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## Board of Directors Meeting | Meeting Minutes | March 23, 2021

**Date:** March 23, 2021

**Time:** 6:00 PM CST

**Location:** Virtual via Zoom:

<https://distinctiveschools-org.zoom.us/j/98118738939?pwd=Ty9wODhIUkRkNkYzgvY3Y0b0xDUT09>

**Call to order** 6:07 pmCT

- I. Roll Call
- II. **Board Members Present:** Matthew Williams, Jr., Bob Perez,, Clayton Harris *left the meeting at 6:27pmCT*, Wanda Blair Murphy *joined at 6:18pmCT*
- III. **Board Members Absent:** Linda Lee
- IV. **Others Present:** Sheila Wheeler
- V. **Distinctive Schools:** Monique Langston, Kara May, Jeff Donoghue, Mike Rohde, Erin Lanoue, Scott Frauenheim, Katie O'Connor

Agenda Item	Purpose	Individual Responsible
Approval of Agenda	Vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Motion to approve the March 23, 2021 Board Meeting Agenda made by Clayton Harris and seconded Bob Perez</li></ul> Motion passed 3-0 Agenda approved	Matthew Williams, Jr.
Approval of January 19, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Motion to approve the January 19, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes made by Clayton Harris and seconded by Bob Perez.</li></ul> Motion passed 3-0	Matthew Williams, Jr.
<b>Public Comment on Agenda Items</b>	None	Matthew Williams, Jr.
<b>Management Updates</b>	<b><u>Director's Report</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Opted-in students will return to campus on April 12 for in-person instruction</li><li>We are planning for state assessments; ISBE has indicated that assessments will need to occur this spring, even though accountability measures have been suspended. We are awaiting CPS guidance on what flexibility we will have here.</li><li>We are also focused on planning for next fall with scheduling and curriculum/course planning.</li></ul>	Distinctive Schools/Art in Motion

- Our “Intent to Return Process” has begun, surveying staff to determine who is interested in returning so we can begin planning for next year’s staffing.
- Next prospective student Open House, March 16, 5pm; visit [aimchicago.org](http://aimchicago.org) for zoom link
- 8th Grade Graduation is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, June 9. More information to come!

**General Network Updates**

- We are excited to welcome our staff back and to continue planning for our in-person hybrid return to school on 4/12/21.
- Distinctive Schools was named “2021 Best Places to Work” by Crain’s Chicago! We are really proud of our work we have done to keep culture and employment satisfaction high as we lead our schools and our network!
- Our Culture & Retention Expanded Design Team (EDT) continues to look at ways to support staff culture as we return to buildings. We are looking at our annual bonus structure, employee supplies reimbursement, tuition reimbursement and class ratio stipends! Our EDT members are helping us to design these offerings based on feedback from campus teams.
- Our Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Expanded Design Team (EDT) is working on our network wide vision for creating anti-racist schools and classrooms as well as revising our communication norms using a white supremacy culture equity tool to ensure we have the most fair and inclusive practices in place as an organization.
- Our team is planning budgets, regional team structures, staffing and so much more for next fall! We will keep the board updated on exciting changes or updates as decisions are made.

**Operations**

**Facilities:**

- Air filters have been received and set up in all classrooms/unique spaces and staff have been trained on how to change air flow
- Saliva testing is occurring every 2 weeks, this is a mitigation measure and not a diagnostic test

- AIM is working with New Life Covenant Church to lease a building for temporary space for 4 months while construction is completed. AIM will move into the 500 space facility in late December 2021

**Building Construction:**

- AIM is working with New Life Covenant Church to lease a building for temporary space for 4 months while construction is completed. AIM will move into the 500 space facility in late December 2021
- AIM continues to work with Galactica Partners on the contract assignment, which as been extended to March 25
- AIM continues to work with the school's owner's rep, architects and zoning attorney to navigate the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), building remediation work and finalizing construction drawings

**Food Service:**

- Meals are served in school for in-person students and grab and go options are available for remote students

**Staffing:**

- All staff returned to the building on March 15
- The Intent to Return Process has started, surveying staff to determine who is interested in returning so we can begin planning for next year's staffing

