



Ashé
Preparatory Academy

**Ashé Prep Board Meeting – Minutes
January 8, 2019**

- ❖ Location: Ashé Prep Office at 11625 Rainier Avenue South Seattle, WA 98118
- ❖ Call to Order: 5:30 pm
- ❖ Present
 - Board: Casey Costello, Ed Jefferson, Derrick Johnson, Jim Valiere, Debra Sullivan
 - Staff: Monique Harrison, JT Williams
 - Guests: Casey Caronna CSP Grant Coordinator from OSPI
- ❖ Absent
 - Board: Khavin Debbs, Marjon WayBonkanna
- ❖ Core Value Discussion/Check-In
 - Nia (Purpose) – To know the purpose of our lives and bring our people to greatness
- ❖ Public Comment: None
- ❖ Consent Agenda Items: None
- ❖ New Staff Members
 - Jonthomas “JT” Williams is the Community and Family Engagement Manager. He holds a Masters in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Washington. JT has worked with youth and families for 16 years as a tutor, educational advocate and academic counselor. JT was raised in the Skyway/Rainier Beach area and currently serves on the Board for Skyway Solutions Community Development Association. When he is not working towards equity in education, JT likes to spend time with his son, explore the natural beauty of Washington and learn new skilled trades.
 - Fa’izah Bradford is the Director of Operations at Ashé Preparatory Academy. After working 18 years as a corporate professional, she was drawn to public and non-profit education. Since 2004, she has worked with districts and schools as a non-instructional educational leader and consultant. Her strengths and emphasis have been in equity, engagement, operations, and policy governance. Fa’izah serves as a school board director for Highline Public Schools and oversees youth education support within her church’s ministry. She is relentlessly fueled by the need to provide an education system that honors the strengths and identities of students, individualizes their supports, and prepares and equips their leadership journey. She holds a Master’s in Educational Leadership from Washington State University and a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management degree from Northwest University.

- ❖ Review Board Training Options: Board members are interested in beginning with trainings on “Governance vs. Management,” Structuring Committees,” and “Diversity, Equity, Inclusion.” Casey Caronna also discussed OSPI trainings for charter school board members offered in February 2019.
- ❖ Facilities Update: The latest possibilities include the former Skyway United Methodist Church on Renton Avenue (currently the home of an Eritrean Church), Community Bible Fellowship (also on Renton Avenue), and a commercial building in SW Renton between Fred Meyer and Walmart. Members of the Ashé Prep Facilities Committee will visit these sites on Thursday January 10, 2019 to evaluate feasibility.
- ❖ Fundraising/Development Update: Casey Costello presented an idea to engage possible donors and supporters by reaching out to 15 or so key influencers in the community and asking them to reach out to other key influencers. We would meet at someone’s home for a cocktail hour, share the Ashé Prep story and make an “ask.” Casey recommended we do this in February before the March season of auctions and fundraisers. An ad hoc committee will follow up.
- ❖ Principal's Report - Enrollment/Lottery Update
 - Enrollment – Open enrollment closes March 1, 2019. Ashé Prep is already over 50% of its target enrollment for its first year. Derrick Johnson said it is almost unheard of for a charter school to be at 50% enrollment this early in the planning stages. Casey Caronna advised Ashé Prep to be aware that there is usually some enrollment flux the first month after a charter school opens: some families may leave (e.g. if they were on a waiting list for another school and got in) and others may enroll late (e.g. they did *not* get off the waiting list for another school).
 - Lottery – The lottery is scheduled for March 9, 2019. This will only take place for grades that are over-enrolled on that day. For example, if we have 60 applications for Kindergarten and there are only 50 seats available the remaining 10 students will be placed on a waiting list. If no grades are over-enrolled there will not be a need for a lottery. Either way, our Founding Families will begin the actual registration process. Enrollment for open seats will resume two weeks after the lottery on a first come, first served basis until we are fully enrolled.
- ❖ Other
 - Board Committees were reviewed and Board members were asked to select their committees if they had not done so already.
- ❖ Adjournment: 7:30 pm
- ❖ Next Meeting: February 12, 2019