



**March Meeting Minutes for the
Board of Trustees of DC Scholars Public Charter School (DCSPCS)**

Thursday, March 24, 2022

4:30 pm via Zoom

<https://dcscholars-org.zoom.us/j/91999162417?pwd=LzRiaWtRTXZOUhNQY0hTMjJ6cHBYUT09>

Board Members Present: Bob Weinberg, Crystal Williams, Jackie Lendsey (until 5:00 pm), Evan Piekara, Laura Fitzgerald, Shantania Williams, Maegan Marciano (4:44 pm).

Board Members Absent: Janelle Suggs, Robert Patterson, Andrew Ellenbogen.

Guests: Vickie Ho (EdOps), Dionne Dabelow (EdOps).

DC Scholars Staff Present: Business Manager Emily Stone, Executive Coach Jennifer Leonard, Head of School Amy Helms.

- I. Welcome and Agenda Review
 - a. Mr. Weinberg called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm after taking roll call to determine the presence of a quorum.
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. February 24, 2022 Meeting
 - i. Ms. Lendsey made a motion to approve the February 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Ms. S. Williams seconded. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.
- III. Finance Committee Report
 - a. Vote for Approval
 - i. Verizon Fios Contract
 1. At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Ms. Lendsey made a motion to approve the Verizon Fios Contract. Ms. C Williams seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.
 - ii. CareFirst BlueCross
 1. At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Ms. Lendsey made a motion to approve the CareFirst BlueCross contract. Ms. C Williams seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.
 - iii. 2020-21 Form 990
 1. At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Ms. Lendsey made a motion to approve 2020 Form 990. Mr. Piekara seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.



- b. January 2022 Financials
 - i. Mr. Piekara provided an overview of the January 2022 financials included in the board materials. Discussion followed.
- IV. Governance Committee Report
 - a. Board Member Onboarding Handbook
 - i. The Governance Committee Chair Ms. C Williams presented the completed draft of the Board Handbook and requested questions and discussions on the Board Handbook.
 - b. Parent Board Member Update
 - i. Mr. Weinberg recognized Emily Stone, Business Manager, to provide an oral update on the status of parent board member vacancy.
 - c. Board Member Update
 - i. Mr. Weinberg provided an update on the Board Roster and the need to fill two vacant positions in September 2022.
 - ii. Mr. Weinberg requested board member recommendations for new members. Discussion followed.
- V. Head of School's Report
 - a. Ms. Helms provided a verbal report on the following:
 - i. Middle of Year student data;
 - ii. SY22-23 strategic planning, including staffing plans, student schedules, and improving data and operational systems.
 - iii. SY21-22 COVID Policy and procedure updates;
 - iv. SY22-23 Enrollment;
 - v. A preview of April deadlines, including an upcoming OSSE ESSER Visit, PCSB 10 Year Review Plan, Cognia Accreditation Monitoring, and End of Year student testing and events, and staff retention and hiring for SY22-23.
 - b. Ms. Helms responded to questions and comments from the Board.
- VI. Closing
 - a. Mr. Weinberg made a motion to close the meeting. Ms. C. Williams seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:44 PM.
 - b. Mr. Weinberg thanked the board members for their participation.

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.



**Action without Meeting of the Board of Trustees of
DC Scholars Public Charter School
Wednesday, April 20, 2022**

DC Scholars PCS Board of Trustees Participants: Robert Patterson, Shantania Williams, Crystal Williams, Jackie Lendsey, Laura Fitzgerald, Evan Piekara, Maegan Marciano, Andrew Ellenbogen, Bob Weinberg, Janelle Suggs.

DC Scholars Public Charter School Staff: Business Manager Emily Stone.

