

## **Codman Academy Board of Trustees Meeting**

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

6:00pm

Members present: Regina Campbell-Malone, Juma Crawford, Sandra Cotterell, Sebastian Hamilton, Rick Holden, Diana Lam, Dawn Leanness, Anthony Parker, Tom Quirk, Tiana Stephens, Bill Walczak, Ibi Wanu

Others present: Meg Campbell, RoAnn Costin, Sydney Chaffee, Danielle Durham, Melita Garrett, Libby Galvin, Glenda Fishman, Henry Goodrow, Danny Hoffman, Mbakwe Okafor, Marcus Parker, Josh Qualls, Madeleine Picher, Jonathan Stephens, Jean Stewart, Patrick White

Brian, Sam, Christina Qualls

### **I. Call to order of the meeting**

- The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm.
- Rick made a motion to approve the January 9 minutes. Sebastian seconded. There was no discussion. The board unanimously approved the January 9 minutes.

### **II. Head of School Search**

- Bill gave an overview of the process, highlighting that we received over 50 applicants. 9 board members (from both the School Board and Foundation Board) served on the Search Committee, including: Rick Holden, Dawn Leanness, Sandra Cotterell, Regina Campbell-Malone, Bill Walczak, Mbakwe Okafor, Marlon Thompson, Jonathan Stephens, and Interim Head of School Diana Lam.
- The search committee reviewed applications and interviewed 10 applicants. 4 folks got a second interview, two of whom became finalists. The committee scheduled two full-day interviews at the school. One of the finalists dropped out, leaving only one finalist: Derrick Ciesla.
- Bill gave a bit of background on Derrick, including that he grew up in Mattapan and has 16 years of experience in district and charter schools, most recently at another EL Education school in Dorchester.
- Members of the Search Committee shared their perspective on the candidate, highlighting his experience and leadership expertise. Highlights include: his experience with high achieving schools and social emotional learning programming.
- Sandra made a motion to authorize the hire of Derrick Ciesla as Head of School at Codman Academy Charter Public School effective July 1, 2024 with a starting annual salary within the posted range of 180,000 to 215,000 and to authorize the board chair in conjunction with the school's legal representatives to finalize a 3-year contract on behalf of the Board of Directors. Sebastian seconded. There was no discussion. The board unanimously approved the motion to authorize the hire of Derrick Ciesla as Head of School.
  - a. Regina Campbell-Malone - yes
  - b. Sandra Cotterell - yes
  - c. Juma Crawford - yes
  - d. Martin Familia '05 - not present
  - e. Sebastian Hamilton - yes
  - f. Richmond Holden, Jr. - yes
  - g. Dawn Leanness - yes
  - h. Tiana McLean - yes
  - i. Anthony Parker - yes
  - j. Thomas Quirk - yes
  - k. William Walczak - yes
  - l. Ibi Wanu '12 - yes

### **III. Public Comment**

- RoAnn asked about a challenge he might present. Bill explained that the board hopes to offer an executive coach to have some support to learn the ways in which the school operates, including the Foundation Board.
- Rick thanked Bill for his hard work during this process.

**IV. New Business**

- There was no new business.

**V. Adjourn**

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:34pm.