



**Cleveland Transformation Alliance
Minutes of the Board of Directors**

January 28, 2019 | 5:30 PM

Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority | First-floor conference room
8120 Kinsman Road, Cleveland, OH 44104

In Attendance

Baumgartner, Mark	Jackson, Mayor Frank	Napoli, Augie	Ruiz, Victor
Bingham, Anne	Jordan, Sharon Sobol	Patterson, Jeff	Rutledge, Deborah
Downing, Diane	Klupinski, Stephanie	Price, Monyka	Scavella, Sam
Gibson, Richard	Marbury, Shana	Randel, Erin	Williams, Helen
Hewitt, Philip	Mullin, Ann	Rosskamm, Alan	Zachariah, Sajit

Absent:

Friedman, Lee	Gordon, Eric	King, Brooke	Reyes, Jose
Figueroa, Martha	Heard, Robert	Payton, Kevin	

Cleveland Transformation Alliance staff

Smith, Catherine	van Lier, Piet
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Welcome & Review of December 3, 2018, Meetings' Minutes

Mayor Frank Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:39PM. The board reviewed and voted on the minutes from the December 3, 2018 meeting. Sharon Sobol Jordan moved to approve the minutes, Ann Mullin seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mayor Jackson introduced the new members of the board. Mark Baumgartner, Director of Professional Issues for the Cleveland Teachers Union will be stepping in to replace David Quolke. Also joining the board was Stephanie Klupinski, serving as the representative for **OASCA**, the Ohio statewide charter organization.

Executive session

The board voted to go into executive session. The executive session began at 5:41PM and ended at 5:55PM.

Jeff Patterson made a motion to appoint Deb Rutledge Interim Executive Director of the Transformation Alliance while looking for a full-time replacement, Diane Downing seconded, the board approved unanimously. The board recognized gratitude for her volunteer capacity taking on this role.

Charter partner criteria

Piet van Lier presented information about change to the charter partnership criteria which had been presented at the previous meeting. He stated that the school board approved the criteria, but were asked to add additional information about accountability measures for partnering dropout recovery schools, who use different state data standards. Adding that criteria to the partnership criteria, dropout recovery schools will be measured using their combined graduation rate. Mr. van Lier explained that the dropout recovery schools provide a more flexible setting for students who are at risk of not graduating

Alan Rosskamm moved to approve the partnership criteria update, Helen Williams seconded. The board approved unanimously.

Communications

Augie Napoli introduced the communication and engagement committees update. The Alliance communications summary was included in on placemats at each seat. Mr. Napoli explained the importance in communication to families and the need to build stakeholders in the organization's work. He explained the committee has been working on a plan to see how we can move forward in this work without losing speed during the executive director search.

Mr. Napoli explained that the committee, Catherine Smith, and Heather Lenz have put together a plan that meets the needs of the Alliance, stressing that it is within our budget, timely, and maintains our ability of staying present for families.

Heather Lenz, consultant, introduced her work supporting the Alliance and other community organizations. Ms. Lenz presented the communication plan, included in the board packet. Using a review of the last three years of communications, the operations, and implementation of outreach staff, the communication plan was developed. The plan is produced to fit within the board priorities, with more measured impact on the communications to parents and families in personal ways while expanding the Alliance's broad communication.

The communications scan found that we have all the infrastructure in place to communicate, and the evaluation of these pieces allows for us to streamline and innovate the ways we communicate and develop as a trusted resource. Ms. Lenz presented the plan to the board, and explained it is allowing for the Alliance to do more with limited resources. She presented the benchmarks and metrics that will be met through the upcoming year.

The board discussed how the plan seemed strong, and stabilizing during the transition. Erin Randel noted that it allows for deeper communication with families and allows us to move forward in that relational work.

It was asked if Heather Lenz would be implementing any pieces of the plan. She explained it would be heavy in the next few months, providing support to the Program Manager, and then lighter beginning in April.

Updates

Year in Review

Mr. van Lier presented the year-in-review document, found in the board packet. He presented highlights from 2018 and goals for 2019 work. Mr. van Lier explained that we brought in five new funders in 2018, and 10 over the last three years. He explained this work will continue this year with the support of Tim Angbrandt, who he introduced. Mr. Angbrandt will be working with our strategic fund development plan in 2019 to develop a strategy for 2020.

Mr. van Lier also provided an overview of the Navigator Program in Central which will continue in 2019. He announced that the *School Quality Guide* was released earlier than ever before, with more schools participating. Ann Mullin noted that the charter school numbers for serving students with disabilities appear to be improving. Catherine Smith thanked the board members and funders in the room for their sponsorship of the *2019 School Quality Guide*.

Mayor Jackson announced that Say Yes to Education launched last week, and with the purpose of providing better educational outcomes for students. He stated that Diane Downing of the board has been hired as the executive director. Mayor Jackson explained this is an evolution of the Cleveland Plan, which allows us to better align our work to get the maximum result.

Ann Mullin stated that she has been able to speak with students who are very excited for their future. Sam Scavella added that the students were incredibly excited and began searching for which schools were on the list. He stated that they now will be having townhalls within his school to allow students to see what's out there.

They stated that the application goes live on Monday, supported by College Now who will be answering the calls about eligibility. For more information, they stated to go to Say Yes's website.

Adjournment

Mayor Jackson adjourned the meeting at 6:55PM. The next meeting of the board of directors will be March 4, 2019 at headquarters of the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, 8120 Kinsman.