- I. Action
 - a. Mrs. Stone emailed DC Scholars PCS Board of Directors on behalf of the Board Chair and Governance Chair with the Governance Committee's approval and recommendation for the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars Board.
 - b. The email from Mrs. Stone at 10:34 am on April 20, 2022 is incorporated and attached to these minutes.
 - c. The DC Scholars PCS Board Bylaws permit action without meeting, so long as all board members are in agreement.
- II. Board Member Votes
 - a. Robert Patterson approved at 10:53 AM on April 20, 2022.
 - b. Shantania Williams approved at 11:00 AM on April 20, 2022.
 - c. Crystal Williams approved at 11:00 AM on April 20, 2022.
 - d. Jacquelyn Lendsey approved at 11:25 AM on April 20, 2022.
 - e. Laura Fitzgerald approved at 1:09 PM on April 20, 2022.
 - f. Evan Piekara approved at 1:20 PM on April 20, 2022.
 - g. Maegan Marciano approved at 1:52 PM on April 20, 2022.
 - h. Andrew Ellenbogen approved at 2:02 PM on April 20, 2022.
 - i. Bob Weinberg approved at 2:45 PM on April 20, 2022.
 - j. Janelle Suggs approved at 6:47 PM on April 20, 2022.

The election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board of Directors was approved unanimously.

All copies of Board member responses are incorporated and attached to these minutes.



This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.

DRAFT

Emily Stone

From: Robert J Patterson
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 10:54 AM
To: Emily Stone
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I, **Robert Patterson**, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, Robert Patterson, April 20, 2022: 10:53am.

On Wed, Apr 20, 2022 at 10:34 AM Emily Stone wrote:

Board Members,

Good morning! The Governance Committee has voted unanimously to recommend that the Board elect Tikia Thompson to be a Board member. Tikia's resume is attached.

As you know, the board is required to include two DC Scholars parents as board members. As of now, we have one parent board member.

Tikia Thompson brings enthusiasm and eagerness, along with considerable experience as a parent active in school affairs at DC Scholars. Bob and Robert interviewed Tikia and were impressed by her ongoing commitment to the school.

We would like Tikia to attend the next board meeting scheduled for April 28, 2022. The Governance Committee is recommending Tikia for membership and that the Board act on this recommendation through the Action without Meeting process.

Please respond to this email with the following statement by **Friday, April 22, 2022 COB:**

I, **{Insert Name}**, vote to approve/disapprove **(select one)** the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, **{Insert Name} {Insert Date, Time}**

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation and prompt cooperation.

Crystal Williams

Chair, Governance Committee

Bob Weinberg

Chair, DC Scholars Public Charter School

Emily Stone

Business Manager

DC Scholars Public Charter School

| www.dcscholars.org

5601 E. Capitol St SE Washington, DC 20019



Emily Stone

From: Shantania Williams
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 11:00 AM
To: Emily Stone
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I, ShantaniaWilliams, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, Shantania Williams, **4/20/22, 11:00am**

On Wednesday, April 20, 2022, 10:34:31 AM EDT, Emily Stone wrote:

Board Members,

Good morning! The Governance Committee has voted unanimously to recommend that the Board elect Tikia Thompson to be a Board member. Tikia's resume is attached.

As you know, the board is required to include two DC Scholars parents as board members. As of now, we have one parent board member.

Tikia Thompson brings enthusiasm and eagerness, along with considerable experience as a parent active in school affairs at DC Scholars. Bob and Robert interviewed Tikia and were impressed by her ongoing commitment to the school.

We would like Tikia to attend the next board meeting scheduled for April 28, 2022. The Governance Committee is recommending Tikia for membership and that the Board act on this recommendation through the Action without Meeting process.

Please respond to this email with the following statement by **Friday, April 22, 2022 COB**:

I, {Insert Name}, vote to approve/disapprove (**select one**) the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, {Insert Name} {Insert Date, Time}

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation and prompt cooperation.

Crystal Williams

Chair, Governance Committee

Bob Weinberg

Chair, DC Scholars Public Charter School

Emily Stone

Business Manager

DC Scholars Public Charter School

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5601 E. Capitol St SE Washington, DC 20019



Emily Stone

From: Crystal Williams
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 11:02 AM
To: Emily Stone; Andrew Ellenbogen; Bob Weinberg; Evan Piekara; Jacquelyn Lendsey; Janelle Suggs; Laura Fitzgerald; Maegan Marcano; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I, **Crystal Williams**, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Crystal Williams, April 20, 2022, 11:00 AM EST

From: Emily Stone
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 10:34 AM
To: Andrew Ellenbogen; Bob Weinberg; Crystal Williams; Evan Piekara; Jacquelyn Lendsey; Janelle Suggs; Laura Fitzgerald; Maegan Marcano; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams
Subject: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

Board Members,

Good morning! The Governance Committee has voted unanimously to recommend that the Board elect Tikia Thompson to be a Board member. Tikia's resume is attached.

