



# Peninsula Preparatory Academy Charter School

611 Beach 19th Street, Far Rockaway, New York 11691 - Phone: 347.403.9231 Fax: 718.327.2581

Interim Principal: Rachele Pierre -- Assistant Principal: Angela Inforna

## **June Board Meeting - Tuesday, June 22, 2021**

**Meeting began at 6:08 PM**

### **Attendance:**

#### **Board Members:**

Betty Leon - Board Chairperson  
Dorethea McFadden - Co-Chairperson  
Jacqueline Burton-Waal - Secretary  
Brandon Jeffries - Treasurer  
Randy Hall - member,  
Kevin Alexander,

#### **Absent:**

Constance Blackman  
Malik Sanders

#### **PPA Staff:**

Angela Inforna - Assistant Principal  
Rachele Pierre - Assistant Principal  
Jason Pierre - Chief Operating Officer  
Ta Jones - Director of Communication

#### **PTO Board:**

Jenny Young - PTO President  
Kimberly Taylor - PTO Vice President

There were community members in attendance as well.

#### **Board Agenda:**

A motion was made to accept May's Board minutes by Mrs. Burton-Waal, seconded by Mr. Randy Hall accepted by all.

#### **Recitation of PPA's Mission:**

- i. Recitation of Mission statement
- ii. Recitation of Goal #2
- iii. PreK budget has been approved

#### **Board of Trustees**

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## Chairperson's Report: Betty Leon

- There will be an executive session at the end of the board meeting. All staff/families will need to log off so that the board can meet privately to discuss private matters.

## Update on School's New Location:

- Mrs. Leon will have a committee looking for a new building: They will be called the Real Estate Committee. The Real Estate Committee will consist of: Ms. Betty Leon, Mrs. McFadden, Mr. Kevin Alexander, Mr. Brandon Jeffries, Mr. Jason Pierre, Mr. Randy Hall. The Real Estate Committee will make recommendations and will bring those recommendations and any concerns to the board. Mr. Alexander will be the chair of this committee.

- All of the board members should think of all of the things that they would want to see in the school.
- Principal Jones officially retired on May 28, 2021. The board will discuss/name her interim replacement during the executive session.
- *Questions - Mr. R. Hall: Is Mrs. Jones gone officially or will she play a part in this decision?*
- *Answer - Mrs. Leon: Mrs. Jones is officially gone and has moved onto retirement.*

Motion to accept Chairperson's report made by: Kevin Alexander

Seconded by: Mrs. McFadden

Unanimously Accepted by all

## Principal's Report: Mrs. Inforna & Mrs. Pierre - Assistant Principals

- An Intent to Return Survey was created and sent to the staff to complete. While there are many teachers that plan to return, several have stated that they will not be returning for the 2021-22 school year.
- Interviewing for open positions - will begin in July
- The Director of Communications has created an academic calendar for the next school year 2021-22. It is being reviewed and will be shared with all families as well as posted on the website.
- Graduation Committee created and streamed three virtual graduation ceremonies this year. All families seemed please with the ceremonies and were not upset that it took place virtually.
- The school is working on picking up electronic devices for the next school year.
- Question: Mrs. Leon: Are the teachers aware there will not be any remote next year? All teachers are expected to report to the building daily. Answer: Mrs. Pierre - Yes, they are aware that we are back in the building.
- Mrs. Pierre discussed the Dashboard Breakdown of student enrollment {Please see attachment #1 - Dashboard Breakdown}
- There is a Waitlist for 2021-22 school year {Please see Attachment #1 - Waitlist for the 2021-2022 School Year}
- Attendance: 97% student attendance for both in-person and virtual - for staff 29% attended regularly in the month of May. *Question: Mrs. Leon: Will there be a plan of action so that this doesn't take place again? The teacher attendance isn't acceptable. Mrs. Pierre: Yes, we are creating a plan of action.*

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Motion to accept Principal's Report made by: Mrs. McFadden

