A public meeting was held by the School Reform Commission on December 17, 2015 in the Auditorium of the School District of Philadelphia Education Center, 440 North Broad Street.

The meeting was convened at 5:37 p.m. by Chair Neff. Chair Neff stated that she is deeply troubled by the absence of a state budget. She stated that it has been nearly six months without a state budget. Chair Neff stated that the District has spent six months cobbled together funds to keep our doors open. She expressed gratitude to every teacher, principal, staff member, students, and all the family and community members who have continued to make this devastating situation work.

Chair Neff announced that the public hearing before the School Reform Commission of the School District of Philadelphia on the recommended nonrenewal of Delaware Valley Charter High School’s charter has been completed. She stated that formal action on the recommended nonrenewal shall be taken by the SRC at a future public meeting. Chair Neff stated that the public has thirty (30) days to provide written comments to the SRC, addressed to the SRC, Suite 101, 440 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130, or by email addressed to SRC@philasd.org. She stated that all comments received will be part of the record of the nonrenewal hearing and that more details can be found on the SRC website.

Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, announced that the School Reform Commission met in Executive Session to discuss litigation, personnel matters, and investigations.

Members Present: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms, Chair Neff – 5

Members Absent: 0

Evelyn Sample-Oates, Chief of Family and Community Engagement, provided an overview of the order of the meeting. She stated that a representative from the Deaf-Hearing Communication Center is present to provide sign language interpretation of the proceedings. She stated that representatives from the Office of Family and Community Engagement are stationed in the lobby to help with interpretation services. Ms. Sample-Oates stated that the SRC meeting is being streamed live on the internet and is being recorded by the School District of Philadelphia. She stated that the School District’s recordings are protected by the copyright laws of the United States and may not be used in any manner without the express written consent of The School District. Ms. Sample-Oates stated that by participating in the meeting, members of the public acknowledge that the School District may use its recordings for any purpose without obtaining permission or paying any compensation.

William R. Hite, Superintendent, provided remarks. Dr. Hite provided an update on the state budget impasse and the potential consequences if a budget is not passed by January 31. He stated that our goal throughout the budget negotiations has been to keep our schools open and educate students for as long as possible. He stated that we can continue to make payroll without state funds through January 29th, and that after that date, our ability to keep schools open, issue paychecks and pay bills is uncertain. Dr. Hite stated that we are exploring all options for contingency planning with our lenders and considering possibilities across many fronts to provide for students’ uninterrupted education. He urged the public to continue its advocacy efforts in the hopes of getting an approved state budget quickly that will provide the critical support that students, families and schools deserve.

Dr. Hite stated that despite our financial challenges, we are continuing our technology investments in District schools. He stated that we’ve recently updated computer equipment in 50 schools, impacting 28,000 students. Each school is receiving 34 iMacs and a new color printer, replacing equipment that was more than seven years old in some instances. The new equipment will allow students to take advantage of online learning sites, access educational materials from around the world, connect with schools and students throughout the country, and practice coding – all of which serve to advance our Anchor Goals on early literacy and college and career readiness.

As a reminder, Dr. Hite stated that schools will be closed for winter recess from Wednesday, December 24 through Thursday, December 31, and that Administrative offices and schools will be closed Christmas Day and New Year’s Day. Schools will reopen Monday, January 4. He wished all a wonderful holiday season with family and friends.

Dr. Hite stated that tonight we will show a video produced through the Representing Philadelphia Schools Through Film project, in partnership with the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education and GSE Films. We showed a longer version prior to the start of tonight’s meeting. He stated that this project is designed to highlight unique programming in District schools, and provide students and families with more information to assist them in selecting high schools based on their academic interests and future goals. The School District and GSE Films produced two videos focused on the Philadelphia Military Academy. Plans are underway to produce films on Robeson, Randolph and Bartram high schools.

Chair Neff introduced the presentation of a special citation honoring Otis Hackney, Principal, South Philadelphia High School and Chief Education Officer to Mayor-Elect James Kenney. Chair Neff stated that she has worked alongside Otis Hackney as a Philadelphia principal and could not be more excited for the children of Philadelphia as he assumes the role of Chief Education Officer.
Otis Hackney Citation
WHEREAS, On this day, the colleagues and friends of Otis D. Hackney III come together to congratulate him on being appointed Chief Education Officer to Mayor-elect Jim Kenney; and

WHEREAS, Otis began his career while studying at Temple University working with underprivileged youth in South Philadelphia and the Freedom Schools program; and

WHEREAS, Otis completed his Principal’s Internship at Overbrook High School and served in various teacher and leadership capacities at Germantown and South Philadelphia high schools, including ninth grade academy team leader, varsity basketball coach, assistant principal and principal; and

WHEREAS, As principal of South Philadelphia High School since 2010, Otis has led efforts to heal racial divisions and foster a collaborative and welcoming environment; and

WHEREAS, Otis successfully guided South Philadelphia High School through three years of compliance with the U.S. Department of Justice settlement agreement; and

WHEREAS, In his years of service to The School District of Philadelphia, Otis worked to develop relationships with key partners in support of the students, faculty and staff at South Philadelphia High School; and

WHEREAS, Otis’ trailblazing accomplishments include being appointed the first African American to serve as principal of Springfield Township High School; and

WHEREAS, Otis has upheld the highest standards of public education and school leadership through his work; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the School Reform Commission and the Superintendent join with the staff, students and parents of the School District of Philadelphia in thanking this outstanding administrator for his dedication, compassion and advocacy, and congratulating him on this distinguished appointment.

Chair Neff introduced members of the South Philadelphia High School Choir, who under the directorship of Alize Roznyai, sang two selections. Chair Neff also acknowledged the continued support of Curtis Institute of Music, Wells Fargo, and Jacob’s Music.

Chair Neff also acknowledged Lori Shorr, who has served as Chief Education Officer for the last eight years. She stated that under Lori’s steady leadership, the City has advocated for our schools at both the local and state level, prioritized education into the work of various City departments, and built partnerships with nonprofits and businesses to enhance services for our students. Chair Neff stated that the City’s continued commitment to our students during Lori’s tenure has helped the District manage the devastating cuts we have experienced over the past several years. On behalf of the Commission, Chair Neff thanked Lori for her perseverance and deep commitment to this work.

The Office Depot Seniors of the Month for December 2015 were presented to Haleem Hayes, Lincoln High School, and Shake Rahman, Central High School. Dr. Hite introduced a video presentation which highlighted each of the recipients.

The Teacher of the Month for December 2015 was presented to Sherrie Peirce-Jeffreys, Rhawnhurst Elementary School.

As a reminder, Chair Neff stated that speakers have been grouped by topic and time at which they registered. She stated that after we hear from student speakers, we will hear from speakers on all topics, starting with speakers on resolutions. Chair Neff stated that moving forward, we will be changing the speaker’s policy. She stated that given that all speakers have an opportunity to speak before the votes are taken on resolutions, we will no longer have speakers registered to speak on resolutions go first. She stated that they will be grouped by topic and the time at which they register along with all other speakers. Chair Neff also stated that moving forward, new speakers, speakers who did not speak at the previous meeting, will be allowed to speak first on their registered topics.

The meeting was opened to the public for presentation of statements.

MithSaika Napoleon, student, described her positive experience at Olney Charter High School.

Qahir Coyett, student, described his positive experience at YES Philly.

Gabriel Hicks, student, presented a plan for saving Jay Cooke Elementary School. He stated that the school should have a full-time nurse and two school police officers.

The following students described their positive experiences at Mastery Charter School – Pickett Campus:

- Luis Rodriguez, 11th grade
- Tierra Small, 11th grade
- Alesha Green, 12th grade
Cecelia Thompson, Parent Power, requested that the School Reform Commission postpone its vote on resolution SRC-6, Approval of the 2016-2017 Academic Calendar until the January 21, 2016 Action Meeting. She requested that the following revisions be considered: changing the school selection process start date from September 30, 2016 to October 3, 2016; and extending the time for the school selection process to December 2, 2016. Ms. Thompson also requested an explanation for the change in report card conferences. She also presented the following questions with regard to staff professional development: What is the plan for follow up after each professional development? What are the topics for each month and how does each improve the quality of learning and safety? What is the structure of each day?; and Who decides who attends a professional development?

