



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JUNE 23, 2022, | 8 AM

VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL

MEETING ID: 851 7346 5367 | PASSWORD: 834912

Board Members Present: Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, Nathan Will

Others Present: Kate Bayard (Midtown Brandywine Committee), Leigh Botwinik, Olivia Burgess, Keisha Nesbitt-Cohen, Kelly Davenport, Tanza Pugliese, Bill Ray, Melanie Reiser, Shinelle Superville, Maddie Weckel, Lilian Wehbe-Kobeissi

Meeting Start, 8 AM

- I. Public Comment
 - a. There is no public comment.
- II. Executive Session^T
 - a. School Safety & Security
 - b. Real Estate Purchase (*Attachment 2*)*
 - i. The board makes a motion to move into Executive Session at 8:02 AM to discuss school safety and a resolution on the purchase of real estate. Nathan Will seconds.
 - ii. The board makes a motion to adjourn Executive Session at 8:30 AM. Nathan Moser 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 along with taking out a loan to purchase both 201 W. 14th St. & 205 W. 14th St.
 - iv. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Nathan Will seconds.
 - v. Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Nathan Will 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 April 28, 2022 (*Attachment 3*)*
 - i. The board reviews the minutes from April 28, 2022.
 - ii. Nathan Will makes a motion to approve. David Singleton seconds.
 - iii. Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Nathan Will vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
- IV. School Report
 - a. Heads Report
 - i. Maddie shares Nate Durant has officially transitioned into his role as Head of School for TECH Freire, and she will be the new Head of School for Freire Wilmington. Maddie is eager and excited to step into her new role and is ready support all staff in the coming academic year.
 - ii. Freire Network Dashboard (*Attachment 4A*)
 - Maddie reviews the Freire Network Dashboard with the board. Maddie emphasizes the scoring level of proficient in the Math Star Benchmarks for 10th and 11th grade. Reading levels for 8th & 12th grade student show exponential growth within the academic year.
 - Attendance was a challenge this year. Maddie notes that over the spring her staff implemented better ways of raising the attendance rate.
 - iii. College Report (*Attachment 4B*)
 - Maddie shares 95% of Freire Wilmington seniors will be attending twenty-seven unique colleges and universities in the fall. Majority of the colleges and universities chosen by seniors are HBCUs.

- iv. Salary Report (Attachment 4C)
 - Maddie reviews the salary report with the board which shows a salary comparison of other district schools versus Freire Wilmington.
 - b. Purchase of Wand Detectors*
 - i. The board makes a motion to approve the purchase of four wand detectors for when students arrive at school.
 - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Nathan Will seconds.
 - iii. Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Nathan Will vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
 - c. Updated Mission Statement Change (*Attachment 4D*)*
 - i. The proposed change to the mission statement would add the work 'equity.'
 - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Nathan Will seconds.
 - iii. Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Nathan Will vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
 - d. Staff Retention Committee Report
 - i. No update at this time.
- V. Advancement
- a. Advancement Report (*Attachment 5A*)
 - i. Melanie Reiser shares as of June 17, 2022, the Advancement team has raised approximately \$372,000 in donate and pledges toward the network wide goal of \$400,000 for unrestricted fundraising obligations to the schools.
 - ii. Freire Schools received an unrestricted donation from the REP Family Foundation to fund The Purple Dragon scholarship for the Pennsylvania campuses, along with another unrestricted donation in the amount of \$43,000 as an EITC donation which supports after-school programs, summer programs, and makerspace learning.
 - iii. Since the recent passing of Gerald Escovitz, a true advocate for our schools, his family set up a memorial fund on his behalf with all donations going to the Freire Foundation. To date, the fund has raised \$13,000.
 - iv. Melanie assures the Freire Wilmington board is at 100% for board giving.
 - b. Talking Points (*Attachment 5B*)
 - i. Melanie reviews the talking points with the board.
- VI. Financials
- a. May 2022 Financial Report (Attachment 6A)*
 - i. Bill Ray shares Freire Wilmington has a good line of credit and strong financial health especially for the end of the current fiscal year. The school's cash on hand as of May 31, 2022, is \$2,500,000 and is projected to end the year with approximately \$1,750,000 cash on hand, which represents 77 days.
 - ii. As of May 31, 2022, Freire Wilmington received all annual state and local funding. Freire Wilmington is projected to receive an annual general surplus of \$2,000, which is net of the \$100,000 onetime purchase from the FY 2022 Budget.
 - iii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Nathan Moser seconds.
 - iv. Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Nathan Will vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
 - b. FY 2023 Preliminary Budget (*Attachment 6B*)*
 - i. Bill shares the FY 2023 Preliminary Budget for Freire Wilmington nets a general surplus of \$82,000 (due to the one-time capital purchase of \$30,000.) Freire Wilmington is projected to meet all financial ratios for fiscal year 2023.
 - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Nathan Will seconds.
 - iii. Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Nathan Will vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
 - c. Unrestricted Donation Approval (*Attachment 6C*)*
 - i. Bill shares the Unrestricted Donation is for \$255,000 from the Freire Foundation.
 - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Nathan Will seconds.
 - iii. Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Nathan Will vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.

- d. Restricted Donation Approval (*Attachment 6D*)*
 - i. Bill shares the Restricted Donation from the Freire Foundation for \$2,500 for the school's racial justice program.
 - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Nathan Will seconds.
 - iii. Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Nathan Will vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
- e. CBOC Update
 - i. There is no update at this time.

VII. Policies & Agreements

- a. Freire Wilmington Schoolwide Plan (*Attachment 7*)*
 - i. Tanza Pugliese shares the Freire Wilmington Schoolwide Plan with the board. Tanza shares that the plan outlines primary goals for the school to work towards during the upcoming academic year. These goals include post-secondary transition plans for students, ELA and math growth and proficiency keystone scores, and an action plan for the school to implement.
 - ii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve. Nathan Moser seconds.
 - iii. Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Nathan Will 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. Election of Freire Wilmington Board Members & Officers (*Attachment 8*)*
 - i. Nathan Moser makes a motion to approve the term extension for Sheela Dattani as Vice President till the year 2025. Nathan Will seconds.
 - ii. Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Nathan Will vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.
 - iii. David Singleton makes a motion to approve the renewal and election of the following officers: Sheela Dattani as Vice President, John Kane as Treasurer, Jilian Mackenzie as Exec. Committee Member At-Large, David Singleton as Secretary and Clint Walker as Chair. Nathan Moser seconds.
 - iv. Evelyn Davies, Jilian Mackenzie, Nathan Moser, David Singleton, Clint Walker, Tara Terry, and Nathan Will vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions.

IX. Midtown Brandywine Committee Update

- a. Kelly Davenport and David Singleton share latest information about the annual Midtown Brandywine Committee meeting held this week.
- b. Kate Bayard shares she is willing to help and support our school in the future.

Meeting Adjourned, 9:18 AM