



## Pedro Albizu Campos Puerto Rican High School Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of 4-16-2020

**Welcome:** Meeting call to order: Chair Rivera

### **Roll Call:**

**Present:** *Board Members:* Evelyn Rivera-Swint, Angela Acevedo, Jaime Moctezuma, Michael Staudenmaier, Milagros De La Rosa, Milagros Fernandez... Quorum Achieved.

*PACHS Staff:* Marvin Garcia, Melissa Lewis, Lizzette Richardson

**Approval Agenda:** Jaime M. motioned to approve the 4.16.2020 PACHS Board Meeting Agenda. Milagros De La Rosa seconded. Unanimous agreement.

### **Approval of the Minutes:**

PACHS Executive Director Garcia inquired about a "successful day" reported in the Principals report. He asked for further clarification. Principal Lewis gave no further information and the statement was stricken from the Principal's Report/Minutes.

Jaime M. motioned to Approve the Minutes along with the modifications.

Milagros F. seconded. Unanimous agreement.

### **Public Participation:**

No Speakers.

### **Principals Report:**

Momentum before the COVID19 epidemic was promising. The Mission and Vision Team sent a letter to the teachers. Principal Lewis shared the letter with the Board. In the letter the team reported that they found students in dire need of food, rent assistance and technological resources. The letter was an emotional testament to the struggles that the school staff and student body have been facing daily during the pandemic.

Principal Lewis reported that ASN has freed up some funds for feeding students. There was an occurrence where the assistance of ASN resulted in the paying of a students cellular phone bill.

The school has loaned around 60 chromebooks to students in need. She reports that as of last Tuesday she has around 75 chromebooks left. ASN said they can afford 30 chromebooks more. Discussion about acquiring resources for students continued:

- Students generally report the need for paper and pencil.
- Board Director Rivera-Swint reported that she would communicate with her network to locate available resources and pledged to look through some of her food pantry connections to inquire whether she can get a bins of food.
- Mr. Monctezuma pledged to get the information for Norwegian hospital's food drive.
- Ms. Fernandez said that she heard about the Food Pantries still offering food.

- Executive Director Garcia brought further attention to the needs and achievements of the essential staff of the school. He reported that he was able to get gift cards to each of the 16-17 schools and that the status of other students in the neighborhood are dire.

Executive Director Garcia reported that he worked with some people to raise money with a fund to buy groceries and that he intends to create a list to connect families in need with food organizations. He said that he is committed to setting up this kind of fund.

- Monctezuma said that if Garcia set up a fund he will commit **\$500**.
- Garcia committed **\$500.00**
- Rivera-Swint committed **\$300**.
- De La Rosa committed **\$500**.
- Marvin said he could get another **\$300**
- Principal Lewis committed **\$100**.
- Milagros Fernandez committed **\$100**.
- Lizzette committed **\$100**.
- Mike Staudenmeir pledged **\$300**.
- A total of **\$2700** was raised during the meeting alone.

Milagros De La Rosa committed to looking through some of her connections for generating further funds. To end her report, Principal Lewis informed the Board that she would like to do a porch-style photograph for her staff to show support.

#### **Fiscal Report:**

Mike Staudenmeir presented the Fiscal Report for the Board. He began by informing the Board that the deficit of 58k on the Fiscal report is not coronavirus related. The deficit figures are related from July 2019 through March 2020. He has spent time with Mr. Kumar discussing this matter. With this in consideration Mike, Kumar and Marvin confidently estimate that the school will have a surplus of funds by the end of the year.

The impact from the coronavirus so far is minimal because the lines of payment from the level of the State are still open. It was indicated that there is a voucher from last year still unapproved. There was a generous cash advance from YCCS that has helped immensely. In cash flow terms the school is doing well. The Greenhouse loan from YCCS is nearly finished being paid off. A hopeful forecast sees it being completely paid by the end of the year.

#### **Executive Director Report:**

A large planning grant was received, which can lead to PACHS receiving a larger grant. This planning grant is \$100k from the Illinois YouthBUILD Coalition to plan the implementation of one of their pre-apprentice construction program. This particular grant has an additional component for implementing IT Certification programming.

BUILD has partnered with Revolution workshop. They have extensive experience in implementing successful pre-apprentice training.

BUILD was able to assist with creating a memorial for a student that the school lost to gun violence last year.

Executive Director Garcia added that the school received a \$20k Census grant.

PACHS is on schedule to launch its Facebook page soon.

**Annual Report:**

The annual Report will be completed in may and will be disseminated to all our donors, funing agencies and friends. The school applied for a \$457k paycheck protection program with Chase Bank.

Discussion was had about the memorial in the Annual Report about Dr. Virginia Bishop.

Marvin brought up the idea of opening a scholarship in her name as well as renaming the Haddon building, the Bishop building.

Director of the Board Rivera-Swint consulted with the Board about adding the donation hours/dollars from the organizations which contribute their work to Albizu to the Annual Report donors Volunteer/Donors section.

**Definite Dozen Report:**

As she was present during the occasion, Lizzette was asked to tell the Board about the last Definite Dozen. She indicated that Milagros Fernandez hosted it, that a medical doctor addressed the students and revealed a personal story where he told the students he was an electrician for 11 years and decided to follow his dream of becoming a medical doctor later in his life.

Mr. Garcia added that because of the coronavirus pandemic that he would like to find a temporary alternative to the kind of event that promotes the experiences that are standard of the Definite Dozen.

Angela Acevedo reported that Wintrust Bank in Logan Square was quite excited about hosting a Definite Dozen. She said she would inquire with them about doing something digitally.

Mr. Garcia added that he wanted to move the banking accounts of PACHS from Chase to Wintrust.

Ms. Fernandez brought up the idea of inquiring with Wintrust to hand out gift cards to students for groceries.

**Motion to Close**

Board Director Swint-Rivera motioned to close the PACHS Board of Directors meeting  
Milagros Fernandez seconded the motion to close.

Unanimous agreement.

Passed: Motion to close.

The next meeting is slated for a tentative date of **JUNE 25th, 2020.**