MINUTES

Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, June 24, 2025 – 2:30 PM
Zoom Webinar

Participating Board Members were: Donald L. Hense, Chair; Dr. Gregory S. Prince, Jr., Vice-Chair; Darrin L. Glymph, Esq., Treasurer; Patricia Brantley, Chief Executive Officer; Carol Thompson Cole, Eric McKinley King, Dr. Deborah M. McGriff, Jeanette Mendes, Chris White and Sue P. White.

Staff Members in attendance were: Catherine Somefun, Chief Financial Officer; Vielka Scott-Marcus, Chief Academic Officer; James Waller, Chief of School Operations; Zac Morford, Chief Performance Officer; Dylan Gruver, Chief People Officer; Kimberly Campbell, Senior Advisor; and Monique Miller, Director of Performance Reporting and Evaluation.

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by Donald L. Hense, Chair at 2:33 PM.

Community Office Relocation and Lease Approval. Patricia Brantley, Chief Executive Officer, provided an overview of the proposed new facility for the Community Office (administrative offices of Friendship PCS) and discussed the operational efficiencies and key benefits of the proposed relocation to the Armstrong campuses and Community Office. These include repurposing the current Community Office space to provide important educational space such as makerspace, science labs, classrooms, and teacher workspace for Armstrong Elementary and Middle campuses. The proposed facility for the Community Office would better house office functions and larger Friendship-wide activities, such as professional development, new hire onboarding, learning demonstrations, and academic showcases like our Friendship-wide STEM Fairs. The proposed facility is closer to the Metro and onsite parking is available.

Ms. Brantley reviewed comparative costs and key lease terms. Based on analyses by Friendship's financial advisor and Friendship staff, Friendship has the ability to take on the proposed facility lease and maintain bond compliance.

Finally, Ms. Brantley directed the Board's attention to the resolution related to the relocation and lease, which will commence in 2026. The Board reviewed the resolution and on a motion by Deborah McGriff and second by Chris White, the board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the resolution to relocate the Community Office to 999 North Capitol Street, NE and execute the lease pending bond counsel final review.

FY 2025-26 Budget Update. Catherine Somefun, Chief Financial Officer, provided an update on the FY 2026 budget approved at the Friendship PCS Board of Trustees May 15, 2025 meeting. Mrs. Somefun confirmed that the budget approved by the Board in May 2025 is sound based on the Mayor's budget that was released after that meeting; Friendship's budget remained the same with a projected net income of $509K.

On a motion by Chris White and second by Eric McKinley King, the board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the final FY 2026 budget.

Adjournment. On a motion by Eric McKinley King and second by Chris White the Board voted unanimously by roll call to adjourn the meeting at approximately 3:03 PM.