

## MINUTES

### Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, December 15, 2022 – 9:30 AM

Zoom Meeting

**Participating Board Members were:** Donald L. Hense, Chair; Gregory Prince, Vice Chair; Darrin Glymph, Treasurer; Victor Long, Secretary; Patricia Brantley; Carol Thompson Cole, Tracy Gray, Eric McKinley King, Deborah McGriff, Gabrielle Montgomery, and Chris White.

Staff Members in attendance were: Vielka Scott-Marcus, Chief Academic Officer; Catherine Sanwo, Comptroller; John Glover, Chief External Affairs Officer; James Waller, Chief of School Operations; Zac Morford, Chief Performance Officer; Dylan Gruver, Chief People Officer; Kimberly Campbell, Strategic Advisor and Monique Miller, Director of Performance Reporting and Evaluation.

**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 9:38 AM.

**Approval of Minutes.** On a motion by Anise Walker and second by Chris White, the board voted unanimously to approve the October 20, 2022 board minutes.

**Nominations and Governance Committee Report.** Ms. Carol Thompson Cole, Chair of the Nominations and Governance Committee, introduced the Nominations and Governance Committee Report previously reviewed and approved by its members and included in board materials. Ms. Thompson Cole reviewed the board composition requirements and details of the slate, including the nomination of Unique Fullmore as the new parent representative to Friendship PCS board of trustees. There was no discussion regarding the slate.

On a motion by Carol Thompson Cole and second by Chris White, the board voted unanimously to approve the slate of re-elections, appointments and committee chairs.

**Finance Update.** Darrin Glymph, Finance Committee Chair, introduced the finance report previously reviewed and approved by members of the Finance Committee and included in board materials. Mr. Glymph turned the report over to Ms. Catherine Sanwo to review details of the report.

Catherine Sanwo, Chief Financial Officer, provided the quarterly finance update. Friendship continues to fund its learning acceleration and other post-COVID restorative efforts and projects to end the year with a surplus and reserve funding in line with prior years. Ms. Sanwo reviewed the reserve balance and noted that the second quarter reserve deposit was completed and reserves will be fully funded. Also noted was the need to reimburse the operating account from the controlled reserve for closing costs related to the Series 2022A bond conversion.

Ms. Sanwo then directed board members to a conflicting interest contract for review and approval. Ms. Sanwo stated Friendship PCS would like to extend a contract to Anise Walker, a Friendship Trustee, to provide professional development to Friendship staff to support the social emotional wellbeing of students. Ms. Walker is a consultant with expertise in social emotional

learning, behavioral supports, parent engagement, and restorative practices. Monique Miller added that the contract included training to Friendship parents. Ms. Miller reviewed with the board, the process done by staff of ensuring that the contract was fair to the school by comparing other consultant rates for professional development and found that Ms. Walker's rates were comparable. This pricing review process was also reviewed in the Finance Committee meeting. There were no questions from the board.

On a motion by Chris White and second by Eric McKinley King, the board voted unanimously to approve the contract with Anise Walker. Anise Walker abstained from the vote.

On a motion by Chris White and second by Gregory Prince, the board voted unanimously to approve the transfer of funds from the controlled reserve to the operating account to reimburse closing costs related to the Series 2022A Bond conversion. Darrin Glymph abstained from the vote.

On a motion by Victor Long and second by Anise Walker, the board voted unanimously to accept the Finance Committee report.

**School Performance Committee Report.** Deborah McGriff, co-chair of the School Performance Committee, introduced the School Performance Committee report previously reviewed by the committee and included in board materials. Dr. McGriff asked trustees to provide feedback and questions about the report to staff in preparation for the board retreat in March.

Zac Morford stated that this report looks at our current fall MAP data to better understand our recovery from the pandemic and what we are doing in response. Mr. Morford explained that comparisons were made to Friendship's pre-pandemic performance and to other LEAs and nationally where data were available. Mr. Morford transitioned the report to Vielka Scott-Marcus, Chief Academic Officer.

Ms. Marcus discussed with the board Friendship's reading and math performance by LEA grade band, grade level, and campus and the strategies to improve and strengthen student performance where needed. Ms. Scott-Marcus also discussed city-wide science data that was recently shared by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education. The board and staff discussed ways to strengthen science student performance.

On a motion by Anise Walker and second by Deborah McGriff the board voted unanimously to accept the School Performance Committee report.

Mr. Hense then expressed gratitude for Gabrielle Montgomery's participation on the board. He acknowledged her contribution to the board's understanding of online education because of her daughter Robin Montgomery.

**Adjournment.** On a motion by Anise Walker and second by Gregory Prince the board voted to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:38 a.m.