The following individuals, citing resolution SRC-7, expressed concerns about the proposed amendment of Dr. Hite’s Employment Agreement:

- Karel Kilimnik
- Yaasyn Muhammad
- Catherine Blunt

Robin Lowry, citing resolution A-13 Ratification of Contract Amendment with Smart Partners LLC, stated that she is pleased that the School District is spending money on fresh fruits and vegetables. Ms. Lowry also thanked the SRC and the School District for giving Wister an opportunity to become a community. She stated that by disrupting our focus, demoralizing our staff, and stressing our parents, you have brought us together to speak truth to power and continue to fight for the rights of all.

Diane Payne, citing resolution A-14 Contract with GCA Services for Janitorial and Custodial Services, stated that the District has paved the way for this union busting tactic some time ago. She stated that the continued outsourcing of District jobs is right in line with the Boston Consulting Group’s plan for Philadelphia. She asked that the SRC vote no on resolution A-14 and move to restore the jobs to 32BJ. Ms. Payne also requested an answer to her question regarding the selection of Mastery Charter to provide teacher coaching.

Commissioner Houstoun stated that Chair Neff had to unexpectedly leave the meeting. She will be chairing the remainder of the meeting.

Barbara McDowell Dowdall, citing resolution B-1, stated that Diane Payne and Karel Kilimnik, both retired kindergarten teachers and members of the Alliance for Philadelphia Public Schools, would be willing to assist with kindergarten transition.

Robert McGrogan, President of CASA, stated that every cut that has been made makes more schools vulnerable and that the District is ignoring the signals and our direct requests for relief. He stated that they do not have the resources needed to ensure the most primary need in keeping all of our students, staff, and principals safe. Mr. Grogan stated that the District is upside down and has lost sight that every one of its employees works in a service based organization.

Greg Paulmier requested on behalf of the neighbors and families that elected him as their Democratic Ward Leader to keep Wister Elementary School a District run school.

George Bezanis recited a poem to the beat of Twas the Night Before Christmas.

The following individuals presented statements in support of the expansion of the Russel Byers Charter School:

- Allison Parks, Director of College and Career Programs and Ours for Life Transition Coordinator
- David Meketon, Duckworth Lab, University of Pennsylvania
- Megan Harper, parent

Quibila Devine sang a song entitled “Imagine Greatness for All Children” to the tune of “Walking in a Winter Wonderland”.

LaSkeetai Simms, Parent Leaders Advisory Network, read a poem “Cause I Ain’t Got a Pencil”.

Toya Algarin, parent, described her son’s experience at KIPP Philadelphia Charter School.

Kenya Nation, parent, requested the Wister Elementary School not be turned over to Mastery. She also presented a proposal for an alternative to charter schools.

Tania Stephens, reported on an alleged incident that took place at Gideon Elementary School on or about November 24, 2015 in which nine children were physically and/or sexually assaulted by a male school employee.

Keith Schenk stated that the collective body of children, parents, teachers, and professionals suggests that they are stakeholders and concerned persons. He stated that Dr. Hite and the SRC are a foreign matter that we must reject.

Nikkyeea Yarborough, parent, described the positive experience of her daughter who attends Freire Charter School. She requested that the School Reform Commission provide more quality educational opportunities for our city’s youth.
Tatiana Olmedo, counselor at Central High School, shared excerpts from two letters from two former
students that highlighted the importance of the school counseling profession in developing positive, trusting
relationships with students and parents.

Unidentified speaker stated that money is needed to keep public schools open and not to fund charter
schools.

Commissioner Green stated that the District’s financials forecasts a $400 million deficit. He stated that
there is not a lot of money coming to the District.

Anna Figueroa, Wister grandparent, expressed support of the turnaround at Wister and the proposed
partnership with Mastery Charter School. She stated that Wister cannot afford to wait for Superman.

Alisha Grant, parent, urged the District to continue with plans to make Wister Elementary School a
Renaissance school.

William Jackson, parent, stated that Wister has failed our children. He expressed support of Wister
Elementary becoming a Renaissance school with Mastery.

Novillette Jones, parent, expressed concerns about the status of the Wister Pre-K/Bright Futures Program if
the school becomes a Renaissance Charter.

Saudia Shuler, parent, stated that the principal of Strawberry Mansion High School has been disrespectful
to students and parents. She also stated that the principal will not let her son play basketball.

Coleman Poses expressed thanks to David Zega, Superintendent’s Office for providing correct data to the
principal of Wister and families.

Leah Clouden stated that the things that are happening at Huey Elementary School are criminal. She stated
that the school has had three principals in three months and that there have been many teacher absences. She stated
that students are being suspended everyday and that staff is bullying students.

Robert Reynolds, West Philadelphia resident and parent of a student that attends Huey Elementary School,
stated that Huey is being put up for sale by the School District. He stated that he did not understand the funding
formula.

Elizabeth Powers, a former Senior Program Associate at the George Washington University Center for
Equity and Excellence in Education, stated that based on her professional knowledge and experience and her work with the staff at Huey School respectfully disagrees with Superintendent’s Hite’s recommendation to convert Huey School to a Renaissance Charter.

Pamela Banks, parent, stated that Huey is a “hot mess”. She stated that Huey is full of inconsistencies. Ms.
Banks requested that resources be returned.

Sherrie Cohen expressed support of the Cooke, Wister, and Huey School parents who have been meeting
since October. She stated that the parents support the Community School model.

The following individuals described their positive experience at John B. Stetson Charter School:

- Norma Esquiline, parent
- Amaris Gonzalez, parent
- Charity Cruz, parent

Mama Gail stated that there have been too many errors under Dr. Hite’s leadership.

Lisa Haver, retired teacher and member of the Alliance for Philadelphia Public Schools, asked if there have
ever been confirmation hearings for members of the School Reform Commission. She stated that the public is not
invited to participate. Ms. Haver also asked when did the SRC meet to discuss Dr. Hite’s contract.

Orlando Acosta, parent, stated that his son was searched and asked personal questions by school staff.
Commissioner Houstoun asked Mr. Acosta not to publicly share personal family information.

Michael A. Davis, General Counsel, read an opinion regarding Conflict of Interest for Commissioner Green
and the capacity in which he serves in his work with the Dilworth Paxson LLP law firm and whether his role creates
a conflict of interest with the School District. Mr. Davis’ legal opinion on conflict of interest included an overview
of the issue presented, facts, and legal analysis. Mr. Davis stated that the issues is whether, in such capacity, Commissioner Green would have a “conflict of interest” as defined in the state Ethics Act (“Ethics Act”) Section 1102, with respect to the firm’s clients’ matters which would prohibit Commissioner Green from participating in SRC discussions and deliberations, and require him to recuse himself and abstain from SRC voting on such matters.

Mr. Davis stated that it is his opinion as General Counsel and solicitor for the School District of
Philadelphia that Commissioner Green’s status as an independent contractor to the law firm does not satisfy the
Ethic Act’s definition if the term “business with which Commissioner Green is associated.” He stated that under the
facts and circumstances of Commissioner Green’s current capacity and status with Dilworth Paxson, Commissioner
Green does not have a conflict of interest as defined by the Ethics Act. A complete copy of Mr. Davis' legal opinion on the question of conflict of interest is on file with the minutes of the School Reform Commission.

The following resolutions were presented for formal action by the School Reform Commission:

*Due to illness, Chair Neff was not present for the vote on resolutions. The remainder of the meeting was chaired by Commissioner Houstoun.

I. SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION

SRC-1 (Updated 12.10.15)
Proposed Student Expulsion – A. B.
RESOLVED, that Student A.B. shall not be expelled from the School District of Philadelphia, and be it.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student A.B. shall not be permitted to return to the school where the incident took place, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law shall be made a part of Student A.B.’s permanent school record, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on file with the School and the minutes of the School Reform Commission be adopted.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

SRC-2
Proposed Student Expulsion – S. F.
RESOLVED, that Student S.F. shall be temporarily expelled from the School District of Philadelphia effective from the date she re-enrolls back into a Philadelphia Public School, for one year, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student S.F. shall not be permitted to return to the school where the incident took place after the period of expulsion, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law shall be made a part of Student S.F.’s permanent school record, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on file with the school and the minutes of the School Reform Commission be adopted.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

SRC-3
Proposed Student Expulsion – D. M.
RESOLVED, that Student D.M. shall be temporarily expelled from the School District of Philadelphia effective October 28, 2015 through the end of the 2015-2016 School Year, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student D.M. shall not be permitted to return to the school where the incident took place after the period of expulsion; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law shall be made a part of Student D.M.’s permanent record; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on file with the School and the minutes of the School Reform Commission be adopted.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

SRC-4
Proposed Student Expulsion – A. S.
RESOLVED, that Student A.S. shall be temporarily expelled from the School District of Philadelphia effective October 28, 2015 through the end of the 2015-2016 School Year, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student A.S. shall not be permitted to return to the school where the incident took place after the period of expulsion; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law shall be made a part of Student A.S.’s permanent record; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on file with the School and the minutes of the School Reform Commission be adopted.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas:  Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays:  0

SRC-5
Proposed Student Expulsion – D. T.
RESOLVED, that Student D.T. shall be temporarily expelled from the School District of Philadelphia effective October 28, 2015 through the end of the 2015-2016 School Year, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student D.T. shall not be permitted to return to the school where the incident took place after the period of expulsion, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law shall be made a part of Student D.T.’s permanent record, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on file with the School and the minutes of the School Reform Commission be adopted.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas:  Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays:  0

SRC-6
Approval of Academic Calendar 2016-2017
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby approves the Calendar for Schools, Early Childhood Programs, and Administrative Offices for the school year 2016-2017. The calendar shall be as follows:

1. The sessions for teachers and non-administrative school-based personnel begin September 1, 2016, and close June 21, 2016, totaling 188 days.

2. School-based personnel will not be required to be in school on the following holidays and non-working days: September 5, October 3 through October 4, October 12, November 11, November 24 through November 25, December 26 through December 30, January 2, 2017, January 16, February 20, April 10 through April 14, May 16, and May 29.

3. The sessions for elementary and secondary pupils (grades 1 through 12) begin September 7, 2016, and close June 20, 2017, totaling 181 instructional days.

4. In the event that schools are closed due to inclement weather or other emergency circumstances, June 21, 2017, June 22, 2017, and June 23, 2017, and the required number of days thereafter, beginning with April 10, 2017, through April 12, 2017, will be days of pupil and staff attendance to satisfy the requirement of 181 instructional days.

5. The first day for Pre-Kindergarten, Head Start and Bright Futures pupils will be September 7, 2016.

6. The first day for Kindergarten pupils will be September 14, 2016.

7. Students will not be in attendance on the following days: September 1 through 2, September 5 through 6, September 30, October 3 through 4, October 12, November 8, November 11, November 24 through November 25, December 26 through December 30, January 2 through January 3, 2017, January 16, February 20, April 10 through April 14, May 16, and May 29.

8. Administrative Offices will be open Monday through Friday, with the exception of the following holidays and non-working days: July 4, September 5, October 3 through 4, October 12, November 11, November 24 through November 25, December 26, January 2, 2017, January 16, February 20, April 14, and May 29.

The following is the calendar for all schools, Pre-Kindergarten Programs, and Kindergarten Programs for the 2016-2017 school year:

- September 1, 2016: First Day for Staff – Academic Year Preparation
- September 1, 2016: 9th Grade Orientation Window Opens
- September 2, 2016: Staff – Professional Development
- September 5, 2016: Labor Day – Administrative Offices and Schools Closed
- September 6, 2016: Staff – Professional Development
- September 6, 2016: 9th Grade Orientation Window Closes
- September 7, 2016: First Day for Grades 1-12 – Student Attendance
September 7, 2016    First Day for Pre-Kindergarten, Head Start and Bright Futures – Student Attendance
September 7-9, 2016    Early Childhood Experiences Interviews (Kindergarten Parent/Teacher Interviews)
September 12-13, 2016    Early Childhood Experiences Interviews (Kindergarten Parent/Teacher Interviews)
September 14, 2016    First Day for Kindergarten – Student Attendance
September 30, 2016    Staff Only – Professional Development Day
September 30, 2016    2017-2018 School Selection Process Begins

October 3-4, 2016    Rosh Hashanah – Administrative Offices and Schools Closed
October 12, 2016    Yom Kippur – Administrative Offices and Schools Closed
October 13-17, 2016    Interim Reports
October 19, 2016    PSAT Exams

November 2, 2016    PSAT Exams (alternate date)
November 8, 2016    Staff Only – Professional Development Day
November 11, 2016    Veterans Day Observed – Administrative Offices and Schools Closed
November 11, 2016    2017-2018 School Selection Process Ends
November 21-23, 2016    Report Card Conferences
November 24-25, 2016    Thanksgiving Holiday – Administrative Offices and Schools Closed

December 20-22, 2016    Interim Reports
December 26, 2016    Winter Recess – Administrative Offices and Schools Closed
December 26-30, 2016    Winter Recess – Schools Closed

January 2, 2017    New Year’s Day (Observed) – Administrative Offices and Schools Closed
January 3, 2017    Staff Only – Professional Development Day
January 9-23, 2017    Keystone Exams
January 16, 2017    Dr. Martin Luther King Day – Administrative Offices and Schools Closed
January 23, 2017    ACCESS Testing Opens (Tentative)

February 15-17, 2017    Report Card Conferences
February 20, 2017    Presidents’ Day – Administrative Offices and Schools Closed

March 3, 2017    ACCESS Testing Closes (Tentative)
March 6-8, 2017    Interim Reports
March 6, 2017    Professional Development (Half-Day) 3-Hour Early Dismissal
March 31, 2017    Professional Development (Half-Day) 3-Hour Early Dismissal

April 3-May 12, 2017    PSSA Assessments (ELA, Math and Science) and Make-up Days
April 10-13, 2017    Spring Recess – Schools Closed
April 14, 2017    Good Friday – Administrative Offices and Schools Closed
April 19-21, 2017    Report Card Conferences

May 9-11, 2017    Interim Reports
May 15-26, 2017    Keystone Exams
May 16, 2017    Pennsylvania Primary Election Day – Schools Closed
May 29, 2017    Memorial Day – Administrative Offices and Schools Closed

June 20, 2017    Last Day for Students
June 21, 2017    Last Day for Staff

Number of Days Scheduled – Student Attendance:

July 2016 – 0
August 2016 – 0
September 2016 – 17
October 2016 – 18
November 2016 – 18
December 2016 – 17
January 2017 – 19
February 2017 – 19
March 2017 – 23
April 2017 – 15
May 2017 – 21
June 2017 – 14

TOTAL – 181 Student Attendance Days

Number of Days Scheduled – Teacher Attendance:

July 2016 – 0
August 2016 – 0
September 2016 – 21
October 2016 – 18
November 2016 – 19
December 2016 – 17
TOTAL – 188 Teacher Attendance Days

Citing questions/concerns raised by Cecelia Thompson, speaker, Commissioner Houstoun questioned whether the vote on the proposed Academic Calendar can be delayed. Cheryl Logan, Chief of Academics, explained that the start date of professional development is June 27, 2016. She also stated that the School Selection date can be revisited and an adjustment made if warranted.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays: 0

SRC-7 (Added 12.11.15)

Amendment of Employment Agreement with Superintendent
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Chair of the School Reform Commission, to execute, deliver and perform an amendment of the Employment Agreement with William R. Hite, Jr., Superintendent, originally entered into pursuant to Resolution No. SRC-1, approved by the School Reform Commission on July 25, 2012, to: (1) amend Section 4.1 of the Agreement to provide that beginning in 2016, and for each subsequent year of the Agreement, the salary of the Superintendent shall be increased by the percentage that certified classroom employees’ salaries are increased; (2) remove Section 4.3 of the Agreement providing for performance compensation; (3) extend the term of the Agreement from its scheduled expiration date of August 31, 2017 through August 31, 2022; and (4) clarify that Dr. Hite serves as Executive Director of the Philadelphia Intermediate Unit No. 26. All other provisions of the Employment Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays: 0

II. EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

Human Resources
A-1 General/Categorical Funds: Approves Personnel, Terminations
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the appointment of the following persons to the positions, on the effective dates through November 30, 2015 and at the salaries respectively noted, as recommended by the Superintendent, provided that: (a) continued employment of persons appointed to positions funded by categorical grants is contingent upon the availability of grant funds; and (b) persons appointed to positions funded by operating funds, shall report to either the Superintendent or the Deputy Superintendent or their designees, and shall serve at the pleasure of the School Reform Commission.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays: 0

A-2 Operating Budget: $60,000 Contract with Bolton Partners – Deferred Compensation Plan Consulting Services
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a contract with Bolton Partners for professional consultation and other services concerning the School District's 403(b) and 457(b) plans for an amount not to exceed $60,000 for the period commencing January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

Description: School District of Philadelphia has contracted with an outside financial consulting services vendor since 2004 to manage 403(b) and 457(b) defined contribution plans, oversee investment performance and provide quarterly financial reporting. The vendor also assists in making legal and strategic decisions regarding account structure, asset management and plan communications. They provide investment advice regarding various options and recommendations for changes to the investment platform.
The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

**A-3 (Updated 12.7.15)**

**Operating Budget: $280,500 Contract with Foundations, Inc. – Staffing Services**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a contract with Foundations, Inc., for professional staffing services, for an amount not to exceed $280,500, for the period commencing December 18, 2015 through September 1, 2016.

*Description:* The District is seeking the services of a professional staffing entity, Foundations, to supply two highly-qualified, experienced administrators to fill the positions of Assistant Superintendent Autonomy Network and Assistant Superintendent Neighborhood Network #6. The District will be interviewing and selecting the candidates supplied by Foundations based on experience and qualifications.

**ABC Code/Funding Source** $280,500.00

1100-051-9020-2361-1111 FY16 ($214,500.00)
1100-051-9020-2361-1111 FY17 ($66,000.00)

In response to Commissioner Houstoun, Naomi Wyatt, Chief Talent Officer, described the circumstances that necessitated the need to contract with an outside firm for senior positions. She stated that Foundations is offering candidates for the positions. In response to Commissioner Jimenez, Ms. Wyatt stated that the candidates have extensive experience in the School District.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

**Finance**

**A-4 (Updated 12.3.15) (As Amended)**

**Categorical/Grant Funds: $651,338 Ratification of Contract with City Controller of Philadelphia – Single Audit Services FY2014, FY2015, FY2016**

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the execution, delivery and performance by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of contracts with the City Controller of Philadelphia, to provide independent audit services for the Single Audit for the Fiscal Year 2014, for an amount not to exceed $326,338, for the period commencing July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 and to provide independent audit services for the Single Audit for the Fiscal Year 2015, for an amount not to exceed $325,000, for the period commencing July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, for an aggregate amount not to exceed $651,338; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee to execute, deliver and perform a contract with the City Controller of Philadelphia, to provide independent audit services for the Single Audit for the Fiscal Year 2016, for an amount not to exceed $325,000, for the period commencing July 1, 2016 through completion of the audit.

*Description:* The City Controller by Philadelphia Home Rule Charter is the school auditor of the School District of Philadelphia. The City Controller conducts both the Single Audit (A-133) for federal grant programs and the "Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District" annual audit. Both audits are required by government regulations. The SRC Chair each year signs an audit engagement letter which indicates the estimated fees for the upcoming audit as required by general accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The City Controller has been requested on several occasions to pre-contract with the School District regarding the fees to be charged for the Single Audit (A-133). This is a ratifying resolution because the City Controller will not enter into a contract until after the audit takes place because it is based on the required tests performed to determine how many grant programs must be audited for that year and the numbers of hours the auditors actually work on the audit. The resolution before the SRC is therefore to ratify the services and fees for the audits performed for fiscal years 2014 and approve a contract for the FY16 audit. The School District accrues audit fees on the books based upon the amount of fees indicated in the engagement letter for the prior year and adjusts to actual once the amount to be charged for the audit is known.

**ABC Code/Funding Source** $651,338.00

912X A/C 5101 Audit Clearing Account Funds

In response to Commissioner Green, Fran Burns, Chief Operating Officer, explained the relationship between the City and the School District with regard to audits. She stated that the Home Rule Charter requires that an audit be done on an annual basis.

In response to Commissioner Jimenez, Ms. Burns explained why the resolution is a ratification. She stated that the cost of the audit is not known until after it is completed.
Commissioner Green introduced an amendment of Resolution A-4 to strike the “Further Resolved” paragraph. The School District will prepare a RFP for the FY16 audit services.

The vote on the motion to amend Resolution A-4 was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

The vote on resolution A-4 as amended was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

Information Technology

A-5

Operating Budget: $2,400,000 Contract with Fidelity Information Services, LLC – Managed Mainframe Hosting Services

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a contract with Fidelity Information Services, LLC, for IBM mainframe computer hosting services to support the School District's financial and human resources information systems, for an amount not to exceed $2,400,000 for the period commencing July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018.

Description: The contract engagement with Fidelity Information Services, LLC (FIS) will continue to provide the School District with a legacy applications hosting environment for supporting critical administrative information systems and services including financial, procurement, payroll, and human resources applications.

The District’s current contracted mainframe hosting provider, Verizon Business Services, has notified the School District that they will cease offering mainframe hosting services to their clients effective June 30, 2016. In recent years, Verizon had been transitioning and subcontracting this portion of its business portfolio to FIS and as such, the District has had experience in working with FIS directly.

Accordingly, the District’s Office of Information Technology and Data Management conducted RFP-464 to evaluate and select a qualified vendor to replace Verizon as the District’s managed mainframe hosting provider. Notification of the availability of this RFP opportunity was sent to several large-scale providers of mainframe and technology-related managed hosting services in addition to availability directly from the District's Procurement website. The District received two viable proposals from Fidelity Information Services (Jacksonville, FL) and Blue Hill Data Services (Pearl River, NY).

FIS’s pricing is extremely competitive mainly due to large-scale licensing agreements for software that the District’s Human Resources and Finance systems utilize including database and tape backup library, that is similar to software environments of other large FIS mainframe hosting customers. The RFP evaluation team has concluded that an initial two-year contract award to FIS would result in a continued cost-effective, service enhanced, and secure support model, for this critical but educationally non-core technical function.

The RFP allows for the extension of the contract by an addition three (3) one-year terms if needed by the District and until such time as the District has upgraded or replaced its legacy Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) application suite.

This contract replaces the need for an on-site technology data center and associated staffing required for support of the District's legacy IBM mainframe computing environment. Fidelity Information Services will host these applications in a secure Tier-4 approved data center with direct communications connectivity to the District's private network. FIS will own, maintain, manage, and monitor all required mainframe hardware and will be responsible for licensing the database and related tools for use by the District. FIS will also be responsible for providing an off-site disaster recovery solution in the event of a failure at their primary mainframe hosting location.

ABC Code/Funding Source $2,400,000.00
1100-056-9500-2844-3412 Operating FY17 ($1,200,000.00)
1100-056-9500-2844-3412 Operating FY18 ($1,200,000.00)

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

Operations

A-6

Operating Budget: $80,000 Contract with Lindenmeyr Munroe – Paper Stock and Envelopes

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a contract with Lindenmeyr Munroe, for the purchase of stock paper and envelopes, for an amount not to exceed $80,000, subject to funding, for the period commencing December 18, 2015 through December 30, 2016.
Description: This proposed award represents completion of the public solicitation under A16-56648, Stock Paper and Envelopes, issued by Procurement on 08/05/2015. This solicitation was sent to thirty-one (31) vendors including our host of area assist agencies. Nineteen (19) companies downloaded the solicitation and four (4) vendors responded. This award establishes a source for the purchase of paper stock and envelopes needed for normal operations of the Department of Printing Services.

Printing services distributes paper and envelopes to be used in all schools and administrative offices for various materials, including handbooks, newsletters, parent notifications, and professional development handouts.

This contract is primarily used by the Print Shop at 440 N. Broad St.

