



**Sela PCS Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: May 9, 2024, 6:45 pm

Location: Zoom meeting

**Attendance:**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
Deena Fox	Board member and chair	Present
Aster Allen-Patel	Board member	Present
Alen Amini	Board member	Present
K.J. Bagchi	Board member	Absent
Rose Benson	Board member	Present
Heather Capell Bramble	Board member	Present
Chelley Coley	Board member	Present
Rebecca Rubin Damari	Board member	Present
Yair Inspektor	Board member	Present
Bryce Jacobs	Board member	Present
Steve Messner	Board member	Present
Justin Rubin	Board member	Present
Michael Walker	Board member	Present
Josh Bork	Head of school (non-voting)	Present
Ryan Benjamin	Director of operations (non-voting)	Present
Ryan Tauriainen	Board member candidate	Present

**Minutes:** Rebecca Damari

**Timekeeper:** Heather Capell Bramble

**Agenda** (Attached as Appendix A)

The meeting started at 6:51 pm

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Alen moved to ratify the meeting minutes from April. Rose seconded.

In favor: Heather, Rebecca, Michael, Aster, Justin, Deena

Opposed: None

Abstained: Yair

## **Mission moments**

Board members reported on touching moments of community between students, and between students and teachers.

The school is holding its first overnight field trip. The fifth graders are staying on a farm in Eastern Maryland. Everyone is doing well and the pictures look like everyone is having fun.

## **Head of School (HOS) report highlights**

We are on track to meet our ambitious enrollment goals for next year. Currently, the combination of partially and fully enrolled students is higher than the enrollment goal for each grade. We anticipate growth of up to 10.5%.

There was discussion of enrollment trends and challenges, especially the challenge of students leaving the school for 5<sup>th</sup> grade to get into a middle school that starts in 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

The school is preparing to post an RFP for an academic director; it will be posted in the DC Register in 2 weeks.

## **Renovation updates**

There have been edits to the project budget and design, which have resulted in changes to the permitting schedule. Current forecasting is that all construction permits should be approved by June 14, for construction to begin on time. Contingency plans are being made to accommodate potential delays. Sela is also engaging with local politicians and neighbors to try to avoid delays resulting from official complaints and other problems.

## **Board recruitment**

Board members should reach out to their networks to seek out new board members, especially for the external relations and governance committees. Recruitment email text is available in the email with the agenda for today's meeting.

## **Vote on Sela Form 990 (tax form)**

Steve moved that we approve the 990 for the year ending 6/30/23. Michael seconded.

In favor: Heather, Rebecca, Chelley, Yair, Rose, Justin, Alen, Aster, Bryce, Deena

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

## **End of year fundraising push**

We still have a way to go toward our fundraising goal for the academic year. Heather will be sending a template fundraising letter, and board members should ensure that they have given this year and make an effort to raise funds from their networks.

Yair moved to go to closed session to discuss personnel matters.<sup>1</sup> Alen seconded.  
In favor: Heather, Rebecca, Chelley, Rose, Steve, Michael, Justin, Aster, Bryce, Deena  
Opposed: none  
Abstained: none

**Closed session began at 8:05 pm**

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<sup>1</sup> The reason for closed session was to discuss topics covered under section 2-575(b)(10) of the Open Meetings Act (“To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, performance evaluation, compensation, discipline, demotion, removal, or resignation of government appointees, employees, or officials, or of public charter school personnel, where the public body is the board of trustees of a public charter school”).