



**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 26, 2017 PUBLIC MEETING of the  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
GREENWOODS CHARTER SCHOOL  
468 Domino Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19128**

*This meeting was duly advertised in accordance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Law in the Philadelphia Inquirer on October 23, 2017.*

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Dawn Prall George, who opened the meeting with a Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
2. **Roll Call.** A roll call of those in attendance was taken. Trustees in attendance: Dawn Prall George, Jen Weikert, Bonnie Emilius, Debi Durso, Reuben Mills (CEO). Others in Attendance: Jeffrey R. Stacey, Esq., O'Donnell Associates, Leigh Ann Bonck, Omninvest.
3. **Announcement of Executive Session**
  - Board Chair announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the start of the meeting in order for the Board to consult with administration regarding filling vacancies in open positions, and in order for the Board to consult with its attorney to receive legal advice regarding potential litigation in connection with special education matters and concerning the school's written charter with the School District of Philadelphia.
  - Board Chair announced that an Executive Session will be held prior to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.
4. **Actions Related to Executive Session.** There were no actions.
5. **Public Comment**
  - *Comment by Iris Allen; student* – Student morale and dress code rules; many students are being punished for dress code violations or behavior that is not listed in the handbook.
  - *Comment by Kim Birkmire; former employee* – The board did not grant her an exit interview and many items need to be fixed at the school – staff morale is the lowest it has ever been, the lunch room needs to be fixed, curriculum needs to be examined by everyone.
  - *Comment by Dana Cook* – not present
  - *Comment by Heather Cowley; parent* – Thanked principal and CEO for allowing professional development opportunities and focusing on the mission of the school. Concerned that there are only five people are on the board.
  - *Comment by Michele Demski; parent* – Pleased that the board was extended, but there needs to be more board members. The community can add to the board and move the school forward.
  - *Comment by Kim Birkmire, standing in for Wendy Fluhr* – Teachers are so appreciative of the PTA for everything they do. The board should be operating in committees; Kim offered her time to serve on the board.

- *Comment by Blythe McCormack; parent* – The new administration have not had the time to leave his mark yet and hopes they will foster a community of trust to keep good teachers from leaving our schools.
- *Comment by Tim McDonald; parent* – consternation around the lunch room; it is not a fun place, but the design, sound and seating need to be adjusted. Questioned the mission and purpose of the board
- *Comment by Liz Kinder; parent* – Positive meeting with the CEO and Principal about communication issues, uniforms, retention of students and teachers, strict rules around bathroom and sitting in silent and recess.
- *Comment by Rachel Vahey; parent* – Movement away from the EIC model may have caused good teachers to leave.

6. **Changes to the Agenda.** Item 9c was revised and item 9d were added.

7. **Approval of Minutes**

- *Action.* To approve the minutes of September 19, 2017 as attached. Action Tabled.

8. **Board Reports**

- Information.* Board Chair Report from Dawn Prall George, including the financial health of the school and information about the Right to Know Act.
  - Information.* CEO Report from Reuben Mills, including upcoming community events at the school and inventory of technology available to students.
  - Information.* PTA Report from Jen McClaren, including final profit from the 2017 Fall Book Fair and logistics for the 2017 Silent Auction. Interjection by Julie Vitelo about past school events.
  - Information.* Nominating Committee from Jen Weikert, including the process for nominating Board members and onboarding for Board members.
  - Information.* GWFEE Report from Jen Weikert.
  - Information.* Finance Report from Leigh Ann Bonck of Omnivest.
  - Information.* Report from counsel , Jeffrey Stacey.
- *Action.* To approve the reports in (a) through (g) above, as stated at the meeting and/or as attached. Motion made by J. Weikert and seconded by B. Emilius.

**Vote:                      Yes: 4                      No: 0                      Motion carried**

9. **Other Matters/New Business**

- *Action.* To accept the resignation of Board member, Shane Brody. Motion made by J. Weikert and seconded by B. Emilius.

**Vote:                      Yes: 4                      No: 0                      Motion carried**

- *Action.* To clarify that, notwithstanding any previously adopted Board minutes to the contrary, the initial terms of office for Trustees Durso and Emilius will expire at the Annual Meeting held in 2020. Motion made by J. Weikert and seconded by B. Emilius.

**Vote:                      Yes: 4                      No: 0                      Motion carried**

- *Action.* To ratify and/or authorize the employment of Mary O’Neill, Jared Minetola, and Michael Snyder, in the positions and at the salary levels as indicated in the attached table 9-c and accept the resignation of the transportation manager. Motion made by J. Weikert and seconded by D. Durso.

**Vote:                      Yes: 4                      No: 0                      Motion carried**

- *Action.* To appoint Trustee Debi Durso to Secretary for the remainder of Shane Brody's term, ending on August 2018. Motion made by J. Weikert and seconded by D. Durso.

**Vote:            Yes: 4            No: 0            Motion carried**

#### **10. Adjournment**

- *Action.* To adjourn the meeting. Motion made by D. Durso and seconded by B. Emilius.

**Vote:            Yes: 4            No: 0            Motion carried**

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.