As you know, the board is required to include two DC Scholars parents as board members. As of now, we have one parent board member.

Tikia Thompson brings enthusiasm and eagerness, along with considerable experience as a parent active in school affairs at DC Scholars. Bob and Robert interviewed Tikia and were impressed by her ongoing commitment to the school.

We would like Tikia to attend the next board meeting scheduled for April 28, 2022. The Governance Committee is recommending Tikia for membership and that the Board act on this recommendation through the Action without Meeting process.

Please respond to this email with the following statement by **Friday, April 22, 2022 COB:**

I, **{Insert Name}**, vote to approve/disapprove **(select one)** the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, **{Insert Name} {Insert Date, Time}**

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation and prompt cooperation.

Crystal Williams

Chair, Governance Committee

Bob Weinberg

Chair, DC Scholars Public Charter School

Emily Stone

Business Manager

DC Scholars Public Charter School

| www.dcscholars.org 5601 E. Capitol St SE

Washington, DC 20019



Emily Stone

From: Jackie
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 11:25 AM
To: Crystal Williams; Emily Stone; Andrew Ellenbogen; Bob Weinberg; Evan Piekara; Janelle Suggs; Laura Fitzgerald; Maegan Marciano; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I, Jacquelyn L. Lendsey, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, Jacquelyn L. Lendsey, April 20, 2022

-----Original Message-----

From: Crystal Williams
Sent: Wed, Apr 20, 2022 11:01 am
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

I, **Crystal Williams**, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Crystal Williams, April 20, 2022, 11:00 AM EST

From: Emily Stone
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 10:34 AM
To: Andrew Ellenbogen; Bob Weinberg; Crystal Williams; Evan Piekara; Jacquelyn Lendsey; Janelle Suggs; Laura Fitzgerald; Maegan Marciano; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams
Subject: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

Board Members,

Good morning! The Governance Committee has voted unanimously to recommend that the Board elect Tikia Thompson to be a Board member. Tikia's resume is attached.

As you know, the board is required to include two DC Scholars parents as board members. As of now, we have one parent board member.

Tikia Thompson brings enthusiasm and eagerness, along with considerable experience as a parent active in school affairs at DC Scholars. Bob and Robert interviewed Tikia and were impressed by her ongoing commitment to the school.

We would like Tikia to attend the next board meeting scheduled for April 28, 2022. The Governance Committee is recommending Tikia for membership and that the Board act on this recommendation through the Action without Meeting process.

Please respond to this email with the following statement by **Friday, April 22, 2022 COB**:

I, **{Insert Name}**, vote to approve/disapprove (**select one**) the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, **{Insert Name} {Insert Date, Time}**

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation and prompt cooperation.

Crystal Williams

Chair, Governance Committee

Bob Weinberg

Chair, DC Scholars Public Charter School

Emily Stone

Business Manager

DC Scholars Public Charter School

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Emily Stone

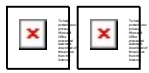
From: Laura Fitzgerald
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 1:10 PM
To: Jacquelyn Lendsey
Cc: Crystal Williams; Emily Stone; Andrew Ellenbogen; Bob Weinberg; Evan Piekara; Janelle Suggs; Maegan Marciano; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

I, Laura Fitzgerald, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, Laura Fitzgerald, April 20, 2022, 1:09 PM EST

Be well,

Laura Fitzgerald
Educational Consultant
[Weinfeld Education Group](#)
Helping all children reach their unique potential



On Wed, Apr 20, 2022 at 11:24 AM Jackie wrote:

I, Jacquelyn L. Lendsey, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, Jacquelyn L. Lendsey, April 20, 2022