Seconded by: Ms. Jenny Young

Unanimously Accepted by all

Financial Report: Jason Pierre - Chief Operating Officer

- Cash On Hand - \$1.7 million
- Next board meeting we will be presenting a 5 year projection budget
- We did not furlough any staff members - everyone remained on the payroll and worked from March 2020 until now.
- A Glow - we were able to save \$463,000 from the pandemic
- There is a teacher shortage in NYS. Looking at other organizations
- Central Queens Academy & Merrick Academy are what PPA looked at. CQA is a built-out school and what PPA should look at when thinking of expansion.
- All of our enrollment states we should be back to full capacity in the Fall
- In regards to the teacher attendance, there is a proposal for a \$70 payout for teachers that have days left in their bank instead of the "use it or lose it" policy in place now. This will allow teachers that have chosen to move on from PPA to receive a payment at the end instead of losing the days - as the policy is now.
- Professional Development - there will be a budget for professional development for the teachers
- Mr. Alexander explained the pay raises for the teachers. - by the August Board meeting, a document will be ready to present to the board in regards to paying raises and performances
- Questions: Mrs. Leon - I know with rental assistance, any grades added after 2012 are eligible for rental assistance? Does PK not count? Answer: Mr. Pierre: No, PK does not count. It would be when we add 6th Grade
- Mrs. Leon - Thank you for speaking to the vendors. Did we receive a discount? Answer: Mr. Pierre - On some things, yes we did. Such as custodial staff
- Question: Mrs. Leon: The PPE money - when do we need to spend it and is it included in the budget? Response: Mr. Pierre - We are projected to spend it all by November and no, it is not included in the budget at all.
- Mrs. Leon: When you have the contract with TriNet, please bring it to the board for approval. Mr. Pierre: It will be in October and I will bring it at that time.
- Question: Mrs. Leon: The bonuses that you've mentioned and the cost of living you mentioned, Mr. Pierre, I understand. My issue is... the teacher's performance. Response: Mr. Pierre - We will get something to present to the board in terms of bonuses and having them performance-based. Response: Mrs. Leon - Okay. I am all for rewarding great performance. But this data that we just saw... Response: Mr. Pierre - I understand. Questions: Mr. Hall - The payout of the raises would be to keep the teachers? The other part is an incentive for performance? I just want to make sure I understand. Response: Mr. Pierre: Correct. Response: Mr. Hall - Okay, I just wanted to understand. I think that this would be a positive incentive to keep the school competitive. Mrs. Leon - Mr. Pierre, please set up a meeting to further discuss the performance base so that it will be ready in August. Please give us at least 2 weeks' notice with a specific agenda to discuss. Please meet with Mrs. Inforna and Mrs. Pierre

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- Mr. Alexander is the chair of the building committee. Mrs. Leon stated that we need an outside attorney. Due to conflict of interest, she cannot be the attorney and on the Board of Trustees.
- Mr. Jason Pierre explained that in creating the building, we would need to create a "Friends of" who is the landlord, and Peninsula Prep would be the tenant. This is due to the school being a charter that needs to be consistently renewed.

Motion to accept budget made by: Kevin Alexander

Seconded by: Brandon Jeffries

Unanimously Accepted by all

Motion to accept financial report: Kevin Alexander

Seconded by: Brandon Jeffries

Unanimously Accepted by all

Mrs. Leon, Board Chair opened the floor for questions/concerns - there were no questions from the community

Committee's Reports: Jenny Young - PTO President

1. The last board meeting consisted of summarizing the school year
2. July will be another fundraiser - Double-good Popcorn. This was a successful fundraiser

Motion to accept committee's report made by: Ms. Leon

Seconded by: Mr. Jeffries

Unanimously Accepted by all

There wasn't any new business/old business to be discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Alexander

Respectfully submitted,

Ta Jones

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# Principal's Report Attachment #1

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## Dashboard Breakdown- May 2021

- Student enrollment PK-5th: 321 Students
  - Pre-k: 27 currently enrolled (13 boys and 14 girls)
  - K-5th: 294 students currently enrolled (118 boys and 176 girls)
    - 11.6% students enrolled are receiving SpEd services
    - 11.6% students enrolled are receiving ELL services
    - 15% students enrolled are receiving Math Intervention Services (MISE)
    - 28% students enrolled are receiving Reading Intervention Services (RISE)
    - 33.8% students are General Education Students who are not receiving any additional services outside of their classroom instruction

## Waitlist for the 2021-2022 School Year

- Kindergarten 120 students
- 1st Grade 16 students
- 2nd Grade 22 students
- 3rd Grade 18 students
- 4th Grade 16 students
- 5th Grade 20 students

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## Student and Staff Attendance-May

- 97% of students attended school both in person and virtual
- 29% of staff attended in person regularly in the building

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