

**Russell Byers Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
November 29, 2018**

Call to order

The Board Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p. m. by Linda Gamble, at 1926 Arch Street, 3F, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

Roll Call	Present	Absent
Richard Binswanger		X
Rob Craven	X	
Mike Eckhardt		X
Diana Gormley	X	
Linda Gamble	X	
Imani Powell	X	
Louisa Mygatt	X	
Leah Katz	X	
Haisheng Yang	X	

Also in attendance were Laurada Byers, Carol Domb, Abby Baker, Melissa Fox, and Patty Barker from Russell Byers Charter School and also Ryan Schom from Charter Choices. Six parents (Naima Miller, Danica Jimenez, Jaimise Clahar, Courtney Taylor, Shawn Mott, and Wanda Jenkins Mathis) and four additional staff members (Allen Garner, Lucia Strother, Ashley Umbereger and Taylor Faye) also attended.

Resolutions

Approval of Financial Statements: Every month Charter Choices, the school’s finance manager, prepares the statement of financial activity as well as other relevant financial data. This summary and management report presents information that is important to the members of the School Board.

Resolution

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Trustees:

That the Board accepts and approves the October 2018 finance statements, disbursements and summary management report.

Resolved the 29th of November, 2018

Motion: Louisa Mygatt

Second: Diana Gormley

	YES	NO
Richard Binswanger	X	
Rob Craven	X	
Mike Eckhardt	X	
Diana Gormley	X	
Linda Gamble	X	
Imani Powell	X	
Leah Katz	X	
Haisheng HaishengYang	X	

Approval of Minutes of October 18, 2018:

Motion: Diana Gormley

Second: Louisa Mygatt

	YES	NO
Richard Binswanger	X	
Rob Craven	X	
Mike Eckhardt	X	
Diana Gormley	X	
Linda Gamble	X	
Imani Powell	X	
Leah Katz	X	
Haisheng Yang		X

Approval of Personnel Actions: Shanada Talley has withdrawn her child from the school and will not serve as a parent representative.

Resolution

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the board of Trustees:

That the Board of trustees acknowledges that Shanada Talley will not serve as Parent Representation to the Board of Trustees.

Motion: Rob Craven

Second: Diana Gormley

	YES	NO
Richard Binswanger	X	
Rob Craven	X	
Mike Eckhardt	X	
Diana Gormley	X	
Linda Gamble	X	
Imani Powell	X	
Leah Katz	X	
Haisheng Yang	X	

School Update

School Report: Ms. Gamble spoke on the EL conference and the benefits of attending. The teachers toured a school in Camden as an example of how to implement what was viewed at the conference. Ms. Domb distributed the school dashboard which broke down statistics with attendance and suspensions. Improvements have been made to the Home & School Association and they have established a calendar for Home & School events. Also the school newsletter will be more informational and high-lite upcoming events and general news.

Parent Representative Comments: Ms. Imani Powell spoke on Home & School participation and meetings held to organize for the honor roll breakfast, possibly adding most improved student. The Chat & Chew established by Ms. Porter has been very well received.

Teacher Representative Comments: Ms. Baker addressed the report card conferences and reported that they are going well. Areas that need growth are culture and climate.

Public Comment: Several parents spoke and expressed dissatisfaction with the high turnover of staff and feelings of inadequacy with student services. Ms. Danica Jimenez spoke first about safety concerns stating that special needs students need more assistance as to not distract their fellow classmates, Ms. Wanda Jenkins Mathis spoke second about a need to change or review transportation services. Mr. Shawn Mott gave a suggestion that a student representative should be added to the board for a better line of communication with the student body. Ms. Jaimise Clahar spoke on a perceived feeling of emotional disconnection between staff and students, and lent to Ms. Jimenez's argument for more staff support for special needs students and the reinstatement of former programs that have been removed from the school currently. Ms. Naima Miller stated that she would like the implementation of a Spanish language program. Ms. Lucia Strother stated that teachers prep time needed to be expanded or further classroom assistants are needed. Ms. Allen Garner also lent to previous statements about the need for more "one on one" support staff. Ms. Tayler Faye also touched on Ms. Garners statements in agreement.

Executive Session: At this time the board went into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

Time of Adjournment: 6:15