



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

October 12, 2021

6:00 – 7:40 PM

Provident Charter School

<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	<b>OTHERS PRESENT</b>
	Andy Patterson	Maria Paluselli
Dan Sponseller	John Rushford	Rachel Owens
Dr. Jean Ferketish	Roland Gargani	Kathy Clark
David Baker		
Joe DiMario*		
Curtis Kossman		
Dr. David Whitcomb		

\*Remote

Curtis Kossman convened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Approval of Minutes**

**ACTION:** Upon motion by Mr. Kossman, seconded by Mr. Baker, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Board meetings for the months of August and September, 2021, copies of which were previously circulated by Mr. Sponseller.

**Report on School Operations**

Ms. Paluselli and Mr. Kossman described a program proposed by Penn State University personnel which focuses on very early education of both students and families regarding the dangers

associated with alcohol and use of other substances including but not limited to opioids, which have become a national problem. Penn State proposes to partner with the School in the program. They reported that such programs were being shown to cause a significant decrease in the occurrence of opioid and other substance addictions in other settings according to detailed follow up statistics. This program would involve both educational programs for students and families and follow up with our students and families to monitor the effectiveness of such programs. The Board expressed strong interest in this program as salutary for our students and families both currently and in the future. After extended discussion, Board member Dr. David Whitcomb agreed to look further into the program and associated issues and report back to the Board, for further action on the proposal in the future.

### **Report on Business Services**

Ms. Paluselli provided a detailed list of vendor purchases for September, 2021, which the Board reviewed and approved.

**ACTION:** Upon motion by Mr. Kossman, seconded by Mr. Sponseller, the Board unanimously approved the vendor purchases for September 2021, provided by Ms. Paluselli, a copy of which will be filed with these minutes.

### **Report on Hiring**

Ms. Paluselli provided the Board with the hiring report, as set forth on Exhibit A to the Agenda.

**ACTION:** Upon motion by Mr. Kossman, seconded by Mr. Sponseller, the Board unanimously approved the hiring set forth on the report provided by Ms. Paluselli, a copy of which will be filed with these minutes.

Ms. Paluselli also explained the need to additionally hire a person for additional custodial duties and special projects at the physical plant at the School and in the Annex area, and proposed the hiring of Mr. C. Cochenour, whose resume was circulated and qualifications were discussed, as a full time employee at a salary of approximately \$43,000. She noted that this position and amount was not identified in the current School budget, and asked that the Board approve this hire and the incursion of this expense in the current budget going forward. The Board discussed the proposal.

**ACTION:** Upon motion by Mr. Kossman, seconded by Mr. Sponseller, the Board unanimously approved the hiring of Mr. Cochenour and the inclusion of this additional position in the School budget, as described by Ms. Paluselli.

### **Report on Enrollment**

Ms. Paluselli provided the Board with the enrollment report, which the Board reviewed and discussed.

### **Report on Finance and Facilities**

Mr. Kossman reported that he was looking at proposals and concepts for the installation of solar panel electricity generation panels possibly to replace the need for new roofing of the School building and/or Annex, in addition to generating enough electricity to meet the majority of the School's electricity needs. He will report on further progress on this issue, if any, at the next meeting.

Roland Gargani had provided the written current Treasurer's Report prior to the meeting, which the Board reviewed.

**ACTION:** Upon motion by Mr. Kossman, seconded by Mr. Sponseller, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report.

### **Report on Special Events**

Ms. Paluselli described a program the School is implementing which shows families how they can support the progress of struggling readers, as described in a 2 page handout she circulated. She also advised that at the next meeting she would report on the results of a parent survey asking for their evaluations of the student/teacher conferences they had with School teachers this year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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Date

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Daniel J. Sponseller  
Secretary of the Board