



Blueprint Schools Program Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2023

Start Time - 6:00 pm

Attendance

<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>
Thomas Dernoga	PG County Council Chair	Jason Washington	Associate Superintendent of Supporting Services, PGCPSS	Brandey McDonald	Fengate Asset Management
Millard House II	Superintendent, PGCPSS	Herb Allen	Project Manager, PGCPSS	Brittney Bennett	Brailsford & Dunlavey, Inc.
				Dennis Crawford	Honeywell

Call to Order:

Called to order by Brittney Bennett: "Welcome to the 2023, Quarter Three Blueprint Schools Steering Committee Meeting. I would like to begin this meeting by going over a few meeting logistics."

Meeting Logistics:

- Spanish interpretation access
- ASL interpretation – occurs simultaneously.
- Q&A function – disabled
- Questions can be submitted on the program website: www.pgcpssblueprintschoools.com
- Public comments - will be called on in the order in which you signed up

Superintendent House calls the public meeting to order.

Roll call for all attendees takes place.

- Council Chairman Dernoga was marked Present
- Superintendent Millard House II was marked Present

Steering Committee moves to:

- Council Chairman Dernoga moves to approve the quarter two (5/17/2023) steering committee meeting minutes. Motion made by Chair Dernoga and second by Superintendent House. All Steering Committee members in attendance voted in favor with no opposition or abstention.
- Council Chairman Dernoga moves to approve the 10/11/2023 steering committee meeting agenda. Motion made by Chair Dernoga and second by Superintendent House. All Steering Committee members voted in favor with no opposition or abstention.





Director Report

[See Attached](#)

Q&A:

Committee:

Chair Dernogas asks: "Has everything been basically on budget? It looks like everything's on time, so that has gone well. How has it gone budget wise?"

Mr. Jason Washington responds: "When we first started this project, we had an affordability limit of \$32 million. The project closed at 28.5 million and is the initial availability payment. And during the Design-Build Period there have been adjustments and change orders led by either unknown land conditions, owner-directed, or state requirement changes that we had to adapt with the school. Right now, based upon our projections, we will still be under the affordability limit of \$32 million per year. But let me qualify that with, we have to get financing and I think we all know what interest rates look like. So right now we are tracking to still be below the affordability limit. What that affordability limit, so everybody is clear, is the initial first year availability payment, three years ago. So there is CPI-linked 2.5% escalation per year to pay for the services period. But that's all been built into the contract. So right now we are on budget."

Chair Dernogas asks: "Looking at what you have left to do, what's the biggest challenge you face, do you think? Do you have something that is really top of the list?"

Mr. Jason Washington responds: "From a construction standpoint, I would say we are finishing demolition. The Design-Build period also contains the demolition of Walker Mill. And so it would be what is discovered underneath Walker Mill when we have to clear it to be prepared. We're putting in a baseball field and a multipurpose field. So that is really the biggest unknown left is the soil conditions that we were not able to test that are under the existing Walker Mill. On the Services side, I think, frankly, it will be making sure that we have learned lessons from this summer that we can apply to Colin Powell when they open. Just because of the sheer size of the school and the attention that the school has received from the community. We are very focused on making sure that they hit the ground running and are able to maximize the school on day one. There were some growing pains through some of the other schools. Mainly, I would say we had quite a few bespoke requests that some of our school leaders wanted us to do. But I think now that Herb and Dennis have been working weekly to ensure that those lessons learned, keys and alarm codes and cameras and the badges all are functional on day one. We were victims of the cyber attack so that really set us back a lot in terms of our systems. That took a couple of weeks to get up and running, and so we expect a smoother transition over at Colin Powell."





Superintendent House adds: “I’ll just add, Jason, that I’ve had a chance to get by just about every one of these schools post our ribbon cutting ceremonies, and it’s been exciting to see the energy not only in the school, but also the community as a whole. It’s a testament of why this platform of being able to move schools forward is so important to this community. I’ve also been to probably 40 other schools outside of our Blueprint footprint of schools, and it’s just a reminder of why this work is so important. So, Tom, thank you to the council. Thank you to everyone on the call today. Progress is extremely important. We have to continue moving forward.”

Non-Agenda Items:

- Chair Dernoga moves to amend the project agreement to reflect the changes set forth in exhibit X1 & X2 as part of the distribution packet to the steering committee members. Motion made by Chair Dernoga and second by Superintendent House. All Steering Committee members in attendance voted in favor with no opposition or abstention.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Next Steering Committee Meeting:

12/12/2023

Meeting Adjourns:

Superintendent House motions to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned

