



**Social Justice Public Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting
February 28, 2024**

Board Members Present: Dionne McDonald (DM, in person), Eric Goldstein (EG, in person), Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio (NRY, remote), Joel Smith Goering (JSG, remote), Caitlin Campbell-Hahn (CCH, remote), Pat Brantley (PB, remote), Shannon Hodge (SH, remote), Tammy Tuck (TT)

Board Members Absent: Aaron Stallworth (AS), Maia Shanklin Roberts (MSR)

Staff Members Present: Myron Long (ML), Executive Director; Linice Perry (LP), Assistant Principal for Mathematics

Guests Present: none

A. Meeting Opening: Roll Call; Establishment of Quorum; Call to Order

NRY called the meeting to order at 6:07pm and established quorum with 7 board members and 1 staff member present.

NRY called for a motion to approve the February 2024 Social Justice School board meeting agenda. SH moved to approve the February 2024 board meeting agenda, and PB seconded. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

NRY asked the board members to introduce themselves and welcomed LP to the board meeting.

B. Mission Moment

ML shared some pictures from last Wednesday's celebration of learning, including 5th graders' Learning Design Lab playground designs, 7th grade stories, and student images of Haitian Revolution leaders. He invited all board members to join the spring celebration of learning. ML then shared images of the winning student artwork and poetry that celebrated Black History Month.

C. Approval of the January 2024 Minutes

NRY shared the January 2024 board meeting minutes for review and requested a motion to approve. PB moved to approve and CCH seconded. The motion carried with none opposed and no abstentions.

D. Executive Director Update

ML shared that he plans to testify at an upcoming oversight hearing before DC Council.

ML shared that the team is in the process of screening principal candidates, and hopes to make an offer by mid-April.

ML recently wrote a [blog post](#) for New Leaders, and he and SJS were recently featured in a local documentary.

ML shared a brief update on recruitment and enrollment, noting that application numbers for SJS are up compared to last year at this time. SJS has bus ads out as well as mini-commercials on social media.

ML gave a brief overview of ASPIRE, PCSB's proposed new accountability framework, and summarized charter LEAs' concerns with the proposal. The board engaged in a brief discussion about ASPIRE and how board members might engage with PCSB.

ML shared that DC Policy Center recently released an analysis of the fiscal future of DC, highlighting the need for LEAs to budget conservatively over the next few years. SJS is working with EdOps to understand implications for SJS.

E. Committee Updates

NRY transitioned the meeting to committee updates.

- **Executive Committee**
 - NRY shared some reminders about OMA compliance.
 - NRY shared that he will keep the board updated about the concern regarding SJS's posted address in My School DC.
 - SJS is compliant in terms of parent representation on the board, but still needs a treasurer. EG again suggested that we recruit for this role, and NRY asked that each board member make at least one ask to a potential board treasurer.
 - PB agreed to serve as board treasurer through June 30.
 - NRY finally reminded the board that school leaders have a lot on their plate at the moment, and asked that board members give grace and respond as quickly as possible to any requests from ML.
- **Finance Committee**
 - ML gave a brief update on the SY24-25 facility, including progress toward a lease with 14th St and exploration of contingency options.
 - JSG gave the financial report, highlighting that SJS's surplus and cash reserves are similar to how they have been trending earlier in the school year. SJS recently received a New Leaders award and a number of individual contributions. He also reviewed the timeline of the budget creation process and shared that a draft budget will be shared in March/April with the board.
- **School Performance Committee**
 - CCH shared that SJS contracted with a consultant to do a mock [Qualitative Site Review \(QSR\)](#) using the Charlotte Danielson framework (which the PCSB uses). She gave an overview of SJS's mock QSR scores, and shared that SJS was relatively average among other middle schools with recently-published QSR scores.
 - PCSB will be conducting the actual QSR (which will count toward the 5-year review) in early March.
 - CCH reminded the board of the timeline for the 5-year review process, and shared the criteria for the 5-year review per the PCSB.
 - ML shared an overview of winter MAP scores, highlighting reading growth and small disparities between racial groups. There is a gap between students with disabilities and their peers, which has been a focus for SJS.
 - ML suggested that the next SPC meeting be open to all board members, to leverage others' experience with reviewing QSR scores.
- **Engagement Committee**



- o NRY shared that the committee did not meet this month.
- o ML shared that he will share the date for SJS's second-ever promotion ceremony and encouraged all board members to attend.

F. Executive Session

NRY asked for a motion to move to executive session, per the OMA, To discuss trade secrets and commercial or financial information and to discuss student discipline.

PB made a motion to move to executive session, and EG seconded the motion. The motion carried with no abstentions. The board moved to executive session at 7:34.

G. Closing

The board returned to open session at 7:55 and NRY adjourned the meeting.

