

Philadelphia Academy Charter School
11000 Roosevelt Blvd.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19116
Telephone: 215-676-8320 Facsimile: 215-676-8340
Website: www.philadelphiaacademy.org

Academy Board of Trustees
PHILADELPHIA ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

Regular Meeting Minutes
January 16th, 2025

Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Philadelphia Academy Charter School
Virtual Meeting

MEETING TYPE:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Regular	<input type="radio"/> Special
MINUTES TYPE:	<input type="radio"/> Proposed	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Approved

I. Call To Order

Steve Pawlowski called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Board Member Attendance:

Cathy Adams	Member	Present
Kim Burns	Vice President	Present
Jacqui Makowski	Member	Present
Elizabeth O'Connell	Member	Present
Stephen Pawlowski	President	Present
James Smith	Secretary	Absent
Robert Sullivan	Treasurer	Present

Other Attendees: Douglas Robinson, Principal PACS; Angela Pazdunkiewicz, Principal PACHS; Jeneen Vendetti. Director of Specialized Student Services; Steve Chiara/ Joe Zampirri Facilities; Brian Beudet Security; Transportation; Claire Torres

A copy of the meeting minutes are available for public inspection at the office of the CEO or on the website of Philadelphia Academy Charter School @ www.philadelphiaacademy.org within 5 business days of approval for approved minutes.

The Academy shall comply with subtitle A of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Public Law 101-336, 42 USC § 12101 et seq or any successor law. Should you require specific accommodation(s) please contact Erin Ciccone **215-676-8320** prior to the meeting.

This meeting was Virtual.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Pawlowski
Second: Adams

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Action: Passed

V. Approval of Minutes from December 19th 2024

Motion: Burns
Second: Adams

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Action: Passed

Public Comment – None

VI. Reports

Board President – Stephen Pawlowski

At this point I would like to ask for the CEO report.

- **CEO Report- Megan Simmons**

Good evening, everyone. We have had a busy return from our holiday break. We are in preparation for special education cyclical monitoring, as well as in the process of renewing our food service contract through a competitive bid process. Both of these are time-intensive efforts.

We are also in the midst of our 21st Century Grant. These three processes will continue through the spring.

To date, we have had one school closure due to snow on Monday, January 6. Most, if not all, neighboring schools were also closed due to weather on that date.

Our K–12 school musical kicks off this evening with *Matilda Jr.* We are excited to see the show that our students and staff sponsors have put tremendous effort into. We welcome everyone to catch one of our performances, which will run from tonight through Sunday.

We have one resolution this evening: the resolution of the board to approve the 2025–2026 academic calendar and the Board of Trustees meeting calendar.

Thank you.

Principal's Report – Mrs. Pazdunkiewicz

Since our successful return from Winter Break, students have been working diligently as the quarter is soon coming to a close.. Teachers have prepared and submitted their Midterms and look forward to administering these assessments at the end of January and beginning of February. Preparation for this testing is extremely important, for it is 20% the students' semester grade.

Speaking of grades, report card conferences are scheduled for February 20th from 3:30- 6 pm. Teachers will be reaching out to families to schedule meetings. We urge families to make every effort to schedule an appointment with the teacher if their child is struggling in a course. Our teachers look forward to working with families and students to be as successful as possible.

Last week we administered our last Winter Keystone in the area of Literature. We will be testing again in the Spring Wave which will start on May 12th. This will primarily be the 9th and 10th graders.

23 of our high school students will be performing in the production of Matilda this weekend. We urge everyone to come out to support our theater troupe.

Today, the Community Outreach club hosted Cocoa With a Cop. We enjoyed a visit from 2 police officers (one of which was a former student) This will allow students to gain relationships and feel more comfortable around local police officers. Students were able to ask questions or voice concerns during a well attended after school opportunity.

Tomorrow, the Black Student Union will be hosting a viewing of the biopic 42 about the life of Jackie Robinson.

Also tomorrow, students will have an 11:30 dismissal and teachers will complete an online training from the state of Pennsylvania on school safety and security. Specific topics will include trauma informed approaches and situational awareness. We will also participate in a team building activity.

Principal's Report – PACS – Mr. Robinson

Good Evening Everyone,

The second trimester interims for the GS has concluded. Interim grades have been posted on Infinite Campus for parents and caregivers.

Philadelphia Academy's winter musical Matilda Jr. begins tonight at the KleinLife Center and runs through January 19th. Kindergarten through 5th grade students attended previews of the play this morning. All student reviews were positive.

Home & School is holding a Sweethearts dance for fathers/daughters/special loved ones in the HS gym on February 15, 2025.

Student Council is holding a middle school dance in the GS gym on February 22, 2025.

The Mobile Dentist is returning to PACS to provide dental exams for students on January 31, 2025.
End of report. Thank you.

Special Education and Transition Programs – Jeneen Vendetti

Extended School Year planning is underway and Notices of Recommended Educational Placements will be sent out and finalized prior to March 31, 2025. This will enable the department to plan and prepare for summer programming.

We have several virtual parent training sessions that will take place beginning tomorrow and running through next week. Topics include inclusive practices, interagency, behavior support, multi-tiered system of supports, and cyclical monitoring Q & A. Thank you to all of our presenters who are empowering parents with valuable resources and knowledge.

We have two student interns that will be exiting the program this month. I would like to congratulate Harsh Mistry and Connor Gallagher on all of their hard work in meeting their post secondary goals. On behalf of Philadelphia Academy Charter School, we wish them best of luck in their future endeavors and a lifetime of fulfillment.

Facilities –Steve Chiara

Grade School: THE NEW CONVECTION OVEN WAS ASSEMBLED AND INSTALLED. CAPTIVE AIRE AND SOUTHLAND HVAC TECHS WERE ON LOCATION TO DIAGNOSE THE REPEATED SHUTDOWN OF RTU 7A. THE FINDING WAS A FAULTY COMMUNICATION WIRE. MONTHLY TESTING OF ALL EXIT AND EMERGENCY LIGHTS WAS PERFORMED THIS MONTH.

High School Report- - FA systems were assembled and installed, along with monthly testing for the high school system.

Security- Brian Beaudet

Good evening, everyone. Traffic flow continues to run smoothly, with vehicles moving safely around the school. Monitoring continues in the front meeting area.

Inspections at both the grade school and the high school were performed, and no issues were found.

We have not performed any monthly drills yet this month, but two safety drills are scheduled for next week—one at the high school and one at the grade school. That concludes the safety report.

Transportation- Claire Torres Good evening everyone,

We completed our first snow storm without issue

We are making sure to give students extra time to load and unload the busses to prevent student injury

and have made extra infixes on the drivers to use extra caution when transporting our students in the changing climate weather.

- **Home & School Report** – None
- **Parent Advisory Report** - None

VII. Financial Report – Tom Taylor
See attached report.

VIII: Old Business – None

IX: New Business

RESOLUTION #1

**Resolution of the Board of Trustees of Philadelphia Academy Charter School to
Approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar and Board meeting Schedule**

Resolution No.: 2025-January 16-1 (Governance)

Motion: Pawlowski
Second: Sullivan

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Action: Passed

Motion for Adjournment.

Motion: Pawlowski
Second: Burns

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Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Action: Passed

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.

Certification:

Proposed minutes respectfully submitted,



Board Secretary /Recording Secretary

2/20/2025

Date

Approval by the Board of Directors Pending



Board Secretary

2/20/2025

Date

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