Four vendors submitted a proposal, including Lindenmeyr Munroe, Xpedx, David Packaging and Printing Services, and Comade, Inc.

ABC Code/Funding Source $80,000.00
9010-032-9220-2541-6111 FY16 ($50,000.00)
9010-032-9220-2541-6111 FY17 ($30,000.00)

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays: 0

A-7
Various Funds: $2,000,000 Authorization to Purchase Computer and Computer Related Accessories – Subject to Funding

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, pursuant to Pennsylvania Educational Purchasing Program, to purchase computer and computer-related accessories from various vendors, for an aggregate amount not to exceed $2,000,000, subject to available funding, for the period commencing January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

Description: These purchases will be made as a result of a blanket purchase agreement contract for supplies and/or a combination of supplies and services. Copies of the specifications and awards for these contracts are filed in the Office of Procurement Services. The purchase of listed supplies and services are approved subject to available funding at the time of purchase.

This contract is used primarily by schools making purchases directly as well as central offices purchasing on behalf of schools. It is used to purchase a variety of equipment, including computers not covered by the District’s Apple/Dell awards, servers, printer parts and supplies, classroom software, projectors, hard drives, networking equipment, telecom equipment, and consumables (bulbs, toner, mice, keyboards).

ABC Code/Funding Source $2,000,000.00
Various Schools and Offices - FY16 ($1,000,000.00)
Various Schools and Offices - FY17 ($1,000,000.00)

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays: 0

A-8
Operating Budget: $450,000 Contract Amendment with AT&T Mobility – Cellular Telecommunications Services – Subject to Funding

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a second amendment of a contract, originally entered into with AT&T Mobility, for Wireless Telecommunication Services, pursuant to Resolution A-15, approved by the School Reform Commission on December 20, 2012, for an amount not to exceed $960,000, and amended, pursuant to Resolution A-5, approved by the School Reform Commission on December 18, 2014, to increase the amount of the contract by an additional $495,000 to $1,455,000, by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional $450,000 from $1,455,000 approved by Resolutions A-15 and A-5 to an amount not to exceed $1,905,000, subject to funding, and by extending the term of the contract from its scheduled expiration date of June 30, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

Description: This second one-year extension of a contract from its original term (7/1/2013 to 6/30/2015) will provide a source for wireless voice, data, and push-to-talk (digital "walkie-talkie") cellular service for schools as well as operational, security and educational support offices. The district has approximately 930 cellular devices and is just now adding approximately 230 additional WiFi-based Android smartphones for the Archibus work-order management system implementation. Approximately 70% of the cellular fleet is assigned to Operations.

All of the District's principals and assistant principals will have unrestricted access to wireless voice communication services while Operations and Maintenance staff will have continued use of restricted push-to-talk digital walkie-talkie service. Advanced smart-phone technology will be implemented to enable the Facilities and Operations staff to operate more efficiently and effectively and to interact with the computerized maintenance management system.
The vote was as follows:

Yeas:  Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays:  0

A-9
Operating Budget: $125,000 Contract with American Uniform Sales, Inc. – School Police Uniforms – Subject to Funding
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, pursuant to the requirements contract of supplies and/or a combination of supplies and services, for purchases costing $25,000 or more, to execute, deliver and perform a contract with American Uniform Sales, Inc. to purchase school police uniforms, for an amount not to exceed $125,000, subject to funding, for the period commencing January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017.

Description: This proposed award represents completion of the public solicitation under A16-57039. School Police Uniforms, issued by Procurement on 9/18/2015. The bid due date was 10/13/2015. This solicitation was sent to ten (10) vendors including our host of area assist agencies. Thirteen (13) companies downloaded the solicitation and two (2) vendors responded. This award establishes a source for school police uniforms. The two vendors that submitted proposals were American Uniform Sales, Inc. and McDonald Uniform Co.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas:  Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays:  0

A-10
Various Funds: $400,000 Authorization to Purchase Surveillance and Security Systems – Subject to Funding
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to purchase, pursuant to Pennsylvania Department of General Services Contract No. 6350, surveillance and security systems from various awarded contractors under Contract No. 6350, for an aggregate amount not to exceed $400,000, subject to available funding, for the period commencing January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

Description: This award is primarily used by schools to keep their security systems operating. It provides, via a state contract, a source for all of the standard equipment, software and services necessary to maintain school-based camera and security systems. The contract is also used to maintain these systems for the Education Center. Specific purchases include replacement cameras, replacement DVRs, access/ID cards, intrusion alarm panels, camera-door phones, and electro-mechanical locksets. The contract also contains provisions for installation and maintenance of the associated equipment and software. Vendors listed on the contract include GE Security (aka UTC/Interlogix), Ademco, AIPHONE, HID Global, CASI-Rusco, Panasonic Security, and Assa Abloy.

The Office of Information Technology uses a very small portion of this contract authority to maintain the software system (GE Facility Commander) that drives all of the networked surveillance and security systems. One of the vendors on the state contract is the current authorized maintainer of record for that system, and is available to us on a 7 day, 24 hour basis for repairs/catastrophic failures.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas:  Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays:  0

A-11
Operating Budget: $100,000 Ratification of Memorandum of Understanding with Various School Districts – Transportation Costs for Homeless Students
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies payment by the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of reimbursement to suburban school districts for 50% of the cost of transporting homeless students living in Philadelphia and attending schools in their districts, pursuant to the McKinney-Vento Act, for an aggregate amount not to exceed $100,000.00, subject to funding, for the period commencing September 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.
Description: The McKinney-Vento Act provides students experiencing homelessness with the right to continue attending their school of origin. The McKinney-Vento Act also requires school districts to provide transportation to the school of origin, even if it requires students to cross district lines. If two districts are involved, they must agree upon a method to apportion the cost and responsibility of transportation, or split the cost and responsibility equally. Please note that this resolution is a ratification because our obligation to reimburse other school districts transporting homeless students residing in Philadelphia started before SRC approval.

We have been contacted through the District's Homeless Office by other school districts to share in the cost of transporting our students under McKinney-Vento. However, to date, no invoices have been submitted and no payments have been made for FY 16. We have had some routes where we split the cost with the other district by paying the vendor for half of the route. We had others last year where we were invoiced for half of the cost by other districts and we paid them per Legal because we are required by the statute. We are using the resolution process to be proactive this year.

ABC Code/Funding Source $100,000.00
1100-027-9590-2721-5131 Operating

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays: 0

A-12 (Updated 12.2.15) Operating Budget: $1,708,463 Ratification of Contract with Pennsylvania School for the Deaf – Bus Transportation and Attendants – Subject to Funding
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the execution, delivery and performance by the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of a contract with Pennsylvania School for the Deaf for their own bus transportation of students to and from school and for bus attendants, for an amount not to exceed $1,708,463.70, subject to funding, for the period commencing September 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018.

Description: The proposed award represents completion of the public solicitation under RFQ-150 Own School Bus To-From Transportation Service issued by Procurement Services on 10/16/15 with a submission date of 11/03/15. This service originated in 2002 for students with physical and auditory disabilities. Subsequently, a private and charter school were added. The schools secure the equipment and hire and manage the drivers and attendants. Schools who transport their own students are required to follow the state and district policies.

Please note that this resolution is a ratification because the services are already being delivered by Pennsylvania School for the Deaf. The District has paid the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf to provide their own bussing for many years. However, the school requested that a bus contractor provide bus and attendant services to the school beginning in school year 2015/2016. That is why Pennsylvania School for the Deaf was not included on the original resolution for Own Bussing dated 6/18/15. The services were provided by Durham School Services during the summer of 2015. Therefore, beginning in September of 2015, it was decided that Pennsylvania School for the Deaf would resume providing their own bussing and attendants. Once the decision was made by both the District and Pennsylvania School for the Deaf that they would resume doing their own bussing, the Own Bussing RFQ had to be reopened and Pennsylvania School for the Deaf had to submit a bid. Transportation could prepare the ratification only after this process was complete.

