



**The Laboratory Charter School**  
of Communication and Languages

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**  
**November 17, 2021**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**Zoom Video Conference**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

**Board Member Role Call**

- A. Present: Dr. Veronica Florence-McPherson, President; Karen Slade; Member; Pinkey Lucas; Member, Tiffany Ferrell, Secretary; Norris Bennis, Vice President
- B. Others Present: Dr. Andréa Coleman-Hill, CEO; Joan Belynda Brown; Director of HR, Jesse Bean; Finance, Alan Epstein, Esq.

**Announcement of Executive Session – Legal and Personnel Discussions**

An executive session was held on November 17, 2021 to discuss legal and personnel matters.

**Nomination Committee Recommendation**

None

**Approval of Minutes October 2021 Board Meeting**

Motion duly made, seconded and carried to approve the October 2021 board meeting minutes.

Motion: Karen Slade, Second: Pinkey Lucas

Each member voted as follows:

Dr. Veronica Florence- McPherson, President - Yes

Norris Bennis, Vice President – Yes

Tiffany Ferrell, Secretary – Yes

Karen Slade, Member – Yes

Pinkey Lucas- Yes

**Unfinished Business**

None

## **Finance Report**

Enrollment has declined due to transportation issues. This has impacted revenue. The cash position remains strong. Direct receivables continue to arrive. Federal receivables such as ERRS-2 are owed. Accrued payroll expenses are continuing to grow. ESSR 3 will support payroll.

The balance sheet shows 1.4 million dollars cash on hand. There is a good system in place to monitor cash flow increases and deficits which will result in accurate day-to-day projections as cash flow changes.

Net income continues to be lower than expected due to enrollment issues caused by a lack of consistent transportation. Projected versus Actual budget is a concern due to the decline in income. Expenses are lower than projected.

Motion duly made, seconded and carried to approve November's finance report.

Motion: Karen Slade, Member, Second: Pinkey Lucas, Treasurer

Each member voted as follows:

Dr. Veronica Florence-McPherson – President: Yes

Norris Bennis, Vice President – Yes

Tiffany Ferrell, Secretary – Yes

Karen Slade, Member – Yes

Pinkey Lucas - Yes

## **CEO Report**

The School District of Philadelphia is requesting a copy of the certificate you received from the ACT 55 Training. This is due to them by November 29, 2021. Two classrooms and attending staff were quarantined this month. LAB was notified on two different days that two unrelated students at the Sedgley Campus were sent to school by their parents while awaiting COVID test results. Both students were positive resulting in both classes and attending staff members being quarantined. As per the Board mandate, staff members are being released to receive vaccines. One employee will be released due to refusing to follow this mandate with no religious or medical exemption. One employee refused the vaccine and is now claiming a medical exemption. We are awaiting paperwork from the physician.

Support staff continues to be difficult to hire. Employees are hired and either do not show or work a few days and quit. LAB then receives unemployment paperwork.

Teaching staff is an issue at the Sedgley Ave. Campus. We are working to fill these vacancies.

One teacher at the Henry Ave. Campus is relocating for her spouse's job. That vacancy is posted.

Motion duly made, seconded and carried to approve November's CEO report.

Motion: Norris Bennis, Esq., Second: Karen Slade, Member

Each member voted as follows:

Dr. Veronica Florence-McPherson – President- Yes

Norris Bennis, Vice President – Yes

Tiffany Ferrell, Secretary – Yes

Karen Slade, Member – Yes

Pinkey Lucas - Yes

## **Board Resolutions**

### Common Consent Agenda

#### 1. 1117202100

The Laboratory Charter School Board of Trustees (“Board”) hereby resolves to approve the Laboratory Charter School Amendment to the official name, charter school focus, vision, mission, and core beliefs as a part of the Charter Renewal Process as presented.

Name Change: **Laboratory Charter School**

**Charter School Focus:** Communication and Leadership

#### Vision

To develop well-rounded students by providing equal and equitable access to a quality education as we prepare them to lead in society with a positive voice.

#### Mission

All students from All backgrounds deserve and will have a quality public education that includes equal and equitable access to academics, social-emotional learning, technology, and student agency.

#### Core Beliefs

We Believe that:

- Through positive parental involvement, a collaborative staff, academically enriched student engagement and administrative support, our students can become anything that they aspire to be.
- Education takes a village.

- Accountability is for EVERYONE (staff, students, teachers, parents, and the community).
- We should provide a consistent, fair, and nurturing environment for our school community.
- With proper planning, and a positive attitude, anything is possible.

2. 1117202101

The Laboratory Charter School Board of Trustees (“Board”) hereby resolves to approve the Laboratory Charter School Food Service Wellness Policy as presented.

Motion duly made, seconded and carried to approve the Common Consent Agenda.

Motion: Norris Bennis, Esq., Second: Karen Slade, Member

Each member voted as follows:

Dr. Veronica Florence-McPherson – President, Yes

Norris Bennis, Vice President – Yes

Tiffany Ferrell, Secretary – Yes

Karen Slade, Member – Yes

Pinkey Lucas, Member - Yes

**Public Participation**

None

**Adjournment**

Motion duly made, seconded and carried to approve the Common Consent Agenda.

Motion: Karen Slade, Member Second: Norris Bennis, Esq. Vice President

Each member voted as follows:

Dr. Veronica Florence-McPherson – President, Yes

Norris Bennis, Vice President – Yes

Tiffany Ferrell, Secretary – Yes

Karen Slade, Member – Yes

Pinkey Lucas, Member - Yes

The board meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date