



Educating the next generation of lawyers and leaders

Board of Director Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Legal Prep Charter Academies (“Legal Prep”) was held at 12:00pm on October 14, 2021 via Zoom.

The following members of the Board were present:

Rather Stanton (ex officio), Sam Finkelstein, (ex officio), Jason Brown, Paul Chadha, Mark DeMonte, Heather Fine, Wendy Friedman, Jose Isasi, Tom Lafrance, Laura Miller, Oscar Romero, Brian Westoff, Greg Wu, and Elie Zenner.

Chaka Patterson, Bill Hardin, David Susler, Latonia Foster, and Walter Pryor were noticed absences.

Audit Report

Jim Quaid and Harry Fox from ORBA reviewed the FY21 Audit. Jim and Harry walked through the report and acknowledged Legal Prep’s strong financial year and improved financial position. The FY21 Audit report is clean and unmodified, which is what you want. There were no surprises in the Audit, and Legal Prep was commended for a good year and a helpful audit process.

The Board

VOTED:

To adopt the Audit as circulated. The motion was approved unanimously.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Board

VOTED:

To approve the draft minutes of the Board meeting from August 28, 2021 in the form previously circulated. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment

No public comments were offered.

Executive Committee Report

Sam Finkelstein provided the Executive Committee update.

COVID: Legal Prep continues to implement COVID safety protocols. The school is managing COVID with masking, social distancing and ongoing testing on a weekly basis. It does random testing weekly for students and staff. Legal Prep is testing around 60-70 people in a typical week. The mitigating factors are effective.

Enrollment: The good news is that enrollment is up from last year to 263 from 241. This should lock the school in for a six figure budget surplus.

Charter Renewal: Legal Prep is in the middle of the renewal process. CPS reached out before Labor Day and they are going to do a site visit for all schools going through renewal. This is an updated policy shift. Historically, this has only been for schools in remediation. The site visit is set for October 18th/19th. Sam



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and Rather assume there will be a positive recommendation for renewal – either 3 or 5 years. Legal Prep’s suspension and expulsion numbers are a big issue with regard to renewal. The school has taken steps to handle the issues they have had in these areas. There have been zero expulsions this school year. The suspensions are down 98% this year.

Board Retreat: November 13th from 9am to 2pm hosted at MLA, 123 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 1050.

PPP Investigation: Submitted all documents, went through the interview process with OIG. Sam and Rather think it is complete. There is not a legal liability, but is more about the public relations fall-out of a charter school taking PPP funds. Nothing new to add to this update. Discovery will continue on.

Associate Board Liaison Update: Elie Zenner shared that the Associate Board had their first full meeting a couple weeks ago. There are 3 or 4 new members and good energy. The Associate Board mostly handles fund-raising and creating a class of people who could be future supporters. There are 15-20 Board members. The engagement can vary depending on years. There was a discussion about having more Legal prep alum on the Associates Board.

Board Governance Committee Report

The Board Governance Committee is working and talking to a few potential members. It hopes to have names and members for the January meeting. Rather is doing the individual board worksheets with board members. He hopes to have those done by Thanksgiving.

Finance Committee Report

Have not yet wrapped up Q1 financials, so no major update. More in January.

Development Committee Report

Rather provided an updated. The golf outing was small, but successful and raised ~ \$8K. There is an opportunity to make this event even bigger. Rather would like to make this a more formal program and a greater fundraising opportunities. He would like to get a Committee to start working on this event earlier.

The Law Programs will start in November. They will be virtual and students will be in the building for this. The annual appeal will start up around Thanksgiving. More details to come. The Committee is also putting together timeliness together for Eat Drink Give, which will happen in May 2022.

Academic Excellence Committee Report

No new updates with this Committee.

Other Matters

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:58pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Fine