



**PROVIDENT CHARTER SCHOOL
MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PROVIDENT CHARTER
SCHOOL**

August 11, 2020

6:00 – 7:40 PM

Provident Charter School

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Dan Sponseller		Kathy Clark
Roland Gargani		David Zeiler
David Whitcomb		Rachel Owens
David Baker		Maria Paluselli
John Rushford*		Alan Shuckrow
Curtis Kossman		
Dr. Jean Ferketish		
Joseph DiMario*		
Andy Patterson		

***Google Meeting**

Curtis Kossman convened the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Public Comment

Mr. Kossman thanked the School leadership and personnel for their outstanding commitment and professionalism in arranging for the School opening in light of COVID19.

Executive Session

The Board went into executive session to discuss personnel matters, including compensation matters. An outside benefits consultant was present who made a presentation concerning same.

Approval of Minutes

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. Kossman, second by Mr. Gargani, the Board unanimously approved the minutes, previously circulated by Mr. Sponseller, for the June 9, 2020 monthly Board Meeting.

Report on Governance

Alan Shuckrow explained the advisability of amending the Bylaws of the Provident Charter School Foundation to expand its purposes to the potential benefit of additional charter schools similar to Provident, and circulated a proposed amendment to achieve that purpose. Discussion ensued.

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. Kossman and second by Andy Patterson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the execution of the amendment to the Bylaws of the Provident Charter School Foundation, a copy of which will be filed with these minutes.

Report on School Operations and Emergency Instructional Time Template, Form 520.1

David Zeiler provided a further detailed presentation regarding the School's plan for reopening for the upcoming year. He also presented, and the Board discussed, the completed **Pa. Dept. of Education "Emergency Instructional Time Template, Form 520.1"** for the School which staff prepared. The Board discussed the completed form and Mr. Zeiler answered all questions concerning same.

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. Kossman,, seconded by Mr. Sponseller, the completed **Pa. Dept. of Education "Emergency Instructional Time Template, Form 520.1"** presented by Mr. Zeiler was unanimously approved by the Board. A copy of this completed Form will be filed with these minutes.

Ms. Paluselli presented a written summary of the results of the recent annual Parent Survey, including a listing of many of the numerous complimentary and appreciative narrative reviews by parents. The Board members noted the consistent positive reviews by the parents surveyed.

Ms. Paluselli and Mr. Zeiler also discussed the challenges of remote learning with the Board. In their view this approach is doable but has additional challenges which they are addressing.

Report on Business Services

David Zeiler reviewed and reported on the following purchases needed to be made for the School in light of COVID 19, which will enhance and protect safety on site and assist with remote learning:

Apple computer products: \$23,500

Additional air cleaners: \$26,870

Furniture to assist with social distancing: \$17,601

Thermal imaging cameras: \$38,557

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. Kossman, seconded by Mr. Sponseller, the Board voted unanimously to approve the above expenditures.

Report on Hiring

David Zeiler presented and reviewed the hiring report, including the proposed hires set forth on Appendix A attached to the Agenda. While the Board members were in agreement with the hires, due to an oversight no motion was made for formal approval by vote. Such motion and vote should occur at a future meeting.

Enrollment Report

David Zeiler presented the current enrollment report which was attached as Appendix B to the Agenda.

Report on Finance and Facilities

Roland Gargani presented the Treasurer's Report to the Board. While the Board members were in agreement with the report, due to an oversight no motion was made for formal approval by vote. Such motion and vote should occur at a future meeting.

Mr. Gargani and Mr. Kossman discussed proposed negotiations with S&T Bank to increase the School's line of credit. S&T Bank has reportedly approved in principle an increase to \$2 million.

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. Sponseller, second by Mr. Gargani, the Board unanimously voted to authorize School counsel to attempt to negotiate acceptable remaining terms for the increase in the line of credit, and to report the results back to the Board for the Board's final consideration.

The Board, after discussion, in light of the remarkable efforts of School administration in arranging to re-open the School under COVID 19, also decided it was appropriate to give certain personnel involved therein a special bonus.

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. Gargani, second by Mr. Rushford, the Board unanimously voted to award special bonuses as described above of approximately \$4,000 per person to eight employees.

Finally, Mr. Kossman appointed Mr. Gargani and Mr. Patterson to join him on a committee to investigate the feasibility of paying down the School's mortgage.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Date

Daniel J. Sponseller

Secretary of the Board