

**Independence Charter School
Board of Trustees Special Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2015**

Board Members Present: Mike Barsanti (via phone), Susanna Greenberg (via phone for part of the meeting), Krista Pfeiffer, Gloria Shabazz (via phone for part of the meeting), John Eagen, Tre Johnson, Dana Twyman, Rashidah Andrews (came in after renewal vote)

Board Member(s) Absent: George Awad, Rebecca Clothey, Brigitte Daniel, Barbara Dundon, Sheila Simmons, Elsie Stern, Claiborne Taylor, Gregory Turlington

Others Present: Thomas Scheid, CEO; David Peter, Technology Director; Megan Steelman, Compliance Manager

Call to Order

Gloria called the meeting to order at 12:24p.m.

Charter Renewal

Gloria noted that the SRC agreed to all the changes to the renewal agreement that we requested, but did not agree to our requested increase in enrollment. However, the limit of 800 seats is only for the 2015-2016 school year, giving us the opportunity to request additional seats in the other four years of the charter. Tom stated that a big change in the new charter renewals is to have a state score of 70 or above and to have a certain score (to be determined) on the School District's measurement; we will get that information in the beginning of April. The SRC vote on the charter renewal will be in May. Krista asked about the specific days that the school is not allowed to be open for staff, according to the renewal document; Tom will ask for details about that and will send an update to the board.

Gloria read the resolution. Susanna moved the motion; John seconded. A roll call vote, including proxy votes, was taken: Mike- yea, Susanna- yea, Krista- yea, Gloria- yea, John- yea, Tre- yea, Dana- yea, Rashidah- yea (via proxy), George- yea (via proxy), Sheila- yea (via proxy), Barbara- yea (via proxy). The motion passed.

E-Rate Infrastructure Plan

Tom gave some background about the federal e-rate program, which is a five-year funding plan to assist schools and libraries to upgrade their computer networks. ICS qualifies for an 80% discount. Tom added that e-rate pays the vendors directly; ICS has to sign on to a bid but does not sign a contract. Since the cost is over \$10,000 the board needs to approve it. Dave added that if the e-rate grant would be denied, we are not obligated. We will be notified by May, possibly April, about whether the grant is approved. Tom explained that ICS had been in the e-rate program previously and then dropped out due to the amount of paperwork it requires; however, we decided to re-join last year because we are now eligible for category 2, which assists with infrastructure. If approved, it will be a great financial help. ICS' 20% would come out of next fiscal year's budget. Tre read the resolution. Dana moved the motion; John seconded. A roll call vote, including proxy votes, was taken: Mike- yea, Krista- yea, John- yea, Tre- yea, Dana- yea, Rashidah- yea, George- yea (via proxy), Sheila- yea (via proxy), Susanna- yea (via proxy), Gloria- yea (via proxy). Barbara- abstain (via proxy). The motion passed.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Gloria adjourned the meeting at 12:43p.m.

**Independence Charter School
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Resolutions**

ADOPTED

5-year Charter Renewal

Be it resolved that the Independence Charter School Board of Trustees hereby resolves to accept the five (5) year charter renewal (2015-2019 school years) as presented by the Philadelphia School Reform Commission and authorizes the signing of the charter.

Technology Infrastructure Contract

Be it resolved that the Independence Charter School Board of Trustees hereby resolves to approve two (2) PEPPM contracts for the e-Rate Form 471 Category 2 application using the FCC's e-Rate funding program to improve network infrastructure for the next five years. Purchases to be made through contracts made through PEPPM are:

ePlus Technology, \$20,815.20 for the purchase of firewall equipment, and

Aerohive Networks, \$41,398.24 for the purchase of switching and wireless networking equipment

Under the e-Rate system, ICS will be responsible for \$12,442.69 (20% of the cost).

Resolutions DEFEATED: None

Resolutions TABLED: None