



**Minutes from the PUBLIC MEETING of the
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GREENWOODS CHARTER SCHOOL
468 Domino Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19128
August 16, 2018 7:30 PM**

This meeting was duly advertised in accordance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Law in the Philadelphia Inquirer.

- 1. At 7:37 PM, the meeting was called to order by Board Chair Debi Durso.**
- 2. Roll Call.** The Board Chair took roll call. Trustees in attendance: Debi Durso, Chelsea Badeau, Heather Cowley, Meg Perillo. Trustee present via phone: Deena Benner.
- 3. Announcement of Executive Sessions**
 - a. Board Chair announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the start of the meeting in order for the Board to consult with the administration regarding filling vacancies in open positions, and in order for the Board to discuss confidential labor and employment matters and special education matters.
 - b. Board Chair announced that an Executive Session will be held prior to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.
- 4. Public Comment**
 - a. There were no public comments.
- 5. Changes to Agenda**
 - a. There were no changes to the agenda.
- 6. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. *Action.* To approve the minutes of the public meeting of June 28, 2018 as presented to the Board. Motion made by M. Perillo and seconded by C. Badeau.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- 7. Updates and Reports**
 - a. *Information.* Board Chair Report from Debi Durso. Announcement of her submission of resignation effective at the end of the meeting. Recap of parent meetings over the summer regarding the decision to not seek a CEO, but rather examine the best structure for GWCS.

- b. *Information.* School Report from Stephani Finnin, Principal. School will be opening as planned, parents will note many staff moved positions but at their request.
- c. *Information.* PTA report from Michelle Demski, PTA Vice President. Clothing swaps, playground meetups happened over summer, Boo Hoo breakfast for Kindergarten parents on 9-12 and back-to-school bring your own picnic on 9-15. Announced that date for annual Silent Auction is December 1, 2018 and that calendars of student art are for sale \$15 to support art and music programming.
- d. *Information.* Board Governance report from Heather Cowley. New trustees to be nominated, additional trustees and future committee members are sought.
- e. *Information.* Finance Report from Leigh Ann Bonck of Omnivest and Meg Perillo. No issues; all documents to be posted online once approved by Board.
- f. *Action.* To approve the reports in 8(a)-8(f) above, as stated at the meeting and/or as presented to the Board. Motion made by M. Perillo and seconded by C. Badeau.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

8. Other Matters/New Business

- a. *Action.* To assign and approve Stephani Finnin as the school leader, point of contact, or authorized representative of Green Woods Charter school for the purposes of filing official reports and approving submissions to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the school District of Philadelphia, BNY Mellon, and another other government agency or lender that may require that such a person be authorized by resolution of the GWCS Board.
Discussion:
Discussion: Clarification request - BNY Mellon holds the Bond for GWCS.
Motion: made by C. Badeau and seconded by H. Cowley.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

- b. *Action.* To adopt the GWCS Student-Parent Handbook for the 2018-2019 School Year.
Discussion: Key changes include reorganization and language, clarification of discipline and inclusiveness elements and inclusion of grievance policy. The document was reviewed by Counsel.
Motion: made by H. Cowley and seconded by C. Badeau.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

- c. *Action.* To adopt Houghton Mifflin Harcourt's Journeys as the English Language Arts curriculum for kindergarten – 5th and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt's Collections as the English Language Arts curriculum for 6th-8th grade.

Discussion: Trustees asked S. Finnin if the curriculum was flexible enough for current favorites of staff and students to continue, for Green STEM to be covered and if novels were still a part of the program. Reply: yes. Clarification: yes, there will be an online program for parent access and staff will be provided professional development.

Motion: made by H. Cowley and seconded by M. Perillo.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

- d. *Action.* To elect the following individuals to the Green Woods Charter School Board of Trustees:

Kristin Haskins-Simms

Tim Sager

Richard Chapkis

Discussion: Biographies were provided and R. Chapkis and K. Haskins-Simms were introduced from the audience.

Motion: made by C. Badeau and seconded by H. Cowley.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

- e. *Action.* To elect the following individuals to the following officer positions, effective at the close of the meeting until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor shall be duly elected and shall qualify:

President/Chair – Chelsea Badeau

Treasurer – Meg Perillo

Secretary – Heather Cowley

Discussion: None

Motion: made by D. Benner and seconded by M. Perillo.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

- f. *Action.* To accept the resignation of Debi Durso as Board Chair, effective at the close of the meeting.

Discussion: Trustees thanked D. Durso for her willingness to step into the role of Chair in March, her offer of time and knowledge to guide former CEO Mill and the rest of the administration through the end of last school year and preparing staff and administration for the coming school year. Her leadership was appreciated.

Motion: made by M. Perillo and seconded by D. Benner.

Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

9. Adjournment

- a. *Action.* To adjourn the meeting. Motion made by M. Perillo and seconded by C. Badeau.



Vote: 5 in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.