

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 18, 2022
444 W. Lake Street, Conference Room 9H
DRAFT AGENDA

Strategic Priority	Agenda Item	Purpose	Time
	Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of Meeting Participants and Guests 	5 mins
Map Processes & Systems	Minutes & Consent Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of Minutes Consent Agenda 	5 mins
Best in Class Talent	President's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Meeting Dates for FY23 	5 mins
COVID-19 Response	School Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CH Updates 	15 mins
Best in Class Talent	Board Development Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Expectations & Future Executive Planning 	20 mins
Map Processes & Systems	External Affairs Committee Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY22 Private Revenue Dashboard Annual Benefit 	15 mins
National Model	Strategic Task Force Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY23 Planning Timeline & Updates 	10 mins
Map Processes & Systems	Finance Committee Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Financial Position FY22 Update on Budget for FY23 	5 mins
Best in Class Talent	Closed Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personnel Matters & Pending Litigation 	10 mins
Map Processes & Systems	New Business/Old Business	Opportunities for Public Comment*	15 mins
	Adjourn		2 mins

Total time: 107 minutes

*Anyone interested in public comment or attending the meeting as a guest should contact Christina Henneuse at chenneuse@christopherhouse.org. Registration for public comment closes the Friday before the board meeting.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
DRAFT**

May 18, 2022 at 6:00 PM
DLA Piper Offices
444 West Lake Street
Chicago, IL 60606

Board Members Attending In-Person: Adnan Assad, Dee Dee Chesley, Stacey Blasko, Rob Buono, Ronit Barrett, Jessica Cardoni, Temok Contreras-Hernandez, Joe Hammon, Roberto Interiano, Jeff Kemerley, Meghan Kiesel, Dave Rodin

Board Members Attending via Zoom: Rolando Acosta, Kenny Langston, Dan Lynch, Alex Maturi, Liam O’Kane, Cindy Perez, Stephen Raquet, Homero Tristan, Kim White

Quorum Met

Board Members Absent: JoAnne Cicchelli, Lauren Long, Tom O’Neill, Lizzy Whitehorn, Tom Woodrow

Christopher House Staff Attending In-Person: Tihela Feit, Becky Seibel, Libby Shortenhaus

Christopher House Staff Attending via Zoom: Sharon Asher-Hall, Julie Dakers, Michelle Reed, Karen Ross-Williams, Juan Villalobos

Guests Attending via Zoom: Farrah Chamochumbi, Maria Contreras, Rebecca Corona, Ana Bazan, Rosa Bazan, Alex Gaitan (Spanish Interpreter), Gardenia Mejia

Minutes Recorder: Christina Henneuse

Proceedings: Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM

Welcome, Presented by Dee Dee Chesley

Board members and staff in attendance introduces themselves to Alex Maturi and Meghan Kiesel who are attending their first meeting as elected board members.

Minutes and Consent Agenda Presented by Libby Shortenhaus and Dee Dee Chesley

Motion made by Dave Rodin and seconded by Adnan Assad, and carried unanimously to approve the March 9, 2022 board meeting minutes.

Motion made by Rob Buono and seconded by Joe Hammon, and carried unanimously to approve the following items in the consent agenda:

1 *Approved by the Board of Directors 6-28-2022*

- FY23 School calendar
- Leader Expectations
- Early Head Start Federal grant, COLA and Quality Improvement applications
- DFSS Head Start COLA Application
- DFSS Head Start Budget Revision – Incorporating COLA
- DFSS Early Head Start COLA Application
- DFSS Early Head Start Budget Revision – Incorporating COLA
- Program Goals 2021-22 Update with Progress
- School Readiness Goals 2021-23
- Self Assessment Action plan
- March & April 2022 Parent Policy Council Meeting Minutes and Agendas

President's Report, Presented Dee Dee Chesley

Dee Dee calls attention to the FY23 board meeting schedule and the Board Conduct Guidelines included in today's board packet. The board meetings typically held in May will be moved to June as to not interfere with the scheduling of next year annual benefit.

