# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUDGET, FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE) OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CENTENNIAL PLACE ACADEMY, INC. (CA) HELD ON MARCH 21, 2023

The Committee met on Tuesday, March 21, 2023. Committee Members Eric Pinckney and Allison Toller were in attendance. Renee Glover (Chair) joined the meeting mid-stream due to an overlapping commitment. Jessica Olowoyo, Head of School, Steven Pressas, Chief Financial Officer, and Stephanie Hodges, Principal were also in attendance to support the Committee. Mr. Pinckney chaired the Meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:35pm.

## REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE EIGHT MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2023

Mr. Pressas reviewed CA's unaudited financial reports for the eight months ended February 28, 2023.

With respect to the Statement of Financial Position, Mr. Pressas stated that CA's financial position remains strong. CA continues to be in compliance with the financial ratios and other financial benchmarks set forth in CA's Renewal Charter Agreement. Mr. Pressas also reviewed the Statement of Activities and the Budget to Actual report for the eight months ended February 28, 2023. Mr. Pressas stated that CA's operations are doing better than projected, in part due to higher revenues and lower expenses than had been planned. In response to a question from Ms. Toller, Mr. Pressas stated that the Cares Acts receivable is comprised of Covid- related costs, including intervention and remediation programs designed to improve scholar academic performance, Covid-testing and cleaning and installation of air purifiers. Mr. Pressas also stated net income for the month of February came in stronger than expected due to revenues remaining the same while expenses were lower due to fewer days in the month of February.

### **FACILITIES**

Mr. Pressas also provided an update on the custodial and transportation changes proposed for the 2023-2024 School Year along with the proposed current year facilities' improvements. Mr. Pressas stated CA has received two proposals for the future transportation services and both proposals are being considered not only for costs, but also for meeting the service level requirements, including timely arrivals and dismissals of scholars and quality communication to parents of any problems. Regarding the future custodial changes, the current vendor has been notified, and CA's Human Resources team will start the interviewing and hiring process for an in-house custodial team over the next month. Regarding the current year facilities' improvements, Mr. Pressas reported that plants, benches and mulch have been installed in the back play area of the campus to help stop the erosion and provide a safe and aesthetic play area for the scholars. Proposals/Bids for a synthetic turf area and a paved basketball court/soccer area have been received and are under consideration. Ms. Olowoyo concurred with Mr. Pressas' statements above and said she is reviewing the proposals and bids. After discussions, the Committee members continued to express strong and enthusiastic support for the improvements and agreed that the CA management team should move forward with the planning and cost analysis for consideration and approval at our April meeting.

#### **BANKING RELATIONSHIP**

Ms. Glover joined the meeting around 6pm. She apologized for being late to the Meeting. She asked if the Committee had discussed the recommendation to change CA's banking relationship in light of recent events impacting the banking sector. Mr. Pressas stated that CA has ~\$3 million or more of deposits in United Community Bank (UCB) and he is concerned about the concentration of our deposits at a regional bank, in light of the \$250,000 deposit insurance limit. He stated that based on the insurance limit, he recommended that CA move our accounts to Truist Bank, which is significantly larger. Ms. Glover noted that before the PPP loan transaction with UCM, CA had historically banked with Truist because of the many relationships between Centennial Place and Truist, not the least of which was the investment made by Truist to support the revitalization of the former Techwood/Clark Howell Homes to develop, maintain and operate a Bank branch in Centennial Place, co-located next to CA. Truist has also supported CA in other ways, including banking programs for the CA scholars and families. Moreover, with the Board's recent decision to invest its cash reserves at Truist Bank, the relationship has only deepened. After extensive discussion, it was the unanimous decision by the Committee to recommend to the CA Board that all but \$250,000 of the CA deposits be moved from UCB to Truist. As part of the transition, the Committee is also recommending that the Board approve the opening of two new bank accounts at Truist—money market and payroll. The Committee is recommending that the authorized signatories will be Jessica Olowoyo, Head of School, Egbert Perry, Chair of the Board, and Renee Glover, Chair of the Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee. Steven Pressas, Chief Financial Officer, will be authorized as the Custodian of such accounts.

# **CHARTER RENEWAL AND FACILITIES**

Ms. Glover reported that she and Mr. Perry met with the APS Superintendent Lisa Herring and Larry Hoskins, Deputy Superintendent of APS Operations on Monday, March 20, 2023. The meeting was very collaborative and productive. The focus of the discussions centered around resetting the relationship between APS and CA for the benefit of CA, the CA scholars and their families and the larger CA community. This was the first of several meetings with the intention of reaching a mutually satisfactory holistic agreement designed to create a win/win for both parties. A more detailed report out will be provided at the upcoming Board meeting in Executive Session.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.