



St. Coletta Special Education Public Charter School

1901 Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC

Board Meeting

March 13, 2024

6:30 pm

In person and on Zoom

Approved Meeting Minutes

Welcome, roll call, and call to order.

The March Board meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM

Special Guest of Catherine Decker to provide the school Report/ In Attendance

Josh Lewis, Charles Henstenburg, Janel Brown, Carla Ware-Easterling, Shanta Bryant, Francis Campbell, Mike Rodrigues, Kaiheem Mason, Micheal Olivarri, Catherine Decker, and Rebecca Hill.

Review of the January 2024 meeting minutes

Approval of the minutes of the previous board meeting (Jan. 10, 2024), did not require changes thus, the Minutes were approved by all participating Board Members at 6:34 PM.

Members of the community did not join this public meeting, thus the period of open comment and questions from members of the public does not have a response.

***The State of the School: Highlights and Challenges since last board meeting on 1/10/24
Headlines from School—Catherine Decker, SCSEPCS Director of Student Services.***

Family engagements, Guardian, Wills/Trusts Parent training is pending.

Parent Teacher Conferences are wrapping up.

Enrollment, currently 241 for the PCS.

Completing tours, 80 applications submitted will be reviewed and the lottery will be utilized to address enrollment.

Out of School Suspensions (2)- one for fighting and one for bringing drug paraphernalia into school.

Graduation is scheduled for July 19, 2024, (11) students are scheduled to graduate this year.

Make-Up Day for All Students will be on June 04, 2024

The current need for staff is as follows; (8) Teachers, (5) Speech Language Therapist. (2) AT Specialists, (1) BCBA, (10) Paraeducators are needed and (1) Special Education Coordinator.

Financial Report—Michael Olivarri, CFO

Review from the extended school year, supplemental funding and OSSE compensation have been received. Salary increases have been added, the budgeted net income has been received, the school has not reached the anticipated employment goal, thus contracted services are currently over budget.

Additional comments—Mike Rodrigues, CEO

Gap funding update- the need has been acknowledged, budget hearing is scheduled for April 03, 2024, will request families to register for the hearing due to the need for additional funding for the school. Twelve tickets for the White House Easter Egg Roll a process for a small number of families to share the experience with our community.

School items for discussion

Debrief on recent REDI/DEI training- feedback of more inclusivity, connecting with the organization, options for next steps, group process, and take aways for thought.

Update on bylaws - Shanta Bryant reported last approved and amended in July 2023, feedback from consultant, tracking sheet has been developed and request for feedback of the overall document. A motion was made to approve the changes made to the Bylaws. No objections were made, the amended Bylaws were approved during this meeting.

Board recruitment - consideration of school employees being admitted to the Board (potential

conflict of interest as the Board votes on personnel issues). The consideration of the CEO to be admitted to the Board was raised (uncertain as to the gain for the school). The current position of additional Board Members has not resulted in volunteers from the families; however, additional efforts will be made to establish a potential pool of candidates. Development of a matrix of potential strengths to add to the existing Board.

Changes to the St Coletta business rules - Catherine Decker reported an agreement of PCSB staff and St. Coletta Staff were calculating the goal and not the outcome, the need is to clean up the language, goals will not change, however, the change will derive from the calculation. A motion was made to approve the business rules - The members of the St. Coletta Board are voting to approve the changes to the business rules, all members (Charles Henstenburg, Josh Lewis, Shanta Bryant, Janel Brown, Frances Campbell, and Carla Ware-Easterling) have approved the changes.

Call to go into closed session in order to discuss the performance evaluation of public charter school personnel (in accordance with DC Official Code 2-575) was made at 7:42 PM

Call to adjourn public meeting was made at 7:43 PM

Closed session

Call to adjourn closed session was made and approved by all members at 8:03 PM

The meeting minutes from the March 13, 2024, SCPCSB were voted on during the May 08, 2024, St Coletta Board Meeting and Approved by all voting Board Members present at that meeting.

This meeting is governed by the DC Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.



Carla Ware-Easterling, Secretary
St. Coletta Public Charter School Board Secretary and Parent Representative