

AppleTree Early Learning Public Charter School Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 5:00 pm
Riverside Campus – 680 I Street SW, Washington, DC 20024

Trustees present: Liz Daley, Matt Downs, Bridget Bradley Gray, Elizabeth Keys, Celia Martin, Jack McCarthy, Vince Morris, and Paula Young Shelton.
Management present: Ross Harold, Mary Anne Lesiak, Russ Williams, and Anne Zummo.

Call to order. After establishing that a quorum was present, Mr. McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:09 pm.

Consent calendar. Ms. B. Gray moved to approve the minutes from the February meeting and Ms. Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Principals' reports. Ms. Zummo reported that the Columbia Heights campus has received over 100 applications for three-year-old spots for the 2009/2010 school year. From this year's classes of three-year-olds, 48 are re-enrolling, 7 are currently undecided, and 22 new students have submitted applications. The most recent open house was very well-attended, with about 25-30 families, most of whom learned about the school through word of mouth. Mr. Harold reported that the Southwest campuses will hold a lottery for space in the three-year-old classes at Amidon; they have received 34 applications. The Riverside campuses' four-year-old classes are fully enrolled, with a small wait list. Copies of the principals' reports follow these minutes.

Executive Director's report. Mr. Williams reported that the school received notification that the custody issue for which records and depositions had been requested has been resolved. The staff at Columbia Heights continues to cooperate with the special education lawsuit filed, including holding the requested multi-disciplinary team (MDT) hearing requested and providing records. The staff is also working with the student's guardian to ensure she is aware of her parental rights and understands ramifications of the process for the child. Mr. Williams also discussed his participation in efforts by the charter community to advocate against any reduction by the city in the per student facilities capitation.

Finance Committee's report. Ms. B. Gray reported that the Finance Committee, along with the Governance Committee, is working to develop a job description and collect compensation data and background for the Executive Director position so the Board can conduct its annual review in April and May. Mr. Williams reported that the school's finances continue to be strong and are trending toward a year-end net positive. Copies of the most recent financial statements follow these minutes.

Governance Committee's report. Ms. Shelton reported that the Governance Committee had met and conducted its annual review of all committee charters. The committee made some minor changes for clarity. The committee will circulate the charters with changes so Board members can review before the next meeting.

Board development. Mr. McCarthy presented general orientation information, including the structure of AELPCS and the ways in which it related to AppleTree Institute (ATI), and an overview of Trustee responsibilities. A copy of the presentation follows these minutes.

Strategic discussion. The Board discussed various opportunities for growth and the ways in which the plans might be affected by current economic conditions and potential changes to the city's budget

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Elizabeth Keys
Secretary

The next meeting of the AELPCS Board of Trustees is Tuesday, April 21, 2009, at 5:00 pm at Riverside Baptist Church.