-----Original Message-----

From: Crystal Williams
Sent: Wed, Apr 20, 2022 11:01 am
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

I, **Crystal Williams**, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Crystal Williams, April 20, 2022, 11:00 AM EST

Emily Stone

From: Evan Piekara
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 1:20 PM
To: Laura Fitzgerald
Cc: Jacquelyn Lendsey; Crystal Williams; Emily Stone; Andrew Ellenbogen; Bob Weinberg; Janelle Suggs; Maegan Marcano; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

I, Evan Piekara, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, Evan Piekara, April 20, 2022, 1:20 PM EST

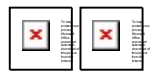
On Wed, Apr 20, 2022 at 1:10 PM Laura Fitzgerald wrote:

I, Laura Fitzgerald, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, Laura Fitzgerald, April 20, 2022, 1:09 PM EST

Be well,

Laura Fitzgerald
Educational Consultant
[Weinfeld Education Group](#)
Helping all children reach their unique potential



On Wed, Apr 20, 2022 at 11:24 AM Jackie wrote:

I, Jacquelyn L. Lendsey, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, Jacquelyn L. Lendsey, April 20, 2022

From: Emily Stone

Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 10:34 AM

To: Andrew Ellenbogen; Bob Weinberg; Crystal Williams; Evan Piekara; Jacquelyn Lendsey; Janelle Suggs; Laura Fitzgerald; Maegan Marcano; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams

Subject: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

Board Members,

Good morning! The Governance Committee has voted unanimously to recommend that the Board elect Tikia Thompson to be a Board member. Tikia's resume is attached.

As you know, the board is required to include two DC Scholars parents as board members. As of now, we have one parent board member.

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We would like Tikia to attend the next board meeting scheduled for April 28, 2022. The Governance Committee is recommending Tikia for membership and that the Board act on this recommendation through the Action without Meeting process.

Please respond to this email with the following statement by **Friday, April 22, 2022 COB**:

I, **{Insert Name}**, vote to approve/disapprove (**select one**) the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, **{Insert Name} {Insert Date, Time}**

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation and prompt cooperation.

Crystal Williams

Chair, Governance Committee

Bob Weinberg

Chair, DC Scholars Public Charter School

Emily Stone

Business Manager

DC Scholars Public Charter School

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Emily Stone

From: Maegan M
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 1:53 PM
To: Emily Stone
Cc: Andrew Ellenbogen; Bob Weinberg; Crystal Williams; Evan Piekara; Jacquelyn Lendsey; Janelle Suggs; Laura Fitzgerald; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting
Attachments: Tikia Thompson Resume_April 2022.pdf

I, Maegan Marcano, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, Maegan Marcano, April 20, 2022, 1:52 PM EST

Thanks,
Maegan

On Apr 20, 2022, at 10:34 AM, Emily Stone wrote:

Board Members,

Good morning! The Governance Committee has voted unanimously to recommend that the Board elect Tikia Thompson to be a Board member. Tikia's resume is attached.

As you know, the board is required to include two DC Scholars parents as board members. As of now, we have one parent board member.

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We would like Tikia to attend the next board meeting scheduled for April 28, 2022. The Governance Committee is recommending Tikia for membership and that the Board act on this recommendation through the Action without Meeting process.

Please respond to this email with the following statement by **Friday, April 22, 2022 COB**:

I, **{Insert Name}**, vote to approve/disapprove **(select one)** the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, **{Insert Name} {Insert Date, Time}**

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation and prompt cooperation.

Crystal Williams
Chair, Governance Committee

Bob Weinberg
Chair, DC Scholars Public Charter School

Emily Stone

Business Manager
DC Scholars Public Charter School
| www.dcscholars.org
5601 E. Capitol St SE Washington, DC 20019



DC SCHOLARS
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Emily Stone

From: Andrew Ellenbogen
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 2:02 PM
To: Emily Stone; Maegan Marcano
Cc: Bob Weinberg; Crystal Williams; Evan Piekara; Jacquelyn Lendsey; Janelle Suggs; Laura Fitzgerald; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

I, Andrew Ellenbogen, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Andrew Ellenbogen

On Wednesday, April 20, 2022, 01:53:10 PM EDT, Maegan M wrote:

I, Maegan Marcano, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, Maegan Marcano, April 20, 2022, 1:52 PM EST

Thanks,
Maegan

On Apr 20, 2022, at 10:34 AM, Emily Stone wrote:

Board Members,

Good morning! The Governance Committee has voted unanimously to recommend that the Board elect Tikia Thompson to be a Board member. Tikia's resume is attached.

