



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

March 4, 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	King, Brooke	Price, Monyka	Scavella, Sam
Gibson, Richard	Klupinski, Stephanie	Randel, Erin	Williams, Helen
Hewitt, Philip	Marbury, Shana	Rosskamm, Alan	Zachariah, Sajit
	Mullin, Ann		

**Absent:**

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

**Cleveland Transformation Alliance staff**

Smith, Catherine	van Lier, Piet
------------------	----------------

**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 the Ohio Association of Charter School Authorizers, the 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 the charter partnership criteria. He stated that the school board approved the criteria, but, was asked to add additional information about accountability measures for partnering with dropout recovery schools. Dropout recovery schools use different state data standards. Adding the criteria to the partnership criteria, dropout recovery schools will be measured using their combined graduation rate. Mr. van Lier explained that 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 committee's update. The Alliance communications summary was included in on placemats at each seat. Mr. Napoli discussed the importance of communicating to families and the need to build stakeholders in the Alliance's work. He explained that the committee has been working on a plan to see how we can move forward in this work without losing speed while searching for a new executive director.

Mr. Napoli explained that Catherine Smith and Heather Lenz 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.

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's priorities, with more measured impact on the communication to parents and families in personal ways while expanding the Alliance's broad communication.

The communications scan found that we have 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 that it allows the Alliance to do more with limited resources. Additionally, 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.

The Board 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. 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 about their future. Sam Scavella added that the students were incredibly excited and began searching for schools that are covered under the program. 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. More information can be found on 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 the headquarters of the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, 8120 Kinsman.