



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 27, 2024 - 6:00 PM

[Zoom Meeting Link](#) | Meeting ID: 876 1802 9749 | Passcode: 9yZU4V

AGENDA

Call to Order

Roll Call - Mrs. Mareena Story

- Marita Bradley
- Arnie Chisom
- Brandon Coney
- Cesquinn Curtis
- Starr Green
- Dennis Henderson
- Corey Sage

Public Comment

- No public comment

Voting of New Board Members

- Motion to approve Starr Green, Arnie Chisom, Cesquinn Curtis, and Dennis Henderson as new board members made by Corey Sage
- Seconded by: Marita Bradley
- Any discussion: None
- All in favor: MB ✓, CS ✓
- Absented

Swearing-In of Board Members

- All board members were officially sworn in during the meeting. This marks the beginning of their terms, and they have pledged to fulfill their duties in accordance with the board's responsibilities and bylaws.

Approval of the June 26, 2024, Board Minutes

- Motion to approve the June 26, 2024, Board Minutes made by Corey Sage
- Seconded by: Marita Bradley
- Any discussion: None
- All in favor: MB ✓, CS ✓,
- Absented AB ✓, CC ✓, SG ✓, DH ✓

Principal's Report - Ms. Ashlee Anthony

- **ATSI Plan for 2024-2025**
 - The ATSI (Advance Targeted Student Intervention) plan has been labeled for three years, focusing on showing growth in three areas: Students with Disabilities, Economic Disadvantage, and Science.
 - The school has three years to improve, and this is the second year of the plan.

Targeted Goals:

- **Attendance:** 85% of students will attend 90% of the time. Challenges include transportation and location barriers. Interventions such as phone calls and letters home will be utilized. Progress will be monitored quarterly with data reported to the state.
- **Academic Growth:** 90% of students in grades 2-5 will show growth in math and reading based on MAP scores. The goal for the current year is 80%, with assessments conducted at the beginning, middle, and end of the year.
- **Science Proficiency:** The goal is for 55% of students to score proficient on the PSSA Science portion, with a target of 35% for the first year. This is the first year 5th grade will take the science PSSA. Previously, only 4th grade had additional science time, but now all grade levels receive more science instruction.
- **MicroSociety Program**
 - Research indicates that MicroSociety increases test scores and attendance. Updates on the program's impact will be provided to the board quarterly in line with state reporting.
- **Data Assessment and Monitoring**
 - Internal assessments are conducted frequently, approximately every two weeks, using systems such as Diebels, Amplify, MAP, I Ready, and INNOMAT.
 - There was a discussion on the need to see data regularly to help the board understand progress before reaching reporting milestones.

Action Item: Attendance data will be shared to monitor the percentage of students attending 90% of the time. The focus is on students who were chronically absent last year.

- **Discussion on Previous Year's Performance and Adjustments**
 - 2022 results made the school eligible for the 2023-24 school year ATSI interventions.
 - In the first year, adjustments were made to the attendance goal: instead of 90%, it was set that 80% of students would attend 90% of the time, achieving 56% initially.
 - **Corey's Inquiry:** Requested a detailed game plan on how the school will achieve its targets given the current situation.
 - **Rachel's Response:** Detailed answers are in the provided packet; additional presentation materials (slide deck) can be created for clarity.

- **Data Systems and Accessibility**
 - Cesquinn inquired about the data tracking systems used, which include Amplify, Diebels (K-2), MAP, I Ready, and INNOMAT.
 - **Marita's Suggestion:** Tailor data presentation to be digestible and allow for back-and-forth feedback.

- **Enrollment and Attendance Update**
 - The start of the school year was challenging with initial enrollment at 292, currently 315, and a target of 330. The decrease in enrollment is partly due to the closure of a local daycare.
 - **Transportation Issues:** Some districts are not providing busing until the following week, impacting attendance. Josh offered to reach out to these districts to explore transportation reimbursement options for parents.

