

Board Meeting
November 13, 2024
6:30 pm
100% Virtual
Draft Meeting Minutes

Welcome, roll call, and call to order 6:33 PM

Present for ZOOM Session; Chip Henstenburg, Carla Ware-Easterling, Josh Lewis, Janel Brown, Shanta Bryant. Absent from meeting, F. Campbell and F. Slaughter

Approval of the minutes for the previous board meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2024, meeting at 6:34 PM. All present board members agreed to approve the meeting minutes.

Period of open comment and questions from members of the public

Luna Nyachhyon joined as a public member, however, reported no comments at this time.

The State of the School: Highlights and Challenges since last board meeting in September

Headlines from School/Goals for the School Year —Amy Warden, Principal

Fall festival, Halloween celebration, Thanksgiving celebration, currently working on a holiday food drive- collecting canned foods for others. Students have decorated boxes for the donated canned foods. Last school year, 63% of families participated in at least one school event. The prior year it was 40%. The current goal for parental participation in school wide events is 70%. The increase from 40% to 63% shows that families are interested in events that are being held at the school.

October 11, 2024, was a Staff Development Day: focus was on vision supports, communication skills, presentations were tailored to the individual houses that the therapist are assigned to.

Progress reports should be generated by the end of the week and will be distributed to families.

Open Enrollment has begun for the next school year, tours have begun, and the path to full enrollment for the next school year is underway. Currently working though data with OSSE to ensure no issues with information and IEPs to prevent impact on funding.

Changes to IEP tools impacted the data submitted last year. Current enrollment is at 250 students.

Recruitment needs: 1 OT, upcoming the school will need 2 PT, 3 classroom teachers, 2 BCBA's (may have missed services due to the need to hire), Annual report for regulatory agencies, highlight annual outcomes for accountability plan-

-One (1) due process complaint is currently being worked through.

-One (1) in school suspension

Thanksgiving luncheon is scheduled for November 21, 2024

Holiday celebration dates are pending.

New hire of a Music Therapist has integrated well into the school atmosphere over the past two weeks.

Outcomes- General overview of the school's progress in meeting the goals in the Alternate Accountability Framework (see attached for specifics). Couple of highlights:

- therapeutic goals- 52.3% close but unmet- lack of therapist on staff to fulfill the services may be responsible for the low percentage rate of data reported.
- Graduation rate, achieve mastery of progression of IEP goals - small group of students (13) who graduated, insufficient data to meet the goal, thus the goal was not met.

Financial Report from M. Olivarri, CFO

Financial statements for the first quarter are in the report, current visual of how the Charter School fits into the profile- balance sheet 6.5 million, goal to maintain 3.5 million, increase the budget to 1.75 million. Medicaid (1.2 million) funding revenue. Change in net income due to received funds from Mayor's Budget. Change in net assets over the second and third quarters. Per-student funding has increased, close to capacity for full employment, and contracted services are projected to be higher than last year. Currently monitoring contracted services and following projected budget. Adult Program Rockville and Alexandria programs netted fifteen thousand dollars. Increase the number of participants by adding staff to support their needs.

Additional comments—Mike Rodrigues, CEO

Two points on the financial information- strength of balance sheet and change in net assets.

UPSFF working group is issuing a final report that will be submitted to the Mayor and DC Council.

- Currently, looking like there will be a move from Level four plus to Level 5 (Level 5 being those students with a dedicated aide). Across the DC school system, 410 students would be eligible. At St C, roughly 116-132 students (of the 250) have a dedicated aide.
- If implemented, Level 5 would address the school's shortage of funding and it would be baked in forever.
- Pending timeline: final report in January. We'll know in Feb/March whether it will be implemented for the next budget cycle.

Gratitude event- organizations attended to support the school.

The Halloween celebration was an uplifting experience for the staff and students.

School items for noting/discussion

No updates were reported during this Board meeting

Strategic Plan

No updates for this Board meeting

Process for Principal Evaluation

An update on this category is pending

Other business

No comments were provided for this category.

A motion to close the open session, all board members agreed, and the session closed at 7:32 pm (in accordance with DC Official Code 2-575).

Closed Session

The Closed session of the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM with all voting Board Members present in agreement.

The meeting minutes from this session will be reviewed and approved of during the next scheduled St. Coletta Special Education Public Charter School Board Meeting on January 08, 2025, at 6:30 PM.

Carla Ware-Easterling

Secretary for the SPCS Board and Parent Representative

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