  - i. Freire Network Dashboard (Attachment 4A)
    - Maddie shares excitement about the recent data on the dashboard specifically in reading and how some students are excelling profoundly in the subject. Maddie notes this has been made possible due to the rigorous work from Darren Rainey in the ELA department.
  - ii. Graduation Update
    - There is no update at this time.
  - iii. College Report (Attachment 4B)
    - Maddie notes that college and university acceptances is slightly higher than the numbers on the dashboard in comparison to last year and currently 85% of seniors have been accepted into the university or college of their choosing.

## V. Advancement

- a. Advancement Report (Attachment 5A)
  - i. Melanie Reiser introduces Candice Fontaine (External Relations Manager, Freire Schools Network Office) and Kristen Altman (Development Coordinator, Freire Schools Network Office) are new hires for the Advancement Team.
  - ii. Melanie shares Freire Schools has raised roughly \$226,000 of the \$400,000 FY 2022 goal, running slightly ahead of last year. Melanie attributes some of this increase in funds to the change in the deadline for board members to submit their annual pledge. Freire Schools has raised \$81,000 in EITC funds to-date.
  - iii. Freire Wilmington has reached 100% of board giving for the current fiscal year and will continue to work on fundraising to meet the overall goal across the network,
- b. Discussion on Board Involvement in Fundraising
  - i. Melanie asks the board whether the Advancement team should set up certain parameters around board giving and fundraising and asks if the members experience any challenges with finding new donors.
- c. Talking Points (Attachment 5B)
  - i. Melanie reviews the talking points with the board.

## VI. Financials

- a. March 2022 Financial Report (Attachment 6A)\*
  - i. Bill Ray reviews the March 2022 Financial Report noting Freire Wilmington has a total of \$3,250,000 of cash on hand.
  - ii. Freire Wilmington is expected to end the year with approximately \$1,700,000 of cash on hand which represents an increase of \$120,000 from June 30, 2021.
  - iii. All financial ratios are going to be met which would reflect the school's break-even budget especially due to the ESSER grants/funds.
  - iv. Sheela Dattani makes a motion to approve. David Singleton seconds.
  - v. Sheela Dattani, Evelyn Davies, Robert Mansell, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Jilian Mackenzie vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
- b. Proposed FY 2022 Unrestricted Donation (Attachment 6B)\*
  - i. Bill Ray reviews the unrestricted donation from Freire Foundation with the board.
  - ii. Jilian Mackenzie makes a motion to approve. David Singleton seconds.
  - iii. Sheela Dattani, Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Robert Mansell, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
- c. CBOC Update
  - i. There is no update at this time.

## VII. Policies & Agreements

- a. Slate of Staff (Attachment 7A)\*
  - i. The board reviews the Slate of Staff.
  - ii. Sheela Dattani makes a motion to approve. David Singleton seconds.
  - iii. Sheela Dattani, Evelyn Davies, Robert Mansell, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Jilian Mackenzie vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
- b. Teacher Equity Plan (Attachment 7B)\*
  - i. Leigh Botwinik shares the Teacher Equity Plan is required as part of receiving Title I educational funds. The purpose of the plan is to ensure the school districts are not disproportionately assigning teachers with less experience to schools that qualify for Title I funds or have significantly higher portions of low-income students.
  - ii. Sheela Dattani makes a motion to approve. Tara Terry seconds.
  - iii. Sheela Dattani, Evelyn Davies, Robert Mansell, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Jilian Mackenzie vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
- c. 2022-2023 School Calendar (Attachment 7C)\*
  - i. The board reviews the 2022-2023 School Calendar.
  - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Sheela Dattani seconds.
  - iii. Sheela Dattani, Evelyn Davies, Robert Mansell, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Jilian Mackenzie vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.

#### VIII. Governance

- a. Clearances & Trainings for Board Members
  - i. Olivia Burgess thanks all board members for completing all outstanding trainings and overdue clearances.
- b. Evaluation of Freire Network
  - i. Leigh Botwinik reminds the board to complete the annual Freire Schools Network evaluation.
- c. Proposed 2022-2023 Board Meeting Schedule (Attachment 8)\*
  - i. The board reviews the proposed board schedule for the 2022-2023 school year.
  - ii. Sheela Dattani makes a motion to approve. David Singleton seconds.
  - iii. Sheela Dattani, Evelyn Davies, Robert Mansell, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Jilian Mackenzie vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.

#### IX. Midtown Brandywine Committee Update

- a. There is no update at this time.

*Meeting Adjourned, 9:15 AM*

*\*Requires Vote*

τCitation on reason for executive session: 29 Del Code § 10004(b)(2) "Preliminary discussions on site acquisitions for any publicly funded capital improvements, or sales or leases of real property.