ABC Code/Funding Source $1,708,463.00
1100-027-9590-2721-5131 FY 16 - Bus ($383,000.40)
1901-005-9580-2734-4131 FY 16 - Attendant ($127,504.80)
1100-027-9590-2721-5131 FY 17 - Bus ($444,927.90)
1901-005-9580-2734-4131 FY 17 - Attendant ($148,128.90)
1100-027-9590-2721-5131 FY 18 - Bus ($453,820.80)
1901-005-9580-2734-4131 FY 18 - Attendant ($151,080.90)

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays: 0

A-13 Cafeteria Fund: $347,000 Ratification of Contract Amendment with Smart Partners LLC – Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the execution, delivery and performance by the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, of an amendment to a contract originally entered into with Smart Partners LLC pursuant to Resolution A-12, approved by the School Reform Commission on October 16, 2014, by increasing the amount of the contract by an additional $347,000 from $303,000 approved by Resolution A-12, to an amount not to exceed $650,000, and by extending the term of the contract from its original scheduled expiration date of June 30, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Description: Procurement Services and the Food Services Division previously solicited multi-year proposals to provide fresh fruit and vegetables for our participation in USDA’s Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFV) per
Request for Proposal #427 issued 7/14/14 which requested proposals for a three-year period with a two-year primary and one year renewal term.

For the 2014-15 school year Procurement Services solicited SRC approval for a one year initial term which was approved by the SRC per Resolution A-12 dated 10/16/14. Procurement recommended an initial one-year term vs. the initial two-year term noted in RFP #427 given Smart Partners LLC was new to the District and to ensure satisfactory vendor performance.

The purpose of this ratifying resolution is to extend the term of the Smart Partners LLC contract for the 2015-16 school year. Approval of this resolution will be cost neutral to the District since all vendor expenses will be offset by additional federal reimbursements to the Food Services Division under the FFV program.

The goals of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable program consist of: 1) creating a healthier school environment by providing more varied and healthier food choices; 2) expanding the student's experience level with a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables; 3) increasing the student's consumption of fresh fruit and vegetable; and 4) making a difference in student's diets in order to positively impact their present and future health.

ABC Code/Funding Source $347,000.00
9001-029-9360-2495-6311 Cafeteria Fund ($350,000.00)

The vote was as follows:

Yeas:  Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays:  0

A-14
General Fund: $12,000,000 Contract with GCA Services - Janitorial and Custodial Services at all 18 High Schools – 2 years
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform a contract with GCA Services for janitorial and custodial services at eighteen comprehensive high schools for an amount not to exceed $6,000,000.00 for the period commencing January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, with option for one-year renewal commencing January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, for a total aggregate amount not to exceed $12,000,000.

Description: The District decided to outsource the maintenance and cleaning of 18 comprehensive high schools in 2006. The decision was codified in a memorandum of understanding that currently exists with the relevant bargaining unit. We are going to continue this arrangement given the size of the buildings and our facility needs. Under this contract the professional cleaning services company is responsible for providing all manpower and cleaning supplies as directed by the School District.

On 10/01/15, RFP - 456 was issued to solicit respondents to provide these services under an initial two year contract.

Twenty four (24) notifications were sent directly to vendors to announce the solicitation. The bid was downloaded 35 times by vendors. The district received four proposals.

ABC Code/Funding Source $12,000,000.00
1100-031-9270-2625-3311 FY16 General Fund ($3,000,000.00)
1100-031-9270-2625-3311 FY17 General Fund ($3,000,000.00)

In response to Commissioner Simms, Fran Burns, Chief Operating Officer, stated that the District has supervisor evaluations of all of the schools. A monthly report on school cleanliness is provided by principals.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas:  Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez – 3

Nays:  Ms. Simms – 1

A-15 (Updated 12.7.15)
Capital Fund: $3,927,021 Capital Project Awards
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, or his designee, to execute, deliver, and perform contracts with the lowest responsible bidders identified in the attachment at an aggregate cost of $3,927,021.00.

Description:
Spec: B-094 C
of 2014/15    Mechanical Contract - Mechanical Plant Replacement
John Wister Elementary School - 67 East Brighthouse Street
Fluidics, Inc. - $2,209,537.00
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19114
ABC Code: 8Q11-065-6430-4623-4591-05
Total Aggregate M/WBE Participation: 46.5%

This mechanical contract covers the labor, material, and equipment necessary to perform major mechanical upgrades...
at this location.

The bids for Wister ES project were publically advertised on 9/25/15, 9/30/15, and 10/13/15 in several local newspapers and posted on the School District’s Capital Programs Website. The award is recommended to the responsive and responsible bidder who submitted the lowest price and met the technical and construction specifications. Bids were publically opened on 10/22/15. After review of the bids and a de-scoping meeting it was determined that Fluidics, Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder with a bid of $2,209,537.00.

The Facility Condition Assessment (FCA) at this location is 46.46%. The School Performance Index (SPI) at this location is 32.

Spec: B-095 C
of 2014/15 Electrical Contract - Mechanical Plant Replacement
John Wister Elementary School - 67 East Bringhurst Street
Mulhern Electric Company, Inc. - $212,984.00
Abington, Pennsylvania 19001
ABC Code: 8Q11-065-6430-4623-4561-05
Total Aggregate M/WBE Participation: 35.0%

This electrical contract covers the labor, material, and equipment to necessary to perform the electrical work required to support the major mechanical upgrades at this location.

The bids for Wister ES project were publically advertised on 9/25/15, 9/30/15, and 10/13/15 in several local newspapers and posted on the School District’s Capital Programs Website. The award is recommended to the responsive and responsible bidder who submitted the lowest price and met the technical and construction specifications. Bids were publically opened on 10/22/15. After review of the bids and a de-scoping meeting it was determined that Mulhern Electric Company, Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder with a bid of $212,984.00.

The Facility Condition Assessment (FCA) at this location is 46.46%. The School Performance Index (SPI) at this location is 32.

Spec: B-098 C
of 2014/15 Mechanical Contract - Chiller Replacement
Martin Luther King High School - 6100 Stenton Avenue
Edward J. Meloney, Inc. - $1,238,000.00
Lansdowne, Pennsylvania 19050
ABC Code: 8Q11-065-6060-4695-4591-05
Total Aggregate M/WBE Participation: 43.4%

This mechanical contract covers the labor, material and equipment necessary to perform mechanical upgrades at this location.

The bids for King HS project were publically advertised on 10/16/15, 10/21/15, and 11/3/15 in several local newspapers and posted on the School District’s Capital Programs Website. The award is recommended to the responsive and responsible bidder who submitted the lowest price and met the technical and construction specifications. Bids were publically opened on 11/17/15. After review of the bids and a de-scoping meeting it was determined that Edward J. Meloney, Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder with a bid of $1,238,000.00.

The Facilities Condition Index (FCI) at this location is 12.53%. The School Progress Report (SPR) at this location is 10.

Spec: B-099 C
of 2014/15 Electrical Contract - Chiller Replacement
Martin Luther King High School - 6100 Stenton Avenue
Hyde Electric Corporation - $266,500.00
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19129
ABC Code: 8Q11-065-6060-4695-4561-05
Total Aggregate M/WBE Participation: 10.0%

This electrical contract covers the labor, material, and equipment to necessary to perform the electrical work required to support the major mechanical upgrades at this location.

The bids for King HS project were publically advertised on 10/16/15, 10/21/15, and 11/3/15 in several local newspapers and posted on the School District’s Capital Programs Website. The award is recommended to the responsive and responsible bidder who submitted the lowest price and met the technical and construction specifications. Bids were publically opened on 11/17/15. After review of the bids and a de-scoping meeting it was determined that Hyde Electric Corporation was the lowest responsible bidder with a bid of $266,500.00.

The Facilities Condition Index (FCI) at this location is 12.53%. The School Progress Report (SPR) at this location is 10.
The vote was as follows:
Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays: 0

A-16 (Updated 12.7.15)
Capital Fund: $24,769 Authorization of Net Cost Change Orders
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform amendments of the attached contracts for a net cost to the School District not to exceed $24,769.00.

Description: This resolution seeks approval for various revisions to on-going construction projects as detailed on the attached Modification of Contract document. Changes include items designated as errors or omissions, differing site conditions, unforeseen conditions and revisions requested by School District representatives. Change orders approved to rectify errors or omissions will be further reviewed by the Offices of Capital Program and General Counsel for possible recovery of costs through the professional liability insurance policies of the design professionals, negotiations, and filing of claims or lawsuits against the design professionals.