**Technology:**

- Beginning to start the process of assessing student devices and planning for what orders will be needed to ensure technology is ready for September

**Strategy**

**Recruitment and Enrollment:** Enrollment is steady at 258 students

- AIM GoCPS application is closed on 1/8/21:
- **476 total applications in for 9th grade**
  - **256 students ranking us in positions 1-5 for Chicago's GoCPS process**
- Waiting list for 7th and 8th grade - 88

Upcoming Open House events will take place on April 22nd for new families to learn about AIM for middle school and High School! **AIM held an Open House event on February 23th/March 16th** for new families to learn about AIM for middle school and High School! **Over 35+ families in attendance**

	<p><b>AIM was awarded a \$750 grant from the D’Addario Foundation.</b> The grant will allow the vocal performance and piano teacher, Ms. Leitsch, to choose any product from the catalog (guitars, orchestral, woodwinds, percussion, etc.) to use in her class.</p> <p>AIM submitted an application for the <b>Creative School Grants and was notified that the campus was awarded \$10K!</b> The Creative Schools Fund is a partnership between the Mayor’s Office, Chicago Public Schools, and <u>Ingenuity</u> to invest public and private resources directly into teacher-designed and led arts education programming.</p> <p><b><u>Finance Overview</u></b>  Motion to accept the Finance Report made by Wanda Blair Murphy and seconded by Bob Perez</p> <p>Motion passed 3-0</p>	
<p><b><i>New Business (Informational)</i></b>  Facility Update</p>	<p>In accordance with section 2(c)(5) of the Open Meetings Act allows the board to go into Closed Session to discuss the acquisition of real property. Motion to move to Closed Session made by Matthew Williams and seconded by Wanda Murphy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motion passed 3-0</li> </ul> <p>Motion to exit Closed Session made by Matthew Williams and seconded by Wanda Murphy at 7:07pmCT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motion passed 3-0</li> </ul>	<p>Erin Lanoue/  Jeff Donoghue</p>
<p><b>(Motion)</b>  Approval of New Life LOI pending approval from CPS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motion to approve the New Life LOI pending approval from CPS Board of Education made by Bob Perez and seconded by Wanda Murphy.</li> <li>● Motion passed 3-0.</li> </ul>	<p>Matthew Williams, Jr.</p>
<p><b>(Informational &amp; Motion)</b>  Approval of AIM Board of Directors Committees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motion to approve the AIM Board of Directors Committees (Philanthropy and Academic) made by Bob Perez and seconded by Wanda Murphy.</li> <li>● Motion passed 3-0.</li> </ul>	<p>Matthew Williams, Jr.</p>
<p><b>(Motion &amp; Approval)</b>  Approval of CPS Charter Funding Agreement for FY2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motion to approve the CPS Charter Funding Agreement for FY2021 made by Bob Perez and seconded by Wanda Murphy.</li> <li>● Motion passed 3-0.</li> </ul>	<p>Matthew Williams, Jr.</p>

<b>Old Business (Motion &amp; Resolution)</b> Approval of Amended & Restated Agreement of Sale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motion to approve amended and restated agreement of sale made by Bob Perez and seconded by Wanda Murphy.</li> <li>● Motion passed 3-0.</li> </ul>	Matthew Williams, Jr.
<b>(Motion &amp; Resolution)</b> Approval of Assignment of Agreement of Sale from CSDC and Escrow Transfer Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motion to approve the assignment of agreement of sale from CSDC and Escrow Transfer Order made by Bob Perez and seconded by Wanda Murphy.</li> <li>● Motion passed 3-0.</li> </ul>	Matthew Williams, Jr.
<b>Other Business</b>	None	Matthew Williams, Jr.
<b>Next Board Meeting</b>	May 25, 2021 6pmCT	Monique Langston

**Meeting adjourned at 7:18pmCT by Bob Perez and seconded by Wanda Murphy.**

Meeting Certification:

Proposed Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Monique Langston  
**Recording Secretary**

March 23, 2021  
**Date**

Approved by Art In Motion Board of Directors:



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**Board Secretary**

6/28/21

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**Date**