Action Item: Provide an update on transportation at the next meeting.

- **Additional Comments**
 - Corey noted the impact of transportation on early attendance figures.
 - Anthony reported that the first 10 days are always challenging for attendance.

Action Item: Follow-up on updates regarding transportation and its impact on attendance.

Summer Tutoring & Extended School Year (ESY)

- **Extended School Year (ESY):** 6 students participated.
- **Summer School:** 32 students attended.

Important Dates

- **Meet the Teacher Night:** Scheduled for Thursday from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Teachers will receive extra pay for participating in this event as per their Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).

Principal Recommends the Approval of the ATSI Improvement Plan

- Motion to approve the ATSI improvement plan made by: MB
- Seconded by: TSG
- Any discussion: None
- All in favor: MB ✓, AB ✓, CC ✓, TSG ✓, DH ✓, CS ✓

CEO Report - Mr. Brandon D. Coney

- Josh explained the back interest owed and how PPS calculates tuition for charter schools using PDE FORM 363.

Personnel Report

- Motion to accept the personnel report made by:
- Seconded by:
- Any discussion: None
- All in favor: MB ✓, AB ✓, CC ✓, TSG ✓, DH ✓, CS ✓

Real Estate

- Mr. Coney is meeting with Buncher Group to discuss logistics and renovations. Unable to meet with the Sarah Heinz House. Revisit property located in Lawrenceville. Plans will be submitted for the parking lot. The property is located close to a cemetery. Marita would like to attach numbers to the project. Mr. Coney agreed and would like to have all numbers upfront.

Fundraising and Development

- **MicroSociety Inc.:** \$180,000 from RK Mellon on July 22, 2024. Mr. Coney will send out press releases.
- **PCCD Grant:** Application due September 26, 2024, for \$140,000 (half for mental health services, half for equipment).

Financial Report

- **OmniVest:** Provides payroll and accounting services.
- **Financial Highlights:**
 - The financial report primarily ending June 30 was included in the board packets.
 - Net Income: \$948,000 with a favorable variance of over \$800,000.
 - Revenues: Above budget by approximately \$200,000 driven by high enrollment and higher rates.
 - Expenses: Below budget by almost \$600,000.
 - The Finance Committee is available for questions and detailed information.

Audit Update

- **Corey's Question:** Has the audit started?
- The board engaged Wilke CPA about 6-8 weeks ago, and the audit process has begun with document uploads to the portal. Wilke CPA is expected to reach out to review enrollment and HR records.
- **Audit Firm History:** Wilke CPA has worked with the school for almost 3 years, with a brief break when the school worked with BPD but returned based on recommendation.

Board Recommends Approval of the June 30th Financial Report: OmniVest

- Motion to adopt the Financial Report made by: CC
- Seconded by: MB
- Any discussion: None
- All in favor: MB ✓, AB ✓, CC ✓, TSG ✓, DH ✓, CS ✓

Title IX Policy Update

- The updated Title IX policy was presented to ensure compliance with current laws.
- **Purpose:** The policy protects students and staff from discrimination based on sex in educational settings.
- This update aligns the institution with legal requirements and enhances protections for all members of the school community.

Motion to Enter Executive Session

- Motion made by:
- Seconded by:
- Any discussion: None
- All in favor: MB ✓, CS ✓

Motion to End Executive Session @ 8:35 PM

- Motion made by: M. Bradley
- Seconded by: C. Curtis
- No Discussion
- All in Favor - Yes

Motion to Have Corey Sage Treasurer of Urban Pathway K-5 Board of Directors Sign Any Document Requiring a "Board President" Signature in Interim Until Board Officers Are Voted and Put Into Place

- Motion made by: M. Bradley
- Seconded by: A. Chisom
- No Discussion
- All in Favor - Yes

Election of Officers

Executive Session

New Business

ADJOURNMENT