ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS CHARTER SCHOOL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTE

August 19, 2025

This meeting was held via Zoom. Notice of the meeting had been properly given, and a quorum was met. Larry Griffin, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

ATTENDEES

BOARD MEMBERS:
Mr. Larry Griffin – Board President
Dr. Valerie Allen – Board Vice President
Dr. Jayminn DeShields – Board Member
James Caldwell – Board Member
Karen Trawick – Board Secretary
Ms. Felicia Parker-Cox – Board Member

REGRETS:
Stacey Scott – CEO
Archbishop Mary Floyd – Board Member

STAFF:
Brian Cameron – Principal
Shian Stevens – Executive Assistant to the CEO
Raheem Harvey – Business & Compliance

VISITORS:
Leigh Ann Bonck – OmniVest
Kathleen Nagel - Attorney

Old Business:
Playground Update – Larry Griffin
We did not get selected by the donor to be their partner in the Kaboom Playground project. They choose another group somewhere else. We were assigned another Relationship Manager with Kaboom who has some connections here in the Philadelphia area. She will continue to see if we can find a partner to do that, or we may consider funding the project ourselves. Typically it can cost $160,000, or we may find someone who is willing to split the cost with us.

New Business: None

Public Comment: None

Principal Report Brian Camerson

Science Report Data was sent to the Board. This is the first year that the State has used these new standards called the STEAL Standards. Essentially the change in those standards is moving away from traditional science standards to more STEAL aligned. Therefore, Science Technology Engineering is more of a wholistic look at our science curriculum and our science standards in the State. Some years ago, they made a big change after "No Child Left Behind with the Common Core for ELA and Math. This is a similar shift they are making with science.

One of the first changes they made, they made it a 5th and 8th grade test this year that always been a 4th and 8th grade, and obvious 11th grade which does not apply to Alliance. In the report they gave to us, they sent the percentiles for students, and they also sent them along with that in a raw spreadsheet, they also sent around if the children had completed ten or more questions on the test. This is a very inciteful data point. It shows any of our children who simply received a task and bubbled a couple of things in and submitted it. A more comprehensive score report will typically come at the end of September or October. Based on the data, at this point we see that our 5th and 8th graders are in a similar boat to what we talked about extensively at this point with our ELA and Math in need of higher levels of support. In response to that we have shifted our science curriculum this year. We have shifted our K-3 program to a program called PHD science, and our fourth – eighth program to a program called No Adam, and both of those programs are STEAL aligned. Science classes are held every day for 45 minutes. We had a day and a half of No Adam training at this point which included walking through the process of curriculum delivery and going through all the components of that.

Orientation Schedule

One of the things we discussed at the end of the year meeting, and then discussed at the CIT meeting is how we can begin to change the culture at Alliance and make an effort to do deep dives in terms of what sound delivery of instruction looks like and to be able to improve our data. We are aware that the data needs to improve and that is a big component of our charter renewal. We have spent a lot of time over the last two weeks in very intentional training with our staff. We partnered with Jounce who is a conceptional math company in Philadelphia. They came in for three full days of training with our teachers last week and completely unwound math delivery to the point where our teachers were practicing math problems for content development and content knowledge for two days prior to even moving into how to deliver that instruction. Ensuring that our teachers knew the math that they were to teach. They worked from the Big Ideas Concept, and they have had a very successful partnership with a lot of Philadelphia schools. Alliance has worked on and off with Joust and the gentleman who runs it, his name is Paul Dean for a while, but we really reestablished that in terms of training and making sure that there were training that was not one session and that were building connections in order to build strong math content for our staff. In addition, we made sure that we were curating training in a different world for our teachers that needed training at an entry level and those who have been with us for five/seven years. Their training is curated specifically, to what their needs are.

Staff returned August 11th for Orientation beginning with CEO and Principal presenting many components of the history of Alliance and going over our theme for the year. Discussing the data for the year as well as having crucial conversations then moving into smaller sessions. The theme for the year is**, "Powered by Purpose."**

Approval of Minutes for June 17, 2025
Upon motion, duly moved, seconded, and carried, the Board approved the Minutes for June 17, 2025.
Felicia Parker-Cox moved to approve the Minutes for June 2025. Karen Trawick seconded the motion.
Motion carried.