As you know, the board is required to include two DC Scholars parents as board members. As of now, we have one parent board member.

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Please respond to this email with the following statement by **Friday, April 22, 2022 COB**:

I, **{Insert Name}**, vote to approve/disapprove (**select one**) the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, **{Insert Name} {Insert Date, Time}**

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation and prompt cooperation.

Crystal Williams

Chair, Governance Committee

Bob Weinberg

Chair, DC Scholars Public Charter School

Emily Stone

Business Manager

DC Scholars Public Charter School

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5601 E. Capitol St SE Washington, DC 20019

Emily Stone

From: Bob Weinberg
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 2:48 PM
To: Jacquelyn Lendsey
Cc: Crystal Williams; Emily Stone; Andrew Ellenbogen; Evan Piekara; Janelle Suggs; Laura Fitzgerald; Maegan Marcano; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

I, Robert Weinberg, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed: Robert Weinberg, April 20, 2022 at 2:45 pm.

-----Original Message-----

From: Crystal Williams
Sent: Wed, Apr 20, 2022 11:01 am
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

I, **Crystal Williams**, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Crystal Williams, April 20, 2022, 11:00 AM EST

From: Emily Stone
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 10:34 AM
To: Andrew Ellenbogen; Bob Weinberg; Crystal Williams; Evan Piekara; Jacquelyn Lendsey; Janelle Suggs; Laura Fitzgerald; Maegan Marcano; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams
Subject: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

Board Members,

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Please respond to this email with the following statement by **Friday, April 22, 2022 COB**:

I, **{Insert Name}**, vote to approve/disapprove (**select one**) the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, **{Insert Name} {Insert Date, Time}**

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation and prompt cooperation.

Crystal Williams

Chair, Governance Committee

Bob Weinberg

Chair, DC Scholars Public Charter School

Emily Stone

Business Manager

DC Scholars Public Charter School

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Emily Stone

From: Janelle Suggs
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 6:47 PM
To: Emily Stone
Cc: Andrew Ellenbogen; Bob Weinberg; Crystal Williams; Evan Piekara; Jacquelyn Lendsey; Laura Fitzgerald; Maegan Marciano; Robert Patterson; Shantania Williams
Subject: Re: <Response Requested by 4.22> Action without Meeting

I, Janelle Suggs, vote to approve the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed,

Janelle Suggs 4/20, 6:47pm

On Wed, Apr 20, 2022 at 10:34 AM Emily Stone wrote:

Board Members,

Good morning! The Governance Committee has voted unanimously to recommend that the Board elect Tikia Thompson to be a Board member. Tikia's resume is attached.

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Please respond to this email with the following statement by **Friday, April 22, 2022 COB:**

I, **{Insert Name}**, vote to approve/disapprove **(select one)** the election of Tikia Thompson as a trustee of the DC Scholars PCS Board.

Signed, **{Insert Name} {Insert Date, Time}**

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation and prompt cooperation.

Crystal Williams

Chair, Governance Committee

Bob Weinberg

Chair, DC Scholars Public Charter School

Emily Stone

Business Manager

DC Scholars Public Charter School

| www.dcscholars.org

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--

Janelle Suggs, MBA

Mom, Wife & Adventure Seeker

Leadership Psychology Guru

Certified Mindfulness Leader

Change Maker & Education Advocate

Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Master

Trainer Follow me on IG & Twitter



**April Meeting Minutes for the
Board of Trustees of DC Scholars Public Charter School (DCSPCS)**

Thursday, April 28, 2022

4:30 pm via Zoom

Board Members Present: Bob Weinberg, Crystal Williams, Jackie Lendsey, Evan Piekara (until 6:00 pm), Shantania Williams, Robert Patterson (until 5:50 pm), Tikia Thompson (until 6:04 pm), Andrew Ellenbogen (4:50 pm), Laura Fitzgerald (5:00 pm), Maegan Marciano (5:00 pm).

