

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

April 26, 2023

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Meeting Held at Mastery Cramer Hill Elementary and Virtually Using Zoom

Adequate notice of the meeting has been provided on June 23rd, 2022 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: Reuel Robinson, Jim Sheward, Jamie Reynolds

Absent: Judy Tschirgi

Quorum: 3/4

Meeting started at 6:04 pm

#### II. Action Resolutions

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##### Accept Board Meeting Minutes

###### **R-230426-1**

**Resolved**, to accept the minutes of the Board meeting of Mastery Schools of Camden from March 29, 2023, as presented.

- After board discussion 230426-1 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-1 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

##### Hiring, Job Changes & Other Earnings

###### **R-230426-2**

**Resolved**, to ratify Mastery Schools of Camden staff hired between March 16, 2023 to April 14, 2023, as presented.

- After board discussion 230426-2 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-2 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

###### **R-230426-3**

**Resolved**, to ratify job changes from Mastery Schools of Camden between March 16, 2023 to April 14, 2023, as presented.

- After board discussion 230426-3 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-3 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

###### **R-230426-4**

**Resolved**, to ratify the \$148,088 of “other earnings” compensation paid during March 2023 for Mastery Schools of Camden staff, as presented.

- After board discussion 230426-4 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-4 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

#### III. Finance (Yonca Agatan)

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###### **R-230426-5**

**Resolved**, that the Mastery Schools of Camden Board of Trustees ratifies the payroll in the amount of \$1,273,587, including \$29,675 in retention incentives, for March 3, 2023, \$1,248,348, including \$29,675 in retention incentives, for March 17, 2023 and \$1,167,003, including \$371 in retention incentives, for March 31, 2023 as presented.

- After board discussion 230426-5 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-5 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

**R-230426-6**

**Resolved**, to approve payment of \$3,250,550 for operating expenses as detailed in the invoices listing (dated April 26, 2023) as presented.

- After board discussion 230426-6 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-6 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

**R-230426-7**

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

- After board discussion 230426-7 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-7 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

Contractor / Service Provider	Description of Services	Term of Contract	Contract Amount
Teach LLC	1st and 2nd Grade 1:1 Reading Intensive	4/28/2023-5/17/2023	\$9,900

**R-230426-8**

**Resolved**, to appoint Clifton Larson Allen to perform audit and tax services for Mastery Schools of Camden for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 as presented.

- After board discussion 230426-8 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-8 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

**R-230426-9**

**Resolved**, to acknowledge that the Board received the FY22 federal tax return for Mastery Schools of Camden.

- After board discussion 230426-9 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-9 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

**R-230426-10**

**Resolved**, to approve the Mastery Schools of Camden staff funded with federal grants during FY23 as detailed in separate attachment.

- After board discussion 230426-10 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-10 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

**IV. SY24 Staff Salaries and School Calendar (Scott Gordon)**

**R-230426-11**

**Resolved**, to approve 12-month staff salaries for Mastery Schools of Camden for SY24 as presented.

- After board discussion 230426-11 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-11 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

#### **V. Long Term Suspension Recommendations (Saliyah Cruz)**

##### **R-230426-12**

**Resolved**, ratify the Long-Term suspension recommended by the Board of Trustees Long Term Suspension Committee at a hearing held March 23, 2023 through April 17, 2023, involving the students below.

- After board discussion 230426-12 was adopted: Motion to approve 230426-12 Jamie Reynolds Second: Reuel Robinson Motion passes with unanimous approval.

##### **Discussion:**

- Jim Sheward asked if there is a sense that this is a large cohort. Dr. Cruz responded that this is about what we've been seeing this year, coming back from the pandemic. We have increased staffing at the high schools on the culture team because of the number of incidents that we've had. This year it is really localized just at the high school. We typically don't see these for our feeder schools. But this has been on par with what we've been seeing across the network.

Student ID #800374-Mastery High of Camden –Possession of a Controlled Substance Tobacco, Alcohol, Marijuana - Long Term Suspension ends June 08, 2023

Student ID #804460-Mastery High of Camden –Physical Assault- Long Term Suspension ends June 08, 2023

Student ID #801837-Mastery High of Camden –Possession of a Controlled Substance Tobacco, Alcohol, Marijuana- Long Term Suspension ends June 08, 2023

Student ID #804213-Mastery High of Camden –Physical Assault- Long Term Suspension ends June 08, 2023

Student ID #805951-Mastery High of Camden –Possession of a Controlled Substance Tobacco, Alcohol, Marijuana- Long Term Suspension ends June 08, 2023

Student ID #804869-Mastery High of Camden –Physical Assault- Long Term Suspension ends June 08, 2023

Student ID #800140-Mastery High of Camden –Physical Assault- Long Term Suspension ends June 08, 2023

Student ID #800734-Cramer Hill –Bullying- Long Term Suspension ends June 08, 2023

Student ID #802877-Cramer Hill –Possession of a Controlled Substance Tobacco, Alcohol, Marijuana- Long Term Suspension ends June 08, 2023

#### **VI. Plan 2028 Update (Jeffrey Pestrak, Jessica Varevice, Saliyah Cruz)**

##### **Discussion:**



- Jim Sheward asked how big of an issue does the team think new students entering our process are to the success and culture we're trying to build with this program. For example, if I'm entering as a junior in high school versus a student who has been with Mastery six or ten years. Is this a big deal? Jeffery Pestrak answered that whether is a big deal or not, it's who we are. We are a public school that serve kids that move around. That being said, we do have to plan for this, which is why we have these different pathways. It is why we are focusing on growth, identifying students and which pathways would be most beneficial, and how we can provide the additional academic supports. So if students have not had a great education prior to coming to Mastery, we can have a plan of how we can provide those additional academic supports. Dr. Cruz also responded that Mastery has a student retention annual goal so that we are focusing on students who come to us, stay with us, year over year. Our family academic partnership strategy is going to be very important for students coming in at unnatural entry points, are clear on where they children are at entry, expectations, and what is needed to get students caught up to be able to be promoted. We also want to consider where we naturally pick up students who are not from our feeders, and the intentional programming. We feel these three pathways provide an opportunity for promotion for every child.
- James Reynold asked if there is a value in looking at our statistics for students who are in the system for a minimum of five years and determining if those students, in comparison to their peers in Mastery or another benchmark, are outperforming those students who have shorter tenure. This may be a great point for marketing if we have this information. Jeffrey Pestrak answered that years ago we conducted a longitudinal study with our Philadelphia schools which showed that the students who stayed with Mastery longer performed academically better compared to students who are just entering. We have not conducted this recently, but it's a great prompt and something we can do.

## **VII. Public Comments**

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3 minutes per public comment

## **VIII. End**

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- Meeting Ended 6:41 pm