



MINUTES

The Family Place Public Charter School

Date | time September 19, 2023 | 6:00pm - 7:00pm | *Location* Virtual on Zoom

In Attendance

BOARD MEMBERS		
NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mavis I. Ardon	X	
Ann B. Barnet	X	
Michael D. Barnet	X	
Shawn Chakrabarti	X	
Maria Mejia	X	
Barbara Finkelstein		X
Sarah Friedman	X	
Marcia Harrington	X	
Natalia Isaza Brando	X	
Oralia Puente		X
Elaine Weiss		X

Others Present: Haley Wiggins, Alyson Cronquist, Laurel Kircher, Christine Montgomery, Fernando Saldana, Yinzou Nairouz, Raj Thomas, Eileen Suffian, Patricia Oholeguy, Tolulope Oleru, Lorena Gallego

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from last meeting, May 30, 2023, were reviewed and unanimously approved by Marcia, Michael, Ann, Sarah, Maria, Mavis, Shawn, and Natalia at 6:25pm, led by Michael.

Motions

Everyone voted on the motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:31pm by Shawn, Michael, etc.

Description of Matters Discussed

- Board Business, Haley and Michael*
 - Introduction of Christine Montgomery as a new board member for The Family Place. Larry introduced her, Board members each introduced themselves, and Christine introduced herself as well.
- Finance update, Eileen and Raj*

- i. Washington Teacher’s Union mandated teacher pay increases. We had some funds left over to give bonuses to other charter school staff. We have been concerned that we aren’t able to do the same for TFP staff.
 - ii. EdOps (Raj), Haley, and Eileen, in talks with one of our auditors, have found that we are eligible for Employee Retention Credit. We may be eligible for around \$500,000 allocated between the charter school and The Family Place. We’d have to pay \$24,500 as a fee for this, with 10% upfront.
 1. Larry, Shawn, Christine, and Sarah added to the discussion with Raj, Eileen, etc. about this. There was some concern about how long this could take with the IRS.
3. *Executive Director’s Report, Haley*
 - a. Some staffing changes:
 - i. New full-time ESL teacher, Kellie. Some other teachers received promotions recently.
 - b. Haley also mentioned the ECI, new space, 5-year review, etc.
4. *Academic Update, Laurel*
 - a. Laurel went over this year’s class schedule. We have 14 classes, including 11 ESL classes. We added an additional in-person ESL class. We have 8 FT teachers.
 - b. We are piloting some extracurriculars. This week we started an ESL conversation club. Later this year, we plan to start a book club and student governance, and we plan to do yearbook portfolios at the end of the year.
5. *Registration Update, Fernando*
 - i. We received funding for 183 students. For registration, we have made 500 phone calls and completed 240 appointments. 175 students are enrolled in the system so far.
6. *Branding Update, Lorena with The Bridge Sisters*
 - a. Lorena went over the changes that The Bridge Sisters have made to the logos.
 - i. Once these are approved, they will begin updating the website with these changes.
 - ii. Larry expressed his pleasure with it. Ann mentioned that the icon still looks very feminine. Others expressed their approval as well. Sarah asked about research that shows persuading people to donate, etc. Lorena replied that research was taken into consideration, such as rounding corners, the colors, etc.
 - iii. Shawn asked about the possibility of translating it into Spanish, and Lorena explained that it’s not necessary but that we do translate all social media posts, etc.

Next Meeting

Date | time, Location

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:31pm and was passed unanimously. Next meeting is planned for November 14th.