Board Members Absent: Janelle Suggs.

Guests: Vickie Ho (EdOps), Dionne Dabelow (EdOps) until 6:10 pm.

DC Scholars Staff Present: Business Manager Emily Stone (until 6:10 pm), Executive Coach Jennifer Leonard (until 6:10 pm), Head of School Amy Helms (until 6:10 pm).

- I. Welcome and Agenda Review
 - a. Mr. Weinberg called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm after taking roll call to determine the presence of a quorum.
- II. Chair Updates
 - a. Mr. Weinberg introduced the new parent board member Ms. Tikia Thompson.
 - b. Ms. Thompson introduced herself to the Board and members of the Board and DC Scholars and EdOps staff introduced themselves.
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. March 24, 2022 Meeting
 - i. Ms. Lendsey made a motion to approve the March 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Patterson seconded. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.
 - b. April 20, 2022 Action with Meeting
 - i. Ms. Lendsey made a motion to approve the April 20, 2022 Action without Meeting Minutes. Mr. Piekara seconded. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.
- IV. Governance Committee Report
 - a. The Governance Committee Chair Ms. C. Williams made an oral presentation on the Cognia Monitoring Visit. Discussion followed.

Agenda items V. Academic Committee Report and VI. Finance Committee Report were moved to later in the meeting to allow for the participation of those committee chairs.



- V. Head of School's Report
 - a. Ms. Helms provided a verbal report on the following:
 - i. Cognia Accreditation Monitoring Visit;
 - ii. OSSE ESSER Visit;
 - iii. PCSB 10 Year Improvement Plan;
 - iv. SY22-23 Staff Retention & Hiring;
 - v. Leadership Pipeline;
 - vi. SY22-23 Enrollment Targets;
 - vii. A preview of upcoming Priorities, including SY22-23 strategic planning, End of Year (EOY) student testing and events, and EOY Evaluations, and summer Extended School Year and July Professional Development.
 - b. Ms. Helms responded to questions and comments from the Board.
- VI. Academic Committee Report
 - a. The Academic Committee Chair Ms. Fitzgerald provided an oral report for the Academic Committee meeting materials included in the packet.
- VII. Finance Committee Report
 - a. February 2022 Financials

Mr. Ellenbogen provided an overview of the February 2022 financials included in the board materials. Discussion followed.
 - b. Vote for Approval
 - i. Rodney Smith Invoice
 - 1. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Mr. Ellenbogen disclosed that Rodney Smith is the spouse of school leader Melissa Smith, and as such he is considered a conflicting interest party. Mr. Ellenbogen and Mr. Weinberg reported that the school entered this agreement in violation of the policies outlined in the school's Financial Policy Manual. Mr. Ellenbogen outlined that after the order was placed, the school conducted a fair market value analysis and concluded that the contract was a fair price.
 - 2. Vote for Approval

Mr. Weinberg stated that under the circumstances, the goods having already been delivered and accepted, the Board should acknowledge but not waive the Conflict of Interest to proceed with approving this invoice and report the matter to the DC Public Charter School Board. On those premises, Mr. Weinberg made a motion to approve the Rodney Smith Invoice. Ms. S. Williams seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.
 - ii. Leonard & Associates Amendment 01
 - 1. Conflict of Interest Disclosure



Mr. Ellenbogen disclosed that Jennifer Leonard served as Executive Director of DC Scholars PCS during school years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21. She is considered a conflicting interest party in connection with the Leonard & Associates contract. Mr. Weinberg outlined that the rate billed by Jennifer Leonard will remain the same for the Amendment 01 as the original agreement. DC Scholars conducted a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the original contract, which was awarded in June 2021. Mr. Weinberg stated that Board should acknowledge and waive the Conflict of Interest to proceed with this contract.

2. Vote for Approval

Mrs. Leonard was recused from the meeting.

