



**Board of Directors Meeting  
March 3, 2023  
Minutes**

**CCPCS Board Member Attendees:** Josh Boots, Jerenze Campbell, Margaret Horn, Kelli Jareauz, Roneal Josephs, Areesah Mobley, Art Moran, Ameena Nazeen, Tom O'Hara, Neville Waters, JD Wilde

**CCPCS Board Members Absent:** Charlene Fadirepo, Meghan Quinn

**CCPCS Staff Attendees:** Russ Williams, Aprele Smith

**I. Call to Order**

Tom O'Hara, Board Chair, opened the meeting with a brief welcome and overview of agenda.

**II. Routine Business**

1. Approval of Minutes

Board agreed that Board minutes from the December 14, 2022 meeting to be approved via email.

**Action:** Russ and Aprele to compile documents that need board approval and send email to the Board.

2. Materials Contract(s) Approval (if needed)

No contracts to review/approve at this time.

**III. CEO Update**

**HIGHLIGHTS - CCPCS School Year 2022-2023**

- **National Teacher of the Year Finalist: Coach Jermar Roundtree (Brightwood):** The national committee responsible will make their selection in early April. If Coach Roundtree is selected as the national winner, the Board will be notified. On 3/1, members of the President's Council on Sports Fitness and Nutrition recognized Coach Roundtree for this great work. There were several public service officials present during the recognition ceremony. DC Charter Alliance has asked that Coach Roundtree co-author an Op-Ed.
- **British Council Visit to Center City Public Charter Schools (Central Office) Monday March 6:** The British Council is an educational research organization in the UK dedicated to teaching and learning. The council includes education leaders from England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland. They travel around the world gathering best practices and research in the education space and bring the knowledge back to the UK. We were recommended to the British Council. The council will meet SLT members.

**SY 2022-2023: Teaching & Learning**

- **English Language Arts:** Teachers on each campus are completing LETRS training. LETRS is an intensive, 2-year training in the science of reading (methods/mechanics of teaching reading that include phonics and developing listening skills). Thus far, the program has received positive feedback and we hope to expand this training to more staff.

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- **Math:** More than half of CCPCS math teachers have been participating in Project-Based Learning Professional Development (PBL-PD) throughout the school year. There has been increased interest in PBL by math teachers. Teachers and the curriculum team are designing inquiry-based PBL cycles that will be implemented in classrooms. This work will be on display at the Celebration of Learning (May 19, 2023).
- **Social Studies:** CCPCS has a Social Studies working group comprised of Center City teachers from each campus, lead by Bethany Fleming, assistant director of curriculum instruction for ELA and former CCPCS teacher. This working group has done extensive research and preparation for the design of our new Social Studies curriculum. The standards in the Social Studies curriculum will continue to emphasize inquiry and honor the contributions, leadership, and achievements of BIPOC while pushing for a more honest and accurate version of history. CCPCS teachers have provided positive feedback about our transition to stand-alone Social Studies next year.
- **K-5 Science:** CCPCS is now implementing a full science curriculum across K-8th grade. At the elementary level, teachers are using PhD Science with fidelity. Note: “*PhD Science*® is a hands-on K–5 science program that sparks wonder as students build enduring knowledge of how the scientific world works.” Feedback from this program has been positive and students are engaged with the content. We are hopeful that we may be able to use this program in the Maker Space.
- **Middle School Science:** The science team believes middle school instruction has improved this year. They have a solid, cohesive team that includes veterans and new teachers. The veterans are observing lessons of the new teachers. These observation lessons have been beneficial to the growth of new teachers. Each campus will have a community STEM night facilitated by their science teacher (Dates TBD).

### **SY 2022-2023: Student Experiences**

- **CCPCS Basketball w/ Intellectual Athlete (IA):** Due to students' continued interest in basketball, CCPCS has partnered with Intellectual Athlete (IA) to develop and implement a Campus v Campus league, Culminating Round Robin Tournament, and March Madness Basketball tournament. IA helps students boost their team building skills, develop coping skills and encourage a positive mental health environment. Games are underway.
- **Global Ambassadors (GA) Program:** GA Program is back! Modules and itinerary have been designed. We have students from 5 of 6 campuses participating in Saturday workshops. Students will travel to Toronto, Canada during spring break to investigate the direct, indirect and induced impact Niagara Falls has on the local economy. While in Toronto, students will engage in a service-learning partnership with Project SHARE in Niagara Falls. As a part of Project SHARE, Student Ambassadors will collect needed items (i.e. toiletries) through a community organizing effort. All items collected will be donated on-site by the students during their time in Toronto.

- **Cyber Green Group and ARE Partnership:** There will be a 2-week STEAM and Career Summer Symposium for 6th and 7th grade students to learn aspects of: forensic science, cyber forensic science, computer coding and biomedical engineering. Morning sessions will be conducted by Cyber Green instructors. They will facilitate modules for each of the topics mentioned. Afternoon sessions will be conducted by ARE field coordinators. They will facilitate daily wellness checks and transport students to designated campuses for STEAM Labs to ensure students can apply the learning out in the field with industry experts.
- **Film and Engineering Institute:** Forty (40) students and six (6) adults from the NoMa, Shaw and Cap Hill campuses filmed over a 6-month period from September 2022-February 2023. The effort was student-driven. They collaborated with industry experts in film, costume, set design and dance choreographers. They filmed a 20-minute short film written by the performing arts teacher. The film has been submitted to the American Black Film Festival (ABFF). If the film is selected, students will travel to Miami FL on June 14 for the ABFF competition and film festival.

**SY 2022-2023: School Based Mental Health**

- Center City continues to build a framework for understanding and supporting the social-emotional development for staff, students and families. This framework is accomplished through:
  - Continued partnership with EmpowerK12 for Student/Educator Wellbeing Survey
  - Department of Behavioral Health expansion will provide support for all six campuses with support focusing on students and families.
  - Continue partnership with Georgetown Center for Wellbeing in School Environments (WISE Center)

**SY 2022-2023: Campus Vacancies as of 3/1/23**

- Center City has about 14 vacancies throughout the campuses.
- Continue to work with HR and campus leaders in recruiting talent
- Good news is Center City is competitive in hiring benefits

**IV. Committee Reports**

**1. Governance Committee**

Neville Waters, Committee Chair, reported that he and Russ met with the Parent Trustee Candidate but have been unable to schedule time with her to meet with the Board. We will make another attempt.

**2. Development Committee**

Tom and Russ to take another look at the committee makeup discuss revamping the Development Committee and appointing a new committee chair.

**V. Adjourn**