

CLCS Board Meeting Minutes  
 March 24, 2020 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm  
 Conservatory Lab Charter School-Upper Campus  
 2120 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester, Ma 02125

- 2019-2020 CLCS Board of Trustees Goals**
1. Support the administration, faculty, and students in continuing to strengthen campus life and outcomes
  2. Complete construction of new Upper School building.
  3. Support and coordinate in every way possible the successful completion of the final phase of the capital campaign for the new school building.
  4. Strengthen communication and transparency among partner organizations and parent group.

Meeting began at 5:05pm.  
 Present: Erika Sanchez, Rev. Gregory Groover, Sandy Yeung, Bob Grinberg, Gary Gut, Lynn Cetrulo, Kay Sloan, Martha Kleinman, Lisa Wong, Christina Simpson, Kimberly Nelson, Takiya Anthony-Price, Curtis Warner, Kitty Pell  
 Staff: Nicole Mack, John Chistolini, Andres Barraza, Zakiyyah Sutton, Allida Warn  
 Guests: Rick Tagliaferri, Seth Racine, Brad Richardson  
 Absent: Ceferina Murrell, Tyrone Sutton, Elaine Chow

<p><b>1. Public Comment</b></p> <p>-No public comment</p>	<p><b>5:05pm</b></p>
<p><b>2. Approval of January 2020 Board Meeting Minutes</b></p> <p>-Board Chair Kay Sloan made the formal request to approve the January 2020 Board Meeting Minutes. Martha moved. Rev. Groover seconded.</p> <p><i>Action: Minutes unanimously approved.</i></p>	<p><b>5:05-5:06pm</b></p> <p>Documents:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">1. January 2020 Board Meeting minutes</p>

### **3. School Report**

-- CLCS Principal Nicole Mack explained the current status of the school including how the school has been impacted by the COV19 school closure. She also outlined measures taken to keep students engaged in online learning, and the impact on both staff and parents. Nicole has been working with staff to create online learning plans and teams have been working hard to create options for students while they're home. All of the second grade students and up have access to Google Classroom so that staff can put up assignments and students can see them there. CLCS has been active in pushing info out to parents and students. Teachers are hosting weekly CREW times for the entire class to meet using Zoom and other resources. Teachers are also in the process of scheduling one-on-one meetings with students as well.

--COO John Chistolini also outlined the measures the school has taken to address COV19 and mitigate the risks of exposure to the CLCS community. In alignment with BPS, the school will be shut down from March 17-April 27th. As families have expressed interest in obtaining a chromebook, John and Nicole have been providing information on access. Parents who have specifically reached out are being

**5:06pm-5:45pm**

Documents:

1. COV19 Update letter to School from March 11
2. March 2020 School Report

accommodated. John and Nicole have had ongoing conversations with all charter school leaders to discuss common issues and to figure out how to keep students engaged. They also have a conference call every Friday with Commissioner Jeff Riley.

--John also discussed the consequences of Carney Hospital transforming into a hospital that exclusively serves COV19 patients. John and Nicole are in the process of scheduling a call with Carney Hospital's President Tom Sands later this week to get more info. At this point, Carney doesn't want outside people in the hospital although at the moment the actual hospital's count of COV19 patients is low. The board also discussed alternatives to returning to the shared building space with Carney, should it remain a coronavirus testing site once the shutdown is over.

<p><b>4. Lottery/Admissions Status BCA Enrollment</b></p> <p>--- CLCS has participated in the Boston Charter application since 2017. There has been a drop of 2000 seats for charter schools. A year ago, CLCS had 2900 applications for 70 seats and now we have 2500. We haven't seen an impact yet by drop of school age in Boston but long-term we should give it some thought. CLCS was the only charter school as of October 1st with full enrollment.</p>	<p><b>5:45pm-5:50pm</b></p>
<p><b>5. Governance Committee Report</b></p> <p>----Governance Committee Chair Martha Kleinman introduced Christina Simpson and made a recommendation to vote her onto the CLCS Board.</p> <p>-- Board Chair Kay Sloan entertained a motion to invite Christina Simpson onto the CLCS Board. Martha moved. Lisa Wong seconded.</p> <p><i><b>Action: Christina Simpson is unanimously approved as a new CLCS Board trustee .</b></i></p> <p>--Martha also announced that the Board will be doing self-evaluation this spring, more than likely through Boardable.</p>	<p><b>5:50-6:00pm</b></p> <p>Documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Christina Simpson resume</li> </ol>

## **6. Finance Committee report**

**6:00-6:10pm**

- Finance Chair Bob Grinberg and Director of Finance Andres Barraza provided an update on the budget and the impact of COV19 on the school's finances. CLCS is currently on budget. Everything is good except that the amount of tuition and facility reimbursement the school was expecting has gone down a bit. The City of Boston made an error so the reduction could be \$90,000 less than anticipated. It's possible to receive another hit at the end of June if the City of Boston amends how much money it spends because of the virus. The school's expenses are down but there's no certainty if they'll be down the same rate as the money received. This could affect the preliminary budget for FY21 if Boston expenses continue to go down.

---The big vendor that is open for debate is transportation. Special legislation may be filed so that municipalities can pay transportation workers, which means districts could spend at or above their budgets.

---Andres mentioned that there's also the Student Opportunity Act that passed in December to help put more money into education and the hope is that the act will be funded.

---Additions have been added to the new building that the bank had approved for a graphics package, things for the gym, etc.

**7. Facilities update**

Board member Gary Gut provided an overview of the progress on the construction of the new building and how the construction has been impacted by the statewide shutdown. On March 16th, the space had to be emptied out due to the construction freeze. A couple of weeks will have to be added to the delivery date. Most of our subs are union so they probably won't go elsewhere. It's unlikely that construction will resume by the 30th--probably more like a week after that. We'll have a Certificate of Occupancy by labor day. It's possible the building won't be ready for the very beginning of school but at some point in September. The Governor's stay-at-home advisory considered construction non-essential services so we're looking for clarification. If necessary, the school year could begin a week late if the building isn't ready and CLCS could apply to adjust its calendar as long as it doesn't conflict with the law that says there should be no schooling after June 30th.

**6:10-6:15pm**

**8. Capital Campaign update**

The Director of the Capital Campaign Rick Tagliafferi provided an update on fundraising for the Capital Campaign. The original fundraising event scheduled for April 2nd at Kitty Pell's residence has been cancelled. The

**6:15-6:18pm**

Documents:

1. Capital Campaign Update report

<p>Development team is putting together photos and other materials to send to the invitees instead. Individuals are still giving to the campaign but given the current crisis, Development isn't actively soliciting money.</p>	
<p><b>11. Adjournment</b>          -Board Chair Kay Sloan moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:19pm. Martha moved. Lynn seconded. All approved.</p>	<p><b>6:19pm</b></p>
	<p>Other documents used during meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CLCS March Board Meeting Agenda</li> <li>2. Notice of CLCS DESE School Report Card</li> <li>3. March Development Report</li> </ol>