

MEETING HELD AT:

Mevers School of Excellence

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

	PRESENT	NOT PRESENT	TERM EXPIRATION DATE
Dr. Stewart Weinberg President	x		May 2024
Cheryl Hollis Vice-President	x		May 2025
Brian Williams Treasurer	x		May 2025
Brandi VanGordor Secretary	Zoom		May 2024
Alicia Patton Director	Zoom		May 2025
Simplicia Smith Director	x		May 2025
Dr. Tamara Jackson Director		x	May 2024

NON-BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

1. Kenneth Coles, Principal – Mevers School of Excellence
2. Jessica Bellflower, Principal - Berkeley Preparatory
3. Lisanne Morton, State Finance Director – CSUSA
4. Susan Gibson, Interim State Director – CSUSA
5. Carol Aust, Director of External Relations and Board Governance – CSUSA
6. Stephanie Lowerre, Sr. Financial Analyst – CSUSA
7. Fabien McGill, Principal – Willie Jefferies School of Excellence
8. Sally Fickling, Executive Director of Special Education, CIA

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

- CALL TO ORDER
Pursuant to public notice, Board President, Dr. Stewart Weinberg called the meeting to order at 6:38 P.M.
- ROLL CALL
Roll call was held, and quorum was established.
- Pledge to the flag.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

APPROVAL

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Cheryl to go into executive session to discuss contractual matters at 5:30 P.M.

MOTION: Motion was made by Simplicia and seconded by Brandi to come out of executive session at 6:32 P.M. Motion passed unanimously.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE

- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
 - **MOTION:** Motion was made by Cheryl and seconded by Simplicia to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
- APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 28, 2023, MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Simplicia to approve meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Mevers School of Excellence school presentation. Mr. Coles introduced Mr. Borndalh(B), an art teacher from MSE. Mr. B presented a PowerPoint presentation with student artwork from the last quarter.

V. REPORTS

- Susan Gibson, Interim State Director Report

Susan presented reasons for student withdrawals at Mevers- most common transportation, home schooling, moving and poor communication.

Susan presented reasons for student withdrawals at BPA - most common - transportation, home schooling, poor communication, moving not a right fit.

Cheryl asked the principals to elaborate on the communication challenges. Brian shared BPA does an excellent job communicating with parents and even over communicate. Brandi said that she is impressed with the school's communication.

Susan reported on the 45-day count for Mevers 904 students and for BPA 778 students.

Mrs. Gibson provided grant updates for both MSE & BPA and that the P&I grant is still outstanding for BPA.

Susan provided Mevers update regarding the recommendation to change from one assistant principal and one dean to two assistant principals instead.

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Cheryl to adjust the Mevers budget to approve two assistant principals. Motion passed unanimously.

- Mevers School of Excellence Principal Report
Mr. Coles gave an update on the strategic goals and school report card. Mr. Coles shared Erskine allowed 3 students to enroll after the enrollment freeze. Stewart asked if the lower enrollment would result in staffing changes. Mr. Coles advised it had already been adjusted since two teachers were not hired. Cheryl asked to be reminded when the two key periods occur as it related to enrollment.
- Berkeley Preparatory Academy Principal Report
Mrs. Bellflower gave an update on BPA strategic goals and school report card information. Shared two slow down speed signs have been added.
- Willie Jefferies School of Excellence Principal Report
Mr. McGill gave an update on WJSE strategic goals including enrollment outreach. They anticipate 1200 applications. Enrollment started in October and will end in February. Provided an update on open enrollment road trips. 32 applications have been received.

Stewart advised they would not adopt a budget officially yet.

- WJSE Teacher Hiring

MOTION: Motion was made by Cheryl and seconded by Brian to appoint Larryawna Brown as a contracted PowerSchool employee. Motion passed unanimously.

- CSUSA Financials

The Board was updated on financials for both schools.

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Simplicia to approve the Mevers financials for September 2023. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Simplicia to approve the BPA financials September 2023. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Gavin's Law Policy

MOTION: Motion was made by Cheryl and seconded by Brian to approve the Gavin's Law policy for both BPA and Mevers. Motion passed unanimously.

Stewart requested the principals ask Erskine what they are doing to support and assist with the implementation of Gavin's Law for parents and students.

Brandi requested Carol send the individual files for Gavin's law to her attention.

- Speech Pathologist

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Simplicia to approve the Speech Pathologist to be shared with BPA and Mevers 50/50. Motion passed unanimously.

- SC Department of Transportation Visit

Stewart provided an update on the October 10th 2023, SC DOT visit. They observed the dismissal at BPA. Stewart requested Susan connect with Red Apple to get an estimate for the loop change recommended by SC DOT. Stewart advised the expansion at BPA is on hold. Brian asked for an update on the playground location at the school. The board discussed possible other playground locations.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion was made by Cheryl and seconded by Simplicia to adjourn the meeting of the Berkeley Charter Education Association. The meeting adjourned at 7:59 P.M.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Thursday, November 16, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.
Berkeley Preparatory Academy