

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
SOUTHLAND COLLEGE PREP CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.
JULY 18, 2022**

The Public Hearing of the Board of Directors of Southland College Prep Charter School, Inc. (the "Corporation" or "Southland") was held pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief regarding Southland's amended COVID-19 mitigation plan and pursuant to notice as required by the Illinois Open Meetings Act, and said hearing was held as follows:

Date: July 18, 2022

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Matteson School District 162
4601 Sauk Trail
Richton Park, Illinois 60471

Directors Present:

Mr. Ronald Bean, President
Mr. Kevin Murphy, Secretary
Dr. Blondean Y. Davis
Dr. Vinni Hall
Dr. Barbara Meyer
Mr. Felix Simpkins (via Videoconferencing)

Also Present:

Mr. Robert Hall, Attorney
Mr. Craig Englert, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Herald "Chip" Johnson, Chief of Staff
Dr. Corey Levy, Director of Day-to-Day Operations
Mr. Robert Lane, Director of College Admissions and Academic Affairs
Ms. Jamise Frazier-Funches
Mr. Eric Lites, Assistant Director of Technology
Mrs. Denise Faris, Board Secretary

I. President Bean called the hearing to order and directed the secretary to call the roll. There was a quorum.

President Bean stated that as Southland College Prep Charter School, Inc. is a grant recipient under the American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief, Southland's amended COVID-19 mitigation plan is posted on Southland's website and the Southland Board of Directors is conducting this public hearing to seek public comment regarding the amended COVID-19 mitigation plan.

Chief Executive Officer Dr. Blondean Y. Davis said that Southland had established a COVID-19 Plan in March 2020 that became the school's protocol for the next two years. Dr. Davis noted that steps were taken to maintain a safe environment for everyone at Southland; 92 percent of the Southland staff members were vaccinated and boosted and, in the spring, 85 percent of the students were vaccinated. Additionally, masking was required. Dr. Davis went on to say that the amended COVID mitigation plan recognizes that there is a COVID surge and that there is a fifth mutation that is more contagious than what was previously experienced. Dr. Davis said that maintenance staff continues to clean and sanitize; COVID testing is required of all Southland staff and students twice a month; and masking will continue at Southland.


Craig Englert, Chief Financial Officer, addressed the details of the amended COVID mitigation plan, which was in the Board members' packets. Mr. Englert said that the amended plan is the culmination of a committee's work and he gave an overview of the significant procedures at Southland, including the following:

- Temperatures of staff and students will no longer be taken as they enter the school; COVID testing of all staff and students will occur twice a month with at-home rapid antigen testing. Tests will be provided by Southland. Visitors will be required to have their temperatures taken prior to entering the school building.
- Staff will no longer be required to enter through a single entrance at Southland.
- Water fountains will be turned on, but Southland will provide paper cups for each water fountain and instruct students and staff to use these cups rather than putting their mouths on the drinking fountain. Parents also are strongly encouraged to purchase refillable and washable water bottles that can be used at the drinking fountains or bottle filling stations in the schools.
- Regular misting of all classrooms will be discontinued and only used on a targeted basis in places where there may be a heightened risk of transmission due to case reports.
- Masks will continue to be worn inside the school and on school buses; however, a reusable face mask will not be provided to every student for the 2022-2023 school year. Southland will provide disposable masks for any student who does not have a mask.
- The plan was changed to match current State of Illinois testing requirements for any staff member who is not fully vaccinated for COVID-19.
- The COVID-19 exposure procedures for both staff and students have been updated to reflect the most recent requirements and guidance of the Illinois Department of Public Health and the CDC.

II. President Bean asked if any member of the audience would like to address the Board or to ask questions regarding the plan and there were no comments.

III. President Bean closed the hearing at 6:47 p.m.

Dated this 19th day of September 2022.


Secretary/Assistant Secretary
Southland College Prep Charter School, Inc.