WOLCS Board: Ava Willis-Barksdale; President, Sharmain Matlock-Turner, President Emeritus, Wes Somerville; Vice President, David R. Bright, Treasurer, Nicole McLaurin, Secretary, Irv Brockington, Dr. Linda Fleisher, Wendy Thomas, Stephen Hopkins, Ayana Bradshaw, Sylvia Watts McKinney, Darius Hurst-Rodney.

WOLCS Staff: Dr. Debbera Peoples-Lee, Sheila Royal-Moses, Michele Jones, Charletta Zeigler

Guests: Peter Costa, Business Manager – Santilli & Thomson, Eric Strauss, Auditor - Withum Smith & Brown, Kirsten Coleman Director of Math and Data, Christina Lucera, Literacy Specialist.

Recorder: Tamara Jackson

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm. Tamara Jackson completed Roll Call.


Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: Monday, November 25, 2019
Motion for Approval made by Wes Somerville Seconded by Ayana Bradshaw Passed Unanimously

Finance and Budget Committee Report: Introduced by David R. Bright, Chair
Peter Costa reviewed the financial summary for October 2019. Mr. Costa stated that the finance committee held its meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2019. Ms. Costa introduced the Auditor Mr. Eric Strauss, from Withum Smith & Brown and he presented the finding from the 2019 Financial Audit report.

Report from the Auditor:
Mr. Strauss presented the Board with a summary of WOLCS 990 Form. Additionally, he shared review of the approval process, as well as authorized signatures of the Finance Chair and Dr. Lee.

Revenues:
All revenues are being received in a timely manner

Expenses:
All expenses are in line with the budget

Balance Sheet: INTERNAL STATEMENT
Cash as of October 2019 approximately $2.8M
Cash shows 85 days cash on hand

Treasury Operations:
Disbursements for the month of October 2019 total 874K and the items over $10K are listed in the financial report.

Resolutions:

Resolution #33-19/20 Approval of IRS form 990 for Submission
Motion for Approval made by Wes Somerville Seconded by Nicole McLaurin Passed Unanimously

Resolution #34-19/20 Approval of New Hires & Resignations
Motion for Approval made by Darius Hurst-Rodney Seconded by Nicole McLaurin Passed Unanimously

Resolution #35-19/20 Charter School Substitute Teacher Network – Contract Addendum
Motion for Approval made by Ayanna Bradshaw Seconded by Nicole McLaurin Passed Unanimously
Resolution #36-19/20 PRG Educational-Contract Addendum
Motion for Approval made by Wendy Thomas Seconded by Darius Hurst-Rodney Passed Unanimously

Committee Reports:

Personnel & Compensation Committee Report: Presented by Sheila Royal-Moses, (Sharmain Matlock-Turner, Chair)
Ms. Moses presented that we had a new hire for 1st grade that is expected to begin on February 3, 2020. Ms. Moses also presented two addendum resolutions to extend the contract of our substitute services contracts because during this time a year the reevaluate the need for additional amount of services.

Resource & Development Committee Report: Presented by Michele Jones (Wes Somerville, Chair)
Development Committee Chair Wes Somerville and Ms. Jones presented an overview of the school’s Development Dashboard for the 2019-2020 School Year. The dashboard included Individual gifts, corporate gifts and grants to date. The development team received praise for its achievements. It was further recommended that a column be added to the dashboard to recognize moneys deposited that were “In Kind”.

Academic Affairs Committee Report: Presented by Charletta Zeigler (Sharmain Matlock-Turner, Chair)
Ms. Zeigler introduced Ms. Coleman Director of Math and Ms. Lucera the Literacy Specialist to talk to the Board about WOLCS current 4sight benchmark data. The report shows a summary of the internal benchmarking tool, 4Sight taken by grades 3-8. The benchmarking tool is used 4X throughout the school year and closely mimics the state assessment (PSSA). Below are the Reading and Math highlights based on 2018 4Sight data versus 2019 4Sight data.