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the Leonard & Associates Amendment 01. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

iii. SY22-23 Budget Presentation

1. Mr. Ellenbogen provided a verbal report of the Budget Presentation included in the board materials. Discussion followed.

VIII. Head of School Committee Report: Executive Session

- a. Pursuant to DC Code §2-575), Mr. Weinberg made a motion to move the meeting to a closed session to discuss a personnel matter at 6:10 pm.
- b. All DC Scholars and EdOps staff were recused from the meeting at this point.

DC Code §2-575(b)(10), a portion of an Open Meeting may be closed "to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, performance evaluation, compensation, discipline, demotion, removal, or resignation of ... public charter school personnel, where the public body is the board of trustees of a public charter school."

c. Vote for Approval

At the recommendation of the Head of School Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Weinberg made a motion to approve a bonus for Ms. Helms for this school year 2021-22. Ms. Lendsey seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

IX. Closing

- a. Mr. Weinberg made a motion to close the meeting. Ms. Lendsey seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM.
- b. Mr. Weinberg thanked the board members for their participation.

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at open.govoffice@dc.gov.



**May Meeting Minutes for the
Board of Trustees of DC Scholars Public Charter School (DCSPCS)**

Thursday, May 26, 2022

4:30 pm via Zoom

<https://dcscholars-org.zoom.us/j/91599418376?pwd=R25YY1daNWdMaEIUd0ZDV0ZBRkIMZz09>

Board Members Present: Bob Weinberg, Evan Piekara, Crystal Williams (until 5:27 PM), Tikia Thompson, Laura Fitzgerald, Janelle Suggs, Jackie Lendsey (4:38 PM), Andrew Ellenbogen (4:55 PM).

Board Members Absent: Robert Patterson, Maegan Marciano, Shantania Williams.

Guests: Vickie Ho (EdOps), Dionne Dabelow (EdOps) (until 5:31 PM).

DC Scholars Staff Present: Business Manager Emily Stone, Executive Coach Jennifer Leonard, Head of School Amy Helms, Director of Finance and Operations Kimberly Lucas.

- I. Welcome and Agenda Review
 - a. Mr. Weinberg called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm after taking roll call to determine the presence of a quorum.
- II. Chair Updates
 - a. Mr. Weinberg acknowledged Kimberly Lucas, Director of Finance and Operations, to introduce herself to the Board.
 - b. Mr. Weinberg announced that Maegan Marciano will join the Governance Committee, effective next month, while awaiting the re-activation of the Development Committee.
 - c. Mr. Weinberg announced that Tikia Thompson will be a member of the Academic Committee, effective next month.
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. April 28, 2022 Meeting
Mr. Piekara made a motion to approve the April 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Ms. Suggs seconded. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.
- IV. Governance Committee Report
 - a. At the recommendation of the Governance Committee, and after discussion, Ms. C. Williams made a motion to approve the SY22-23 School Calendar. Mr. Piekara seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.
 - b. The Governance Committee Chair Ms. C. Williams made an oral presentation on the governance items on the agenda: Board Member Pipeline, Board Member Training, Open Meeting Updates, Board Meetings for SY22-23. Discussion followed.
- V. Academic Committee Report



- a. The Academic Committee Chair Ms. Fitzgerald provided an oral report related the Academic Committee meeting materials included in the packet.

VI. Finance Committee Report

- a. March 2022 Financials

Mrs. Leonard provided an overview of the March 2022 financials included in the board materials. Discussion followed.

- b. SY22-23 Budget Presentation

Mr. Ellenbogen provided an oral report related to the Budget Presentation included in the board materials. Discussion Followed.

