

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

September 29, 2021

6:00 – 8:00pm

Meeting Held Virtually Using Zoom

Adequate notice of the meeting has been provided on June 1 to the Courier Post, the South Jersey Inquirer, and the Camden City Clerk and posted on the Mastery website and on the front door of Mastery Schools of Camden.

Agenda:

I. Roll Call

Present: James Reynolds, Judith Tschirgi, Reuel Robinson;

Absent: Jim Sheward, Sharell Sharp;

Quorum: 3/5

Meeting started at 6:02pm

II. Action Resolutions

- **Accept Board Meeting Minutes**

- **R-210929-1**

- **Resolved**, to accept the minutes of the Board meeting of Mastery Schools of Camden from August 25, 2021, as presented.

- After board discussion R-210929-1 was adopted:
Motion to approve R-210929-1: Judith Tschirgi
Second: Reuel Robinson
Motion passes with unanimous approval.

- **Hiring, Job Changes & Other Earnings**

- **R-210929-2**

- **Resolved**, to ratify Mastery Schools of Camden staff hired between August 14, 2021 and September 17, 2021.

- After board discussion R-210929-2 was adopted:
Motion to approve R-210929-2: Reuel Robinson
Second: Judith Tschirgi
Motion passes with unanimous approval.

- **R-210929-3**

- **Resolved**, to ratify job changes from Mastery Schools of Camden between August 14, 2021 and September 17, 2021.

- After board discussion R-210929-3 was adopted:
Motion to approve R-210929-3: Reuel Robinson
Second: Judith Tschirgi
Motion passes with unanimous approval.

- **R-210929-4**

Resolved, to ratify the \$383,072 of “other earnings” compensation paid during August 2021 for Mastery Schools of Camden.

- After board discussion R-210929-4 was adopted:
Motion to approve R-210929-4: Reuel Robinson
Second: Judith Tschirgi
Motion passes with unanimous approval.

III. **Finance (Yonca Agatan)**

R-210929-5

Resolved, that the Mastery Schools of Camden Board of Trustees ratifies the payroll in the amount of \$509,585 for August 6, 2021, including \$184,000 in Summer School Earnings, and \$1,137,566 for August 20, 2021, including \$37,000 in Summer School Earnings.

As a reminder, our payroll process shifted to align with the NJ state pension program requirements. Our 10.5-month full-time staff are now paid over 23 periods instead of 26. As such, 10.5-month full-time staff received no payment in the August 6th payroll (unless they were being paid for summer school), and started getting paid with the August 20th payroll.

- After board discussion R-210929-5 was adopted:
Motion to approve R-210929-5: Judith Tschirgi
Second: Reuel Robinson
Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-210929-6

Resolved, to approve payment of \$2,923,993 for operating expenses as detailed in the invoices listing.

- After board discussion R-210929-6 was adopted:
Motion to approve R-210929-6: Judith Tschirgi
Second: Reuel Robinson
Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-210929-7

Resolved, to ratify execution of contracts with vendors for services to Mastery Schools of Camden as presented below:

| Contractor / Service Provider | Description of Services | Term of Contract | Contract Amount |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Black Girls Love Math | McGraw Tutoring | 9/3/2021-9/3/2022 | \$12,500 |
| Black Girls Love Math | Molina Tutoring | 8/26/2021-8/26/2022 | \$15,000 |
| Cora Services, Inc | Special Education Related Services | 8/24/2021-8/26/2022 | Not to exceed \$1,287,871 |
| Engineering Design Studio | McGraw Zoning Consultant | Upon contract execution | \$13,700 |
| Jounce Partners | Leadership Coaching | 8/1/2021-6/30/2022 | \$20,000 (up to 3 Leaders) |
| Jounce Partners | Teacher Coaching | 8/1/2021-6/30/2022 | \$35,000 (\$7,000 per teacher) |
| Sustainable Schooling (DBA Laura Wayles Wilson) | Enrollment Support | 8/1/2021-10/31/2021 | \$90/Hour; not to exceed \$9,000 |
| Teach, LLC | SAT Test Prep | 9/8/2021-6/30/2022 | \$36,350 |
| TutorMe, LLC | High School Virtual Tutoring | 8/26/2021-8/26/2022 | \$6,336 |
| TutorMe, LLC | McGraw Virtual Tutoring | 8/25/2021-8/25/2022 | \$3,600 |
| TutorMe, LLC | Molina Virtual Tutoring | 8/30/2021-8/30/2022 | \$18,000 |
| Y.A.L.E. School | Approved Private School Tuition (NG) | 9/9/2021-6/30/2022 | \$60,044.40 (Annual); \$333.58 (Daily) |

- After board discussion R-210929-7 was adopted:
 Motion to approve R-210929-7: Judith Tschirgi
 Second: Reuel Robinson
 Motion passes with unanimous approval.

IV. CEO Report (Scott Gordon)

R-210929-8

WHEREAS, Camden City School District (CCSD) informed Mastery Schools of Camden (Mastery) on August 12th 2021 that approximately 75% of CCSD bus routes will be without transportation at the commencement of school, impacting every charter, renaissance, and district school – including Mastery; and

WHEREAS, by law CCSD is responsible for transporting eligible Mastery students to and from school; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to support parents and guardians in the transportation of their children to school, particularly given the substantial learning loss having already occurred arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic and school closures, and the irreparable harm from further school interruption; and

WHEREAS, to date, CCSD has not communicated to Mastery a credible plan to timely restore transportation to all eligible Mastery students; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Hope Act and New Jersey Administrative Code authorizes renaissance schools, in their discretion, to use general funds for student transportation in furtherance of its mission; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees approved at its August 25, 2021, on an emergency basis, the payment of monies for transportation assistance to families, procurement of transportation services for students, and the Mastery operation of transportation vans; and

WHEREAS, the transportation emergency still exists.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT **RESOLVED**, that Mastery be and hereby is authorized, on an emergency basis, to further implement a transportation assistance program entailing payments to transportation-eligible parents and guardians at a rate of \$100 per month, for a total not to exceed \$5,000 per month, subject to reasonable conditions and criteria set by the Mastery Administration; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that Mastery is authorized to procure private transportation services and deliver transportation services, per terms and conditions consistent with law.

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that expenses authorized by this Resolution shall be duly presented to the Board of Trustees for approval and/or ratification at every regular meeting while the present transportation emergency exists, subject to student confidentiality protections.

- After board discussion R-210929-8 was adopted:
Motion to approve R-210929-8: Judith Tschirgi
Second: Reuel Robinson
Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-210929-9

Resolved, to adopt the Staff Vaccination Policy as presented.

- After board discussion R-210929-9 was adopted:
Motion to approve R-210929-9: Judith Tschirgi
Second: Reuel Robinson
Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-210929-10 - Withdrawn

V. Compliance (Michael Patron)

R-210929-11

Resolved, to accept the HIB Board Report for September as presented.

- After board discussion R-210929-11 was adopted:
Motion to approve R-210929-11: Judith Tschirgi
Second: Reuel Robinson
Motion passes with unanimous approval.

End

- No Public Comment
- Meeting Adjourned at 6:14