Reading Highlights:
- The percentage of students scoring below basic has decreased by 7% within this year, moving students to higher performance tiers.
- The percentage of proficient students (including advanced students) has increased by 10% within this year.
- Proficiency is 15% higher this year than this time last year.
- Below Basic has decreased by 15% from this time last year.
- Proficiency increased in every grade of this time last year, except for 5th & 7th grades.
- As a cohort, the current 51h grade students scored 18% in the December 2018 4Sight as 3rd graders. Although they are not scoring as high as the previous group of 5th graders, they are scoring 22% higher than where they scored last year.

Math Highlights:
- The percentage of students scoring below basic has decreased by 11% within this year, moving students to higher performance tiers.
- The percentage of proficient students (including advanced students) has increased by 6% within this year.
- Proficiency is 5% higher this year than this time last year.
- Proficiency is higher than the first 3 benchmark assessments of last year. Proficiency did not reach above 4% until May of 2018.
- Proficiency increased in every grade compared to proficiency this time last year, with the exception of 7th and 8th grade.
- 3rd and 5th grade increased proficiency significantly; 3rd grade increased by - 13% and 5th grade by 7%.

Governance & Nominating Committee Presented by Sharmain Matlock-Turner, Chair
Dr. Lee shared that we are beginning the recruitment process for additional new board members. Please submit any resumes that you think would be an asset to the WOLCS Board to the committee. Also, she reminded the board that each person must have a minimum of 4 hours of training towards the board certification. Ms. Barbara McNeil is registered with the state to implement the training. If you attended the retreat last year, then you are compliant. If you did not there will be another opportunity for you to complete those hours. More information will be provided at the March meeting.
CEO Report

Dr. Lee was excited to report that our 7th Grade team and their students raised over $550 to purchase toys for children with Sickle Cell. The 7th grade students partnered with the Philadelphia Chapter of the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America in this venture. Our first quarter Honor Roll Ceremony was held on December 18, 2019. There were 287 total honors. 28 students receiving 1st honors and 259 students receiving 2nd honors. Dr. Lee was also proud to announce that 50 plus (over 50% of the class), students were accepted to high performing high schools.

The WOLCS Executive Leadership Council convened on January 21st as an advisory body to the CEO charged with assisting WOLCS to raise its profile and visibility in the region; to develop strategic alliances, partnerships and joint ventures with regional businesses and/or educational institutions; and to engage with families of our students, connect with alumni, and cultivate funders and individual donors. The council's efforts this year will be focused on our 2nd Annual Alumni Scholarship Fundraiser. WOLCS Alumni Scholarship Application Process is Now Open! Our scholarship program provides financial assistance to support WOLCS graduates who are pursuing college and/or career training programs. We are pleased that through corporate sponsorship, we will be awarding six $2500 scholarships this year. Each application will be evaluated based on specific criteria. The deadline for the application submission period will be March 27, 2020.

The month of February will be filled with several activities:

- Students will conduct a Candy Gram where they can give a lollipop and card to someone special. All proceeds support future climate activities.
- Black History (door decorating contest, talent showcase)
- Students earn Dojo points for demonstrating good behavior. They get to participate in monthly incentives. This month is a Karaoke Party.
- Our Annual Kindergarten Open House will be held on Wednesday, February 12th from 6-8 pm.
- February 10th-14th is the National Salute to Veterans Week, WOLCS students will be participating in Congressman Dwight Evans' initiative for our Veteran Community.

Lastly, our very own Chief of Staff & Chief Academic Officer, Sheila Royal-Moses was featured in the January 2020 publication of What's Happening Philly, "Interesting People & the Careers They Choose" highlighting her extraordinary career and achievements. Kudos to Ms. Moses for her exemplary contribution she has made not only at WOLCS but in Education.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm

Motion for Approval made by: Darius Hurst-Rodney    Second by: Nicole McLaurin

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for **Monday, March 23, 2020 8:30am-10:30am**, at West Oak Lane Charter School.