

## MINUTES

### Friendship PCS Board of Trustees Meeting

Friday, March 27, 2026 – 10:00 AM

**Participating Board Members were:** Donald L. Hense, Chair; Gregory S. Prince Jr., Vice Chair; Darrin L. Glymph, Treasurer; Patricia A. Brantley, Chief Executive Officer; Carol Thompson Cole; Unique Fullmore, Parent Representative; Eric McKinley King; Deborah McGriff; Anise Walker and Sue P. White. Victor E. Long, Secretary and Chris White participated via Zoom. A quorum was present to start the meeting (12 of 13 members).

Jeanette Mendes, Parent Representative, joined meeting at 10:11 AM.

Staff Members in attendance were: Zac Morford, Chief Performance Officer; John Glover, Chief External Affairs Officer, and Monique Miller, Director of Performance Reporting and Evaluation. Kimberly Campbell, Senior Advisor; Catherine Sanwo, Chief Finance Officer; and James Waller, Chief of School Operations participated via Zoom.

**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Donald L. Hense, Chair at 10:06 AM.

**Approval of Agenda.** Mr. Hense presented the agenda for approval. On a motion by Sue P. White and second by Chris White, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the March 27, 2026 meeting agenda.

**Approval of Minutes.** On a motion by Gregory S. Prince, Jr. and second by Anise Walker, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2025 board meeting.

**Finance Update.** Darrin L. Glymph, Chair of the Finance Committee introduced the Finance Report moved to the full board by members of the Committee and included in the board materials. Mr. Glymph stated the report was a great report that reflects increased revenues. Mr. Glymph asked Catherine Somefun to review the details of the report with the Board.

Mrs. Somefun stated the purpose of the presentation is to update the Board of Trustees on Friendship's second quarter financials, projected year-end results, and FY 2027 budget considerations. A key revenue consideration affecting the SY2027 is the Mayor's proposed 2.55% foundational increase in the USPPF. Patricia Brantley reminded the Board that funding for teacher pay was provided through grants outside of the USPPF. The 2.55% proposed is insufficient and there are gaps that will need to be covered if we want to maintain stability.

Mrs. Somefun noted for the year-over-year comparison, Friendship's year-to-date net income is higher than budgeted due to higher than projected enrollment, the increase in the uniform per student funding formulas and facilities allotment, and receipt of Employee Retention Credit funds. Expenses increased to account for the additional staff and services required to support the increased enrollment over grade levels and special populations.

Mrs. Somefun reviewed Friendship's reserves balances and stated that Friendship's days cash on hand is projected to be 176 by year-end. Mr. Glymph emphasized the importance of the reserves

and their role in maintaining Friendship's S & P 'BBB' rating, which is one of the highest in DC. Ms. Brantley also stated that the amount of days on hand allows Friendship to borrow at lower interest rates, which produces savings that can be reinvested in student programs.

Mr. Glymph provided an update on the board approved 2016 bonds refinancing. A bank was selected at a rate of approximately four percent. The savings and new funds will allow capital improvements at all campuses.

Mrs. Somefun provided a summary of Friendship's FY2024 FAR report from the DC Public Charter School Board. She then requested the board to accept the FY2024 990 prepared by the auditors prior to filing.

On a motion by Darrin Glymph and second by Anise Walker the Board voted unanimously to accept the Finance Committee Report, accept the FY2025 IRS Form 990 as prepared by Maner Costerisan, and authorize the appropriate officers to file with the IRS.

**School Performance Committee Report.** Monique Miller introduced students from Ideal Middle and Tech Prep who participated in the AI Challenge in December 2025 and invited them to present their AI bot projects to the Board. The students engaged in a demonstration and Q & A session with trustees. At the conclusion of the session, the Board thanked the students and Mr. Hense asked Deborah McGriff to continue the School Performance Committee report.

Dr. McGriff, co-chair of the School Performance Committee, continued the School Performance Committee report previously reviewed by the committee and included in board materials. Dr. McGriff thanked staff for a report that provides context for all data and compares our performance to the best, and for sharing how students apply their learning in the real world. She also thanked staff for the performance update on our charter goals performance as we head toward 30-year charter renewal. Ms. Brantley reviewed ASPIRE results provided by the DC Public Charter School Board. The DC PCSB did not release charter schools' scores publicly, but did share the distribution of scores. We determined that for SY 2024-25, Friendship makes up nearly 20% of Level 1 schools and our ES/MS campuses make up 43% of Level 1 schools.

Finally, Ms. Brantley reviewed the resolution to adopt the ASPIRE System as Friendship's charter goals and achievement expectations.

On a motion by Gregory S. Prince Jr. and second by Deborah McGriff the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the resolution as amended to adopt the ASPIRE System as its charter goals and academic achievement expectations.

**Executive Session.** On a motion by Donald L. Hense and second by Gregory S. Prince Jr. the Board voted unanimously by roll call to go into Executive Session at approximately 11:25 AM in accordance with D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b):

- Under Section (b)(2): To discuss and establish the Board's position or instruct our negotiating agents regarding the price and material terms of a contract—including an employment contract—where an open meeting would adversely affect our bargaining position or negotiating strategy.
- Under Section (b)(4)(A): To consult with legal counsel to obtain legal advice and

preserve the attorney-client privilege.

- Under Section (b)(10): To discuss personnel matters, specifically the appointment, employment, performance, or compensation of public charter school personnel.

On a motion by Gregory S. Prince Jr. and second by Eric McKinley King, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to close the Executive Session at 12:02 PM.

Mr. Hense reported in the public meeting that during closed session, the Board voted unanimously by roll call on matters related to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(2) and (10). The vote was 13-0 on the matter related to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(2). The vote was 12-0 on the matter related to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(10). Patricia Brantley recused herself from the discussion and vote. No additional reportable action was taken.

**Adjournment.** On a motion by Sue P. White and second by Anise Walker, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to adjourn the meeting at approximately 12:04 PM.