ABC Code/Funding Source
Various
$24,769.00

The vote was as follows:
Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays: 0

A-17 (Updated 12.7.15)
Capital Fund: $60,000 Contracts with W.H.S., Inc. and W & W Contractors – General Service Contract – Nonpublic
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform contracts separately with W. H. S., Inc., and W & W Contractors, Inc., the lowest responsible bidders, for trailer modernization and relocation at nonpublic schools, for an aggregate amount not to exceed $60,000.00 for the period commencing December 18, 2015 through December 18, 2017.

Description:
Spec: B-025 O
of 2015/16 General Service Contract - Trailer Modernization and Relocation
Various locations throughout the School District - Various locations
W & W Contractors, Inc. (M) – Not To Exceed $60,000.00
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19143
W. H. S., Inc. - Not To Exceed $60,000.00
Levittown, Pennsylvania 19056
ABC Code: 201X-G10-9610-2621-4541
Total Aggregate M/WBE Participation: 0.0%

This General Service Contract is for trailer modernization and relocation at various locations throughout the City of Philadelphia for Non-Public Schools.

This project was publicly advertised on 9/16/2015, 9/18/2015, and 9/25/2015 and posted on the District’s website. Bids were publicly opened on 10/13/2015.

ABC Code/Funding Source
201X-G10-9610-2621-4541 Title 1
$60,000.00

The vote was as follows:
Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4
Nays: 0

A-18 (Updated 12.7.15)
RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute, deliver and perform amendments of the separate indefinite demand/indefinite quantity contracts to provide professional supplemental cost estimating and claims analysis services, originally entered into with Promatech, Inc.(Contract No. 433/F14), Adcon Consultants, Inc. (Contract No. 432/F14), and Hudson Companies (Contract No. 434/F14), pursuant to Resolution A-3, approved by the School Reform Commission on September 23, 2013, by extending the expiration dates from the original scheduled expiration dates of March 31, 2016, through June 30, 2016, and by increasing the aggregate amount of the contracts

ABC Code/Funding Source
Various
$500,000.00
by an additional $500,000 from the $2,500,000 approved by Resolution A-3 to an aggregate amount not to exceed $3,000,000.

Description: The School District of Philadelphia publicly solicited a Request for Proposals (RFP) on April 8, 2013, to obtain competitive proposals from qualified firms to provide professional cost estimating and claims analysis services. Five (5) firms responded to the RFP on May 7, 2013. According to previously established evaluation criteria, three (3) firms were selected to provide professional supplemental cost estimating and claims analysis services to support the SRC-approved Facilities Master Plan on an as-needed basis. All three (3) qualified and selected firms met the requirements set forth in the RFP.

The School Reform Commission, at the meeting of September 23, 2013, by Resolution A-3, authorized the School District of Philadelphia to enter into separate indefinite demand/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contracts with the three (3) qualified firms to provide professional cost estimating and claims analysis services, for the contract period September 23, 2013 through March 31, 2016, for an aggregate amount not to exceed $2,500,000.00.

The entire fund of $2,500,000.00 for professional supplemental cost estimating and claims analysis services was pooled among the three (3) firms to provide flexibility in the selection of the appropriate firm to perform the required services on specific assigned projects.

Capital Programs intends to publicly advertise a new Request for Proposals for Estimating and Claims Analysis on March 15, 2015. An Award Resolution will be prepared for approval by the School Reform Commission Meeting of June 2016 to coincide with the 2017 Facilities Master Plan Capital Programs Budget. The extended dates and additional funding will allow work to continue while the RFP process is conducted.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

Finance
A-19
Authorization of Recommendations to the Board of Directors of City Trusts 2015-2016 – The Simon Gratz Teachers Fund

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee to provide formal written recommendations to the Board of Directors of City Trusts of the recipients of awards from Simon Gratz Teachers Fund and to authorize payments from the Fund, in an amount not to exceed $70,800, for the calendar year ending December 31, 2015; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission recognizes the confidential nature of the information provided by individuals throughout the application and selection process and accordingly, the names of the recipients are not included.

Description: The Simon Gratz Teachers Fund (the “Fund”) is held in trust by the Philadelphia Board of Directors of City Trusts.

The Fund was established in 1926 by the Last Will and Testament of Simon Gratz for the purpose of affording financial relief in special cases for teachers and clerical assistants currently employed or who were employed in the public schools of Philadelphia and who are in need of financial assistance. Each year, the Philadelphia Board of Directors of City Trusts informs the School District of the amount of funds available for distribution and award for the current calendar year. Consequently, the Office of Grant Compliance & Fiscal Services allocates and awards fund to recipients in the late fall of each year.

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

General Counsel
A-20
Withdrawn by Staff 12.17.15

Student Support Services
A-21 (Added 12.7.15)
Categorical/Grant Fund: $372,670 Ratification of Grant Acceptance from the William Penn Foundation – Social Emotional Learning; $120,000 Contract with Committee for Children – Second Step Curriculum

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the acceptance by the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent, of a grant of $372,670 from the William Penn Foundation to improve school climate and safety and address students’ social and emotional needs in 15 elementary schools, for the period commencing December 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes the School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, contingent upon receipt of this grant, to execute, deliver and perform a contract with the Committee for Children to purchase the Social Emotional Learning curriculum Second Step for eight elementary schools for an amount not to exceed $120,000, for the period commencing June 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018.

Description: As part of a three-year grant from the William Penn Foundation, SDP will support its pilot of the social-emotional learning program Second Step in seven elementary schools by filling a position to support implementation of Second Step and will increase the pilot by adding eight more schools for a total of fifteen schools. This is presented as a ratification because the funds were received by the School District of Philadelphia but the program has not been implemented.

As part of SDP’s efforts to create and sustain a school climate strategy, the Office of Student Support Services has considered social emotional learning (SEL) programs. According to the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), which is the nation’s leading organization advancing the development of academic, social and emotional competence for all students, SEL is the process through which children acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.

Effective SEL programming begins in preschool and continues through high school. According to CASEL, the short term goals of SEL programs are to (1) promote students’ self awareness, social awareness, relationship, and responsible decision making skills and (2) improve student attitudes and beliefs about self, others, and school. These in turn provide a foundation for better adjustment and academic performance as reflected in more positive social behaviors and peer relationships, fewer conduct problems, less emotional distress, and improved grades and test scores.

The Second Step curriculum has been researched and developed by Committee for Children, a non-profit based in Seattle. Their model is that once a school district purchases the “kits” (the curriculum), they have ongoing access to Second Step’s extensive online resources, including training, parent home links, song lyrics, reading materials, recommendations for books that reinforce the Second Step lessons, and an on-line community. Second Step does not have staff that conduct detailed training; instead, all training is online. The curriculum is for grades K-8.

In addition to the seven schools that have access to the materials (Pennypacker, Houston, Bethune, Clara Barton, Wister, Farrell, and Cook-Wissahickon), SDP will add another eight schools, for a total of fifteen. Schools will be selected based on need (currently no school climate program in place) and after an application process, which ensures that school leaders fully support the process. In addition, SDP will fill a position to work with all of the Second Step schools to ensure fidelity of implementation.

The budget for this grant includes $145,421.00 over three years for salaries (including 100% of a full-time position, 10% of a salary for an evaluator, 1% of a salary for a financial analyst; and .75% of a salary for a grants development and grants compliance staff; $78,115.00 in fringe benefits; $120,000 to purchase Second Step from the Committee for Children for eight schools; and, indirect costs totaling $29,135.

ABC Code/Funding Source $372,670.00

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

III. EDUCATION SERVICES

Academic – Donations/Acceptances

B-1 Categorical Grant Fund: $268,413 Ratification of Grant Acceptance from the William Penn Foundation – Kindergarten Transition

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission hereby ratifies the acceptance by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, of a grant from the William Penn Foundation, in an amount not to exceed $268,413.00, to support efforts to improve and enhance the Kindergarten transition experience for Philadelphia’s children and families, for the period commencing November 6, 2015 through June 30, 2018.

