

**Cincinnati Preschool Promise**  
**Board of Managers**  
Minutes Board Meeting March 28, 2023  
United Way of Greater Cincinnati Convening Room  
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Board Members Present:**

Deborah Mariner Allsop, Terri England, Marcia Futel, Anthony Hobson, Michelle Hopkins, Micah Kamrass, Christine Fisher, Kristi Phillips, and Sallie Westheimer

**Board Members Absent:**

Jalissa Hutchins, Verline Dotson, Laura Sanregret, and Bishop Ennis Tait

**Guests:**

Jacob Purcell, Manley Burke  
Nikita Anderson, Cohear

**Observers Present:**

Vera Brooks – Director of Early Childhood, Cincinnati Public Schools

**Observers Absent:**

Moira Weir – CEO, United Way of Greater Cincinnati  
Jennifer Wagner - Cincinnati Public Schools  
Greg Landsman – Promise Forward

**Cincinnati Preschool Promise Staff Present (CPP):**

Chara Fisher Jackson – Executive Director & CEO  
Hector Polanco – Finance Director  
Kenetra Mathis- Deputy Director  
Tanya Del Valle – Senior Administrative Assistant  
Laura Carr- Public Relations Strategist  
Florence Malone Crump – Outreach & Enrollment  
Brittnii Pina – Quality Improvement Manager  
Leslie Johnson – Quality Improvement Specialist

**Members of the Public:**

Brandy Harris – MetrixIQ  
Vanessa Freytag, 4C for Children  
Deanna Lane, Learning Grove

**1. Welcome, Roll Call, and Approval of Agenda**

Micah Kamrass welcomed Board members and members of the public, officially opened the meeting at 4:02 PM, and completed the roll call.

**2. Review and Approval of Minutes for January 31, 2023**

A motion was requested to approve the minutes for January 31, 2023.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the minutes for January 31, 2023, was made by Deborah Mariner Allsop and seconded by Terri England. The motion was unanimously approved.

### 3. Mission Moment: Promise Reader Premiere

Chara Fisher Jackson shared a preview of the Promise Readers program. The Promise Reader program will have videos of community members reading books to children to improve literacy for use by parents and families. For more info, refer to the meeting video posted at <https://cincy-promise.org/who-we-are/leadership/meeting-schedule/>.

## 4. Executive Director's Report

### Enrollment Update

- **Tuition Assistance Application Status**
  - Enrolled Students – 785
  - Withdrawn – 80
  - Denied – 191
    - Address not in the district – 81
    - Income too high (over 301% FPL) – 18
    - Too old – 29
    - Too young – 63

### Report Back

Chara Fisher Jackson shared that Children's Hospital has a new program on mental health and how to shorten wait list times for children.

She introduced CPP's newest team member Leslie Johnson, Quality Improvement Specialist.

Chara Fisher Jackson said the new Attendance Pilot Program is starting with fifteen sites, and we are working now to invite them and co-design the program with the providers.

Enrollment starts on April 24, and the new school year begins on August 14. CPP has a multilevel outreach and marketing campaign, including billboards, bus wraps, postcards, and radio ads.

Parent Education will increase with the new Promise Reader Program and the activity postcards.

## 5. Strategic Plan Update

Anne Maxfield of Anne Maxfield LLC, Consulting & Implementation led a discussion on the CPP Strategic Plan Objectives and Smartie Goals aligned to each objective to ensure that they aligned with the direction of the Board of Managers. The board members discussed and updated areas to make them measurable and set appropriate goal dates.

For more information, see the updated CPP 2022 – 2025 Strategic Plan, available at <https://cincy-promise.org/who-we-are/leadership/reports-financials/>, and the meeting video at <https://cincy-promise.org/who-we-are/leadership/meeting-schedule/> .

A motion was requested to approve the amended CPP Strategic Plan for 2022-2025.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the amended CPP Strategic Plan was made by Anthony Hobson Allsop and seconded by Kristi Phillips. The motion was unanimously approved.

## 6. Committee Reports

- **Governance**

- Election of Ross Meyer to complete the Class of 2023 term of Dr. O'dell Owens

**ACTION:** A motion to elect Ross Meyer to complete the Class of 2023 term of Dr. O'dell Owens was made by Deborah Mariner Allsop and seconded by Marcia Futel. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Election of Nikita Anderson to complete the Class of 2024 term of Crystal Perkins

**ACTION:** A motion to elect Nikita Anderson to complete the Class of 2024 term of Crystal Perkins was made by Terri England and seconded by Deborah Mariner Allsop. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Community Engagement/ Communications Committee**

Terri England, Community Engagement chair, shared some CPP advertisements for enrollment. CPP will have eighty-four billboards throughout the city and the commuting path into the Cincinnati Public School District.

She said the Community Newsletter would be going out soon, including a question to gather community feedback.

The Communications committee has been working on ways to honor Dr. O'dell Owens, including a bench and a Giving Library for Providers to provide classroom supplies such as learning toys for Tuition Assistance Providers.

### **Finance & Audit Committee**

Anthony Hobson, Finance & Audit Chair, said that the audit was clean and came with the highest level of approval from the auditors. The auditors made two recommendations to increase the Quality Improvement expense tracking and increase Cybersecurity for the future. He said the IRS publication 990 would be available in early April and must be filed before the next board meeting. For more information, refer to the approved Financial Statements at <https://cincy-promise.org/who-we-are/leadership/reports-financials/>.

**ACTION:** A motion to approve the FY22 Report with Financial Statements was made by Christine Fisher and seconded by Michelle Hopkins. The motion was unanimously approved.

The RFP for the auditor services will be coming soon. It is a five-year contract.

## 7. Observers' Comments

Vera Brooks welcomed Ross Meyer and Nikita Anderson to the board. She said that Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) is happy to help any provider transition from preschool to kindergarten. CPS has teams willing to visit providers and help parents with the process.

## 8. Adjourn

**ACTION:** A motion to adjourn was made by Nikita Anderson and seconded by Anthony Hobson. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Future CPP Board of Managers Meetings**

- May 23, 2023 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- June 20, 2023 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- August 22, 2023 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- September 19, 2023 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM Annual Meeting
- September 26, 2023 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM Special Meeting for Year 6 Evaluation Results
- October 24, 2023– 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- November 28, 2023 – 4:00 to 6:00 PM

Submitted by Tanya Del Valle, Senior Administrative Assistant, Cincinnati Preschool Promise