

Purpose Built Schools Atlanta, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2021
Virtual Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shirley Franklin, Greg Giornelli, Cheryl Lomax, Ingrid Saunders Jones
STAFF PRESENT: Karen Amos, Barbara Preuss, Jonathan Tugman
GUESTS PRESENT: Cita Cook, Wykeisha Howe, Monique Nunnally

NOTE: This Board Meeting is being held via teleconference due to concerns regarding COVID-19 (Coronavirus), and the related public health emergency declared at both the state and federal levels. Public notice of this meeting was posted electronically on the PBSA website.

GREG GIORNELLI CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 12:34 PM WITH A QUORUM (4 OF 4).

TOPIC: Public Comments

DISCUSSION: None.

TOPIC: Minutes of the October 28, 2020 Board Meeting

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION: Made by Ingrid Saunders Jones to approve the October 28, 2020 minutes.

ACTION: Seconded by Shirley Franklin and carried without dissent.

Standing Updates:

TOPIC: Budget & Financial Update

DISCUSSION:

- Karen Amos, Chief Financial Officer, presented highlights of the FY21 financial statements through December 31, 2020. Karen reviewed budget vs actual expenditures noting we are tracking under budget in all expense categories for the first semester. There are savings in multiple non-salary line items directly related to operating in virtual environment including Transportation, School Culture, Services & Supplies, Enrichment and Professional Development. The proposed budget amendment being brought before the board for approval will decrease the expenditure budget and reallocate funds to align with actual spending. Overall, the expenses are under budget for period ended December 31, 2020.

TOPIC: FY21 Budget Amendment

DISCUSSION:

- Greg Giornelli, Chief Executive Officer, discussed the increase in Atlanta Public Schools General Fund balance since beginning of school year due to better than expected tax collections, state revenue true-up and fund balance transfer. The increases to General Fund have a positive impact on the mid-year adjustment for Per Pupil Revenue. Federal CARES Act I funds and the Georgia Department of Education Digital Device Grant, both resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic, have provided additional resources. The significant increase to revenue and decrease in spending levels due to continued virtual environment provide the basis for the proposed budget amendment. The FY21 amended revenue budget exceeds the expenditure budget and we expect to end the school year with a surplus balance.

MOTION: Made by Greg Giornelli to approve the FY21 Budget Amendment.

ACTION: Seconded by Shirley Franklin and carried without dissent.

TOPIC: Instructional Update

DISCUSSION:

- Barbara Preuss, Head of Schools, provided update on Return to Learning plans starting with MAP Testing across elementary and middle school where students are being identified for small group interventions. Carver has identified students for credit recovery and targeted interventions. The focus on intervention plans is to address content areas.
- Currently teachers are scheduled to return to the school buildings on March 8th to continue virtual instruction with students returning to in-person classrooms on March 15th.
- Barbara announced preliminary learning loss remediation plans for traditional Summer Programs: Horizons, Summer Blast, Special Education and High School Credit Recovery.
- Tentative plans for fall include creating Intervention Blocks with individual plans for each student.
- Carver Steam Academy is gearing up for fall launch of P-Tech, an innovative technology program where students earn college credit. In partnership with industry leaders, Carver will be the only high school in the south where students will earn an Associate's Degree in Cybersecurity upon completion.

TOPIC: Forest Cove Update

DISCUSSION:

- Greg provided an update on timeframe for Forest Cove relocation which has been pushed back to start in April 2021. Greg noted the new owner, Millennia, has been good to work with and has committed to building two Community Centers to be run by non-profit entities.

TOPIC: Student & Family Support Program

DISCUSSION:

- Jonathan Tugman, Chief of Staff, provided an update on the continued focus on caregiver engagement with successful signature events. There has been record parent-teacher conference attendance this school year.
- Many of our partners have successfully transitioned to virtual programming including mentoring, life coaching and mindfulness sessions. Bearings Bike Shop has started socially distanced programming and Atlanta Youth Rugby is preparing students for upcoming season with non-contact events at the YMCA.

TOPIC: Fundraising Campaign

DISCUSSION:

- Greg shared PBSA's Community Engagement preliminary 5-year Student & Family Support program budget to provide wraparound services. The current fundraising campaign will seek funding to continue student and family support providing instructional and family interventions.

TOPIC: Strategic Plan

DISCUSSION:

- Board training was held in December to review and finalize the strategic plan.

MOTION: Made by Greg Giornelli to approve the Strategic Plan.

ACTION: Seconded by Cheryl Lomax and carried without dissent.

TOPIC: Communications Update

DISCUSSION:

- PBSA has rolled out our first paid advertising campaign to boost student recruitment using billboards and advertising on social media.
- PBSA's website is being updated with new messaging to align with launching the strategic plan.

TOPIC: Closing Comments

DISCUSSION:

- Greg announced the next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2021.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:49 pm and the Board moved into Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Amos

Karen Amos, Secretary & Chief Financial Officer