Description: This ratification is being requested because official award notification was not received from the William Penn Foundation until early November 2015, and the SRC’s December action meeting constituted the first opportunity to present the associated resolution for formal authorization.

A key component of the School District’s Action Plan, which sets the strategic direction for improving the performance of the District, is Anchor Goal 2, ensuring that students are reading on grade-level by third grade. Creating and sustaining a preK to Grade 3 learning continuum is a significant component to ensuring that third graders have the foundational skills they need for long-term academic success.

The District has been working with community partners like those participating in the READ By 4th campaign to address many of the cross-sector training and support needs between and among the preK and K-12 sectors to enhance PreK-3 instructional alignment. However, the full impact of these efforts will not be fully realized without a concomitant attention to solving the considerable operational and infrastructure challenges this city confronts around...
the Kindergarten Transition experience, which include:

• ensuring that all five-year-olds are identified, registered and enrolled in kindergarten several months before the school year begins so that not only are the children ready for kindergarten, but kindergarten classrooms are ready for the children;

• ensuring that all families of incoming kindergarteners have an established working protocol around what to expect from their children's teachers and are provided with meaningful tools and activities to facilitate a smooth transition;

• ensuring that schools are able to support a smooth transition to kindergarten for all children by meeting each family prior to the start of the school year and reviewing relevant data to plan for the individual instructional needs of each incoming kindergartener.

Grant funding from the William Penn Foundation will provide a temporary, full-time individual to work as a Fellow with District leadership on creating solutions to these systemic infrastructure and operational issues over the next 36 months. Grant funds will support the direct costs of the fellowship (about 90% of award) as well as research into and analysis of best practices in other similar school districts (about 10% of award), with a nominal amount (less than 1%) taken as indirect costs to support general administration of the grant.

The Fellow will actively participate with key staff in relevant meetings and committees such as the Mayor's Early Learning Advisory Commission (MELAC) and the new preK-3 Advisory Group being proposed by DVAEYC to support the preK-3 neighborhood networks of practice that will be launched.

ABC Code/Funding Source $268,413.00

The vote was as follows:

Yeas:  Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays:  0

B-2
Donation: $70,000 Acceptance of Donated Services from RehabClinics (SPT), Inc., dba NovaCare Rehabilitation – Athletic Training

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to accept with appreciation the donation of athletic training services to student athletes from RehabClinics (SPT), Inc., dba NovaCare Rehabilitation, valued at $70,000, for the period commencing December 21, 2015 through June 30, 2017, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia through the Superintendent or his designee, contingent upon receipt of this donation to execute, deliver and perform a Memorandum of Understanding with NovaCare, in the form acceptable to the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Risk Management, to provide student athlete training services.

Description: RehabClinics (SPT), Inc. dba NovaCare Rehabilitation (NovaCare) will provide in-kind athletic training services to School District student athletes. This agreement is inclusive of, but not limited to, servicing District student athletes at the following schools: Constitution, Elverson, Parkway Center City, and Science Leadership Academy. These schools were particularly selected as they do not currently receive any athletic training services through any other provider as do many other comprehensive high schools. There will be no employment obligation as well as no charge or incurrence to the District or other providers.

NovaCare will supply one (1) NATA Certified Athletic Trainer employed or retained by NovaCare or an affiliate or subsidiary thereof to provide the services to the school at the times and during games and/or events. The implementation of services will be limited to (1) the evaluation and treatment of minor injuries; (2) the application of first aid and other medical assistance as is reasonable and possible under the circumstances pending the arrival of ambulance services in the case of major injuries; (3) preventative taping and strapping of athletes, as needed; (4) providing nutritional information to student athletes; (5) providing basic educational information to student trainers and managers in the course of performing the Services; and, (6) providing recommendations for exercise or other physical measures for minor injuries under the directions, supervision and review of a physician.

All services will be provided on the school’s premises with the exception of sports events at other schools where the school’s athletes are the “visiting” team. NovaCare will facilitate communication among an injured athlete, the Athletic Director, parent/guardian and the team or family physician. NovaCare will provide consultation on equipment and program design when reasonably requested by the school.

The National Football League (NFL) and the Eagles provided funding to NovaCare valued at $70,000. NovaCare, in turn, chose The School District of Philadelphia to be the recipient of donated services.

ABC Code/Funding Source $70,000.00

The vote was as follows:

Yeas:  Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays:  0
Operating Budget: $72,000 Authorization of Payments to Various Hotels and Conference Centers – Career and Technical Student Organization Conferences and Competitions

RESOLVED, that the School Reform Commission authorizes The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to pay invoices from various hotels and conference centers including, but not limited to: Hershey Lodge, Lancaster Convention Center, The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center, and Seven Springs Mountain Resort, to support the participation of students in Career and Technical Student Organization in conferences and competitions, for an aggregate amount not to exceed $72,000 for the period commencing December 18, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Description: The purpose of this resolution is to authorize the payment of invoices to various hotels and conference centers to allow for student participation in Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) conferences and competitions. Student participation is mandated by Chapter 339 (Vocational Education Standards) of the Pennsylvania School Code as an integral part of a Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)-approved Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. CTSOs are co-curricular, not extra-curricular, as they allow CTE students to apply the technical skills they have acquired to real-world simulated competitions with their peers from across the region, state, and nation. CTSOs are intended to provide career awareness, leadership, motivation, and recognition for career related skills, and serve as an extension of the classroom instructional program by integrating academics and career and technical skills into real work experiences. CTSO activities, such as regional contests, state conventions, and national competitions, provide the foundation needed for students to achieve in the classroom while also teaching students valuable employability and leadership skills. Students also learn the importance of meeting and engaging in activities with a diverse group and the appropriate social behaviors necessary to succeed. All of these factors contribute to the goal of total student development, which is necessary for all CTE students to assume successful roles in society and to enter the labor market.

The District currently has chapters affiliated with the following seven (7) PDE-approved CTSOs: Distributive Education Clubs of America, An Association of Marketing Students (DECA), Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), National Future Farmers of America (FFA), Skills USA, Technology Student Association (TSA) and US For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics. CTSO chapters are currently active in the following twenty-eight (28) high schools: Bartram, Dobbins, Edison, Franklin Learning Center, Kensington Health Science, King, Lincoln, Mastbaum, Northeast, Overbrook, Randolph, Roxborough, Saul, South Philadelphia, Swenson, The Workshop School, Washington and West Philadelphia. Also included are Ben Franklin, CAPA, Carver, Frankford, Furness, Kensington Business, Kensington CAPA, Robeson, Science and Leadership Academy, and Strawberry Mansion.

Total CTSO participation across the District in the 2014-2015 school year was approximately 2350 students. Of these participants, approximately 630 attended state competitions and conferences for their respective CTSOs. The District-mandated student to teacher ratio of 1:10 will be enforced for all conferences and competitions.

One outstanding example of the success of CTSOs is the hard work and dedication represented in the FFA club. When studying CTE at the secondary level, many CTSO members study for and compete in Career Development Events focusing on their area of study. W.B. Saul H.S. of Agricultural Sciences’ FFA club has a rich history of student success in this area. W.B. Saul is home to nine state championships, seven in the Landscape/Nursery Judging contest and two in the Meats Evaluation contest. The 2005 Pennsylvania FFA President was a W.B. Saul graduate, and was the first ever African American to lead Pennsylvania FFA.

ABC Code/Funding Source
1200-006-9240-1393-3291 Education for Employment ($26,500.00)
1200-006-9240-1391-3291 Career Development ($45,500.00)

The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Mr. Green, Ms. Houstoun, Ms. Jimenez, Ms. Simms – 4

Nays: 0

Dr. Hite expressed appreciation to students, teachers, principals and staff for hard work over last three years. He also thanked the School Reform Commission for expressing a level of confidence in him with regards to its unanimous affirmative vote on extending his contract. He stated that tough things have to be done and that he is proud of the work done thus far. Dr. Hite stated that he has no illusions that people will agree to every recommendation.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

William R. Hite, Jr.
Superintendent

Marjorie Neff, Chair
School Reform Commission