

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES DRAFT

November 13, 2024, at 4PM
Uptown Campus
4701 N. Winthrop Ave., Chicago, IL 60640

Board Members Attending In-Person: Ronit Barrett, Jessica Cardoni, Dee Dee Chesley, Desire Bernard-Forbes, Jeff Kemerley, Meghan Kiesel, Angela Ingbineweka-Obaseki, Justin Orr, Carlos Pineiro, Katheryn Steward

Board Members Attending via Microsoft Teams: Lauren Long, Alex Maturi, Liam O’Kane,

Board Members Absent: Adnan Assad, Rolando Acosta, Roberto Interiano, Homero Tristan, Kim White, Candace Williams

Christopher House Staff Attending: Jennifer Alexander, Sarah Collentine, Julie Dakers, Bernadette Loyola, Becky Seibel, Pablo Vega, Ricardo Villalobos, Karen Ross-Williams, Chanel Wiley

Quorum Met.

Minutes Recorder: Chanel Wiley

Proceedings: Meeting called to order at 4:00PM

Welcome, Presented by Dee Dee Chesley

Dee Dee Chesley called the meeting to order and welcomed the Board members and new Board members.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There was no one present to make public comment.

Minutes and Consent Agenda, Presented by Dee Dee Chesley

Motion was made by Dee Dee Chesley seconded by Jeff Kemerley and carried unanimously to approve September 11, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Dee Dee Chesley seconded by Jeff Kemerley and carried unanimously to approve October 26, 2024, Board Retreat.

Motion was made by Dee Dee Chesley seconded by Ronit Barrett and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda on the one-time incentive payment for staff retention.

New Board Member Elections, Presented by Dee Dee Chesley

Dee Dee welcomes new members of Christopher House Board of Directors and thanked them for wanting to be a part of the Christopher House family.

The Board needs to approve the new upcoming Christopher House Board of Directors:

- Katheryn Steward
- Desire Bernard-Forbes

Motion was made by Dee Dee Chesley, seconded by Carlos Pineiro and carried unanimously for the new board member elections for Katheryn Steward and Desire Bernard-Forbes for the September 2024- September 2027 term.

CEO Report, Presented by Julie Dakers

Julie spoke briefly about the recent election and the effects that the new administration will have on the future of Christopher House, as well as the department of Education. Julie gathered data in 2022-2023 that used to inform the strategic plan. Based on the data, we learned students' scores had declined in elementary school, parent satisfaction and engagement also declined, and staff retention was lower due in part because Christopher House compensation was not competitive with CPS and other non-profits with similar positions. Julie introduced Tracy Stanley, Director of Quality Assurance, to discuss Christopher House data in detail in 2022-2023.

Traci explained the FY24 – FY27 Strategic Priorities and goals for Christopher House to become a well-functioning school. We are focusing on student achievement by offering a safe and healthy learning continuum to all students that cultivate self-awareness and care for others in their community; Pay equity and developing career advancement to increase employee engagement and strengthen our communities; Aiming to achieve a strong enrollment across schools to ensure financial stability.

DBEIJ Task Force, Presented by Meghan Kiesel

Meghan briefly debriefs the board Retreat; The board was able to understand everyone's "why" Learning about the history of GI Bill and the assumptions we have about the community and what are the structures put into place that makes our community the way it is. Meghan discusses additional homework for the board to look into and supplemental reading to do a deeper dive in learning the history of racism, gentrification and identity development.

Finance Committee Report, Presented by Becky Seibel

Becky Seibel, COO, spoke briefly on the audit with Plante Moran on providing an unmodified clean opinion. Becky talked about the CPS Examination Report regarding the audit:

- One finding of noncompliance related to Open Meetings Act
- In compliance with all Financial Performance Indicators in FY24:

- Change in Net Assets, Current Ratio, Net Asset Ratio, Cash on Hand Ratio

Becky gave an update regarding the CHES enrollment, the original approved FY25 budget was built with a projected CHES enrollment of 430, which was our minimum based on SY24 20th day count. The total actual SY25 20th day enrollment counts = 471 students which we anticipated revenue impact to equal to \$341K. The overall projecting to \$590K increase to FY25 budgeted CHES revenue.

Becky briefly discusses the loan terms from Old National Bank, the terms we were anticipating were not what we ultimately received. In our last board meeting in September we will discuss updated terms and the next steps in response to the bank's proposal. This leads to updated loan terms that were executed for both our short- and long-term loans on 9/30/24 and are included in the board packet as well. Becky concluded that the increase in CHES enrollment and substantial increased revenue accompanying that enrollment increase will begin next month, we will see an additional column included in the statement with adjusted forecasted budget. Overall, we are starting FY25 favorable to our approved budget

Motion was made by Dee Dee Chesley seconded by Jessica Cardoni and carried unanimously to approve the Board Resolution.

External Affairs, Presented by Jeff Kemerley

Jeff spoke briefly on the Dashboard of 10.31.24 for the Private Revenue – we currently have a gap on the foundation/corporation side which is due to timing. Jeff moved on to the Annual Benefit this year at Venue West on May 1, 2025. Save the dates have gone out and will hit the mailboxes this week; Jeff asked the board to be part of this year's Benefit. Jeff reminded the board that the focus this year is the level of sponsorships we receive to meet our goals this year. Jeff spoke about the end of the year program, Family to Family. Jeff asks the board to participate in this years program to help our Christopher House families during this holiday season.

Motion was made by Dee Dee Chesley seconded by Carlos Pineiro and carried unanimously to go into Executive Committee.

Closed Session

Return to Open Session – no action taken

Meeting adjourned at 6:03pm.