

Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 14, 2024

Meeting held at Maurice Pritchett Sr. Academy, 600 E. 7th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801 and via Zoom

PUBLIC SESSION

- Helen Anderson chaired and opened the meeting at 6:11 pm
- Welcome, Housekeeping, and Council Roll Call
 - Attendees: Laura Burgos, Althea Smith-Tucker, AJe' English-Wynn, Dorrell Green, Starr Wilson, Helen Anderson, Deirdre Joyner, and RaShona Brown
7 present – quorum
- Public Comment: none.
- Approval of 9/17/24 Minutes – Motion by D. Green, Second by RaShona Brown, vote: unanimous. Minutes approved.
- Executive Director's Report – L. Burgos:
 - ELT Network Convening 10/12/2024
 - Professional development opportunity at Delaware Art Museum
 - 40 educators participated
 - Next ELT Network Convening is February 2025.
 - Helen Anderson was present and commented that the program was wonderful.
 - Financial Outlook and Updates
 - 2nd Quarter allocation is delayed due to the closing of the old bank account and opening a new account.
 - ELT Innovation Fund
 - What is it?
 - Application Process
 - Delaware Teacher Growth Support System (DTGSS)
 - Supporting teacher development
 - Harlan Elementary is leading this initiative.
 - Teacher Assessment Preparation Program
 - PRAXIS preparation
 - 16 aspiring teachers have registered for the program.
 - Teacher tutors sign up to support the aspiring teachers.

- Dorrell Green asked if there is a specific area of need for teacher tutors – subject matter or grade level.
- October Principal Meeting
 - Excellent way to connect schools and learning and problem solve
 - Meetings are held monthly with principals.
 - Discussed School Improvement Snapshot Tool
 - Snapshots of where each member school is headed
 - Will be focused on much more in November
- Wellness Wednesday
 - DE Urban Garden and Juice Joint partner with WLC to provide opportunities for healthy eating and physical and mental wellness
- WLC hiring Director of Professional Learning
 - Posting goes live the week of October 14th – 18th.
- Old Business/Updates:
 - Due to final edits the approval of the Conflict of Interest Policy will take place at a later date.
 - Service Contracts and Proposals
 - Alma Advisory Group
 - Alma is ready to get started, waiting on the Board to approve the contract.
 - WLC will be paying Alma directly and not funneling money through the districts.
 - Motion to approve contract made
 - Motion seconded – AJe' English
 - Motion passed unanimously
- *Starr Wilson left meeting*
 - Transcend
 - Contract reviewed by General Counsel and has gone through revisions with Transcend
 - City charter schools are involved – East Side and Kuumba
 - Discussion regarding getting WLC initiatives to all city students – even those in suburban schools

- There will be an additional contract with Transcend coming in November that will support more teachers beyond the 37 leaders.
- Motion to approve contract made
 - Motion seconded
 - Motion passed unanimously
- Vision to Learn contract was tabled.

- Research Presentation – Leadership Performance Initiatives
 - Presented by Will Zemp
 - Powerpoint presentation on the effectiveness of financial incentive programs on principal and teacher performance.
 - Will is going to reach out to partner school for face-to-face meetings with school leaders to become more familiar with Wilmington schools and history
 - Discussion regarding getting more information on the factors that lead to greater principal retention.
 - Discussion on looking further into the impact of pulling best talent out of schools and how do you successfully backfill those vacancies.
- New Business:
 - Approval of Executive Director salary increase
 - Motion made to approve Executive Director salary increase as written in contract. – Dorrell Green
 - Motion seconded – AJe’ English
 - Motion passed unanimously
 - Approval of WLC Employee Handbook
 - Dr. Burgos saw a need to create policies beyond the DSU policies.
 - Handbook was created in collaboration with the legal team.
 - Motion to approve employee handbook – AJe’ English
 - Motion seconded – Dierdra Joyner
 - Motion passed unanimously
 - Alethea Smith-Tucker abstaining
 - New dates for Board meetings
 - November board meeting will be held on November 14, 2024
 - The January board meeting will also be moved – date and location TBD.
- Adjournment
 - Motion by D. Green to adjourn, seconded by AJe’ English. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.