VOTE SUMMARY OF EACH MEMBER			
Larry Griffin	Initiated Motion: Yes	James Caldwell	Yes
Felicia Parker-Cox	Motion to Approve: Yes	Dr. Valerie Dorsey Allem	Abstained
Karen Trawick	2nd Motion: Yes		
Dr. Jayminn DeShields	Yes		

Financial Report:

Approval of the Financial Report as of June 30, 2025 – Leigh Ann Bonck
Upon motion, duly moved, seconded, and carried, the Board approved the Financial Report as of June 30, 2025.
Dr. Valerie Dorsey Allen moved to approve the Financial Report. Dr. Jayminn DeShields seconded the motion.
Motion carried.

VOTE SUMMARY OF EACH MEMBER			
Larry Griffin	Initiated Motion: Yes	Karen Trawick	Yes
Dr. Valerie Dorsey Allen	Motion to Approve: Yes	Felicia Parker-Cox	Yes
Dr. Jayminn DeShields	2nd Motion: Yes		
James Caldwell	Yes		

CEO Report - Shian Stevens – CEO Executive Assistant

Enrollment:
Currently we are enrolled at 658 total. We are still pulling Kindergartens from the wait list as well as working on our sibling preferences. Our goal is to be at 671 by the end of the week. Our Enrollment Specialist is working diligently to get those numbers to the goal.

Open House
Will be held Friday, August 22, 2025. There will be light refreshments, lots of activities for the children in addition to a uniform pop-up shop where parents can purchase uniforms.

Staffing Needs
We are about 95% fully staffed. Since July, we have onboard nineteen new employees, all of whom are certified teachers, and Paraprofessionals. We took a different approach to recruitment. Instead of waiting for teachers to apply for positions, we went out to inquire about them. Currently, we have two teachers' positions that need to be filled, a fifth/6th Grade writing teacher, and a seventh/8th Grade writing teacher. We also need three more one-to-one to be in compliance with our scholars that need extra support in the classrooms, as well as one SPED teacher. We are currently interviewing and have some panel interviews set up for this week.

Executive Session

- Employee Matters

Exceptional Learner Matters

Approval of Settlement Student #1

Upon motion, duly moved, seconded, and carried, the Board approved the Settlement for Student #1. Felicia Parker-Cox moved to approve the Settlement. Dr. Jayminn De'Shields seconded the motion, Motion Carried

VOTE SUMMARY OF EACH MEMBER			
Larry Griffin	Initiated Motion Yes	James Caldwell	Yes
Felicia Parker-Cox	Motion to Approve Yes		Yes
Dr. Jayminn DeShields	2nd Motion Yes		
Karen Trawick	Yes		

Approval of Settlement Student #2

Upon motion, duly moved, seconded, and carried, the Board approved the Settlement for Student #2. Karen Trawick moved to approve the Settlement. Felicia Parker-Cox seconded the motion, Motion Carried

VOTE SUMMARY OF EACH MEMBER			
Larry Griffin	Initiated Motion Yes	James Caldwell	Yes
Karen Trawick	Motion to Approve Yes		Yes
Felicia Parker Cox	2nd Motion Yes		
Dr. Jayminn DeShields	Yes		

Approval of Settlement Student #3

Upon motion, duly moved, seconded, and carried, the Board approved the Settlement for Student #3. Felicia Parker-Cox moved to approve the Settlement. Karen Trawick seconded the motion, Motion Carried

VOTE SUMMARY OF EACH MEMBER			
Larry Griffin	Initiated Motion Yes	James Caldwell	Yes
Felicia Parker-Cox	Motion to Approve Yes		
Karen Trawick	2nd Motion Yes		
Dr. Jayminn DeShields	Yes		

Approval of Settlement Student #4

Upon motion, duly moved, seconded, and carried, the Board approved the Settlement for Student #4. Karen Trawickl moved to approve the Settlement. Felicia Parker-Cox seconded the motion, Motion Carried

VOTE SUMMARY OF EACH MEMBER			
Larry Griffin	Initiated Motion Yes	Dr. Jayminn DeShields	Yes
Karen Trawick	Motion to Approve Yes		
Felicia Parker-Cox	2nd Motion Yes		
James Caldwell	Yes		

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 16, 2025 @ 6:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm

Respectfully Submitted
Crystal A. Sharper