Vote for Approval: Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the SY22-23 Budget. Ms. Lendsey seconded. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

- c. Contracts: Vote for Approval

- i. Payroll Network

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the Payroll Network (FY22) contract. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

- ii. Reliance Standard

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the Reliance Standard (FY22) contract. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

- iii. EdOps Finance

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the EdOps Finance contract. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

- iv. Jones, Maresca, & McQuade

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the Jones, Maresca, & McQuade contract. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

- v. Preferred Meals

Mrs. Leonard provided an update on the Preferred Meals contract and the announcement from the company that they will discontinue offering vended meals after June 30, 2022. Mrs. Leonard outlined the course to be



followed to secure another vendor to provide meals. There is no longer a contract with this vendor for the Board to approve.

vi. End to End Solutions

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the End-to-End Solutions contract. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

vii. Teach for America

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the Teach for America contract. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

viii. Y&S Technology

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the Y&S Technology contract. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

ix. ACS/Inspiroz

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Mr. Weinberg disclosed that the President of Inspiroz, Mr. Lars Beck, served as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Scholar Academies when DC Scholars was founded in 2012, as part of the Scholar Academies network of charter schools. Scholar Academies dissolved in 2016 and discontinued management of DC Scholars at that time. Mr. Beck has not had any formal affiliation or leadership role with the school since October 2016.

To ensure that the contract was fair market value to the school, DC Scholars did an RFP for these services in spring 2021 and Inspiroz was the most competitive vendor in service offerings and price. That contract had one-year option renewal with a 3% increase, which the Board deems fair to the school given rising costs for all vendors. Mr. Weinberg stated that Board should acknowledge and waive the Conflict of Interest to proceed with this contract.

Vote for Approval

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the ACS Inspiroz contract. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

x. Leonard & Associates Mrs. Leonard was recused from the meeting.



Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Mr. Weinberg disclosed that Jennifer Leonard served as Executive Director of DC Scholars Community Schools, the management company of DC Scholars during school years 2017-18 and 2018-19. She then served as Executive Director of DC Scholars PCS, when it was an independent LEA, during school years 2019-20 and 2020-21. As key personnel, she is considered a conflicting interest party in connection with the Leonard & Associates contract.

To ensure that the contract was fair market value to the school, DC Scholars did an RFP for these services in spring 2021 and Leonard & Associates was the most competitive vendor in service offerings and price. The Board renewed this contract for SY22-23 at an 8% increase, which is consistent with the compensation raises for staff members, who score highly effective on their annual performance review evaluation in SY21-22. Mr. Weinberg stated that Board should acknowledge and waive the Conflict of Interest to proceed with this contract.

Vote for Approval

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the Leonard & Associates contract. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

Mrs. Leonard returned to the meeting.

xi. Growth MindEd Consulting
Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Mr. Weinberg disclosed that Nicole Bryan served as Interim Head of School of DC Scholars PCS during school years 2018-19, 2019-20, and parts of 2020-21 and SY2021-22 (summer 2021, as result of the Head of School's parental leave). As key personnel, she is considered a conflicting interest party in connection with the Growth MindEd Consulting contract.

To ensure that the contract was fair market value to the school, DC Scholars did an RFP for these services in spring 2021 and 2022. Growth MindEd Consulting was the most competitive vendor in service offerings and price for both years. The Board accepted a compensation increase of 8% for SY22-23, which is consistent with the compensation raises for staff members, who score highly effective on their annual performance review evaluation in SY21-22. Mr. Weinberg stated that Board should acknowledge and waive the Conflict of Interest to proceed with this contract.

Vote for Approval

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion,



Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the Growth MindEd Consulting contract. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

xii. LiftED Consulting

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and after discussion, Mr. Ellenbogen made a motion to approve the LiftED Consulting contract. Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved.

VII. Head of School's Report

- a. Ms. Helms provided an oral report on the following:
 - i. May 2022 Visit from Executive Director of DC PCSB Dr. Michelle Walker-Davis;
 - ii. SY21-22 Staff Morale and Climate;
 - iii. SY22-23 Staff Retention & Hiring;
 - iv. EOY Priorities;
 - v. SY22-23 Enrollment Targets;
 - vi. SY22-23 Strategic Planning;
 - vii. Summer Priorities, including Leader and Teacher Professional Development.
- b. Ms. Helms responded to questions and comments from the Board.

VIII. Closing

- a. Mr. Weinberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Fitzgerald seconded the motion. Mr. Weinberg conducted a roll call vote. The motion was approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 PM.
- b. Mr. Weinberg thanked the board members for their participation.

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