CEO Report, Presented by Libby Shortenhaus

Summer enrichment services will be kicking off at the end of June and goes thru the end of July.

Christopher House also recently received NAEYC accreditation at all three sites which recognizes a high standard of excellence.

Charter school renewal is fast approaching and the work has already been kickstarted. The renewal application is due at the end of July.

8th grade graduation will be held on June 10. Board members are encouraged to attend. Christopher House is proud to announce that we have three Daniel Murphy scholars this year and seen a 25% increase in the number of students accepted in CPS selective enrollment.

Christopher House is excited to welcome our new school principal Dr. Arturo Abrego and assistance Principal Ms. Michelle Reed. We will be holding a special welcome reception on May 27th 2-4pm and June 4 10am-12pm at Stewart campus.

Board Development Committee, Presented by Dee Dee Chesley

Libby and Dee Dee plan to schedule 1:1 meetings this summer and fall to discuss code of ethics, fundraising and volunteer commitments.

The two top priorities of the board development committee is to help diversify and expand fundraising capacity . Currently the board has the capacity to add four more board members.

Strategy Committee, Presented by Kenny Langston and Libby Shortenhaus

Last summer Christopher House needed to close down two of the four classrooms at Logan Square due to the Head Start slot allocation from DFSS. We are currently exploring options on how to fill that vacancy. Here are a few ideas we are currently exploring:

- 1.) Private pay early childhood classrooms
- 2.) Subsidized child care + pre-k classrooms
- 3.) Lease classroom space/partnership

Strategy Committee meant to talk about a short-term and long-term vision (5 years for Christopher House). This summer the Leadership Team will be doing some work around long-term vision and then this work will be carried out with different stakeholder groups including scholars, parents, staff and board.

External Affairs Committee Report, Presented by Jeff Kemerley

May 6th Thrive Benefit held at Morgan Manufacturing raised \$520K for Christopher House. We had approximately 220 in attendance. We were able to make a significant impact raising funds this year despite having a smaller benefit. We hope to hold next year's benefit in May at the same venue since we had much success this year.

Finance Committee, Presented by Steve Raquet

March 2022 revenue is at \$13,937,242, \$588,774 favorable to variable and expenses are at \$14,143,933, \$373,721 unfavorable to variance.

Motion made by Jeff Kemerley and seconded by Rob Buono, and carried unanimously to adjourn into Executive Session

Meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 7:00 PM

Executive Session ends and the meeting returns to order at 8:04 PM

Public Comment

The public speakers in attendance at tonight's board meeting speak Spanish and requested translation. Alex Gaitan will translate for the speakers.

Farrah Chamocho is a parent at Christopher House. She has attended the last four board meetings to express her concern about the quality of service and staff retention at the elementary school. She has an continues to express her frustration with the lack of opportunity to provide parent feedback with the administration.

3 Approved by the Board of Directors 6-28-2022

Rebecca Corona is a parent of a child who attends Christopher House. She expresses her concern that not all parents were asked to participate in the new principal search and frustrated with the lack of transparency between the administration and parents.

Gardenia Mejia Acosta is a parent who believes there are issues at Christopher House that are still not being addressed by the administration.

Maria Contreras is a parent of a child that attends Christopher House. She would like to express to the board that there are parents who feel frustrated at the lack of communication between the parents and the administration. In addition, she feels that the administration is not doing enough to tackle issues like staff retention.

Rosa Bazan is a parent of a child who attends Christopher House. She expressed her concern for the amount of bullying occurring at the school.

Ronit Barrett addresses the public commenters in English (translated into Spanish by Alex Gaitan).

We as the board hear and appreciate your time and feedback. In reviewing last month's board meeting minutes I see that many of you have provided your public comment on more than one occasion and regarding the same issues. We want you to know that your concerns have been heard, taken very seriously and have been fully investigated by the board. All the claims made tonight have been unfounded and would like to inquire the best way to move forward as continuous claims at future board meetings would not be the best use of time for anyone.

Motion made by Joe Hammon and seconded by Dave Rodin, and carried unanimously to adjourn the board meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM