

**Uncommon Schools – Camden Prep
Board of Trustees Meeting
9:00 a.m., Thursday, August 15, 2019
1650 Copewood Street, Camden, NJ**

The trustees in attendance were: Lindsay Kruse, Julie Jackson, Bob Howitt, Joe Mangini, Cassetta Perry. Also present: Yoni Samuel-Siegel, Kelly Dowling, Giana Solomon, and Reverend Floyd White. Absent: Janellen Duffy.

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Ms. Kruse, who noted that the meeting had been duly publicized, as required by law, in the Courier-Post and NJ Daily News.

Ms. Solomon presented the resolution for the appointment of Ms. Kruse as the Board Chair, Mr. Howitt as Vice President and Ms. Jackson as the Board Secretary. After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve this motion of the aforementioned individuals.

Ms. Kruse proposed the election of Reverend Floyd White to the Board. The Board voted unanimously to approve.

It having been moved and duly seconded, the trustees voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the June 10th, 2019 board meeting.

Ms. Dowling presented a State of Camden Prep, highlighting Camden Prep's 2019 NJ-SLA results, which is the annual review of Camden Prep's State test data, summary progress against its 2018-19 strategic goals, and identification of 2019-20 instructional priorities. She reviewed the NJSLA assessment results from the 2018-19 year.

Mr. Samuel-Siegel presented the Camden Prep Operations team priorities for the 2019-20 school year, highlighting Camden Prep's 2019-20 Operational priorities across schools.

Ms. Kruse presented the 2019-20 Board priorities, highlighting the areas that the Board will support the organization this year.

Ms. Solomon presented the personnel hires of Jenelle Acevedo, Alexa Ahranjian, Kaitlyn Carr, Erin Crystall, Alyssa Cudeyro, Melissa Damiani, Morgan Epstein, Jessica Gerstein, Nicole Gross, Katie Lynn Joyce, Cynthia Marshall, Rachel Molfino, Miranda Mundt, Nicole Myerowitz, Darby O'Rourke, Ashley Pfaff, Sadie Schroeter, Samantha Sharp, Jamie Silpe, Aneesa Stewart, Nicole Vallen, Alicia Wolstenholme, Jasmine Wooten, Robert Hoepfl for Mt. Ephraim Elementary School; Alycia Ford, Desirae Holland, Maurice Johnson, Melanie Ledoux, Melissa Molina, Christie Okoye for Mt. Ephraim Middle School; Catherine Wobbe for Copewood Elementary School. After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the hiring of the aforementioned individuals.

Ms. Solomon presented the resolution to approve the final 2018-19 annual report. After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as outlined in the Resolution to Approve Final 2018-19 Annual Report.

Ms. Solomon presented the resolution to approve Aramark Food Services for the 2019-20 school year. After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the Aramark Food Services agreement.

Ms. Solomon presented the resolution to approve NJDOE Out of District Tuition contract for student A.M. for the 2019-20 school year. After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the NJDOE Out of District Tuition contract.

Ms. Solomon presented the resolution to approve the Shotspotter License Agreement for the 2019-20 school year. After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the Shotspotter License Agreement.

Ms. Solomon presented the resolution to approve Caroline Alley as the Executor of Contracts. After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Executor of Contracts as described in the resolution.

Ms. Kruse opened the floor for public comments: There were none.

Ms. Solomon presented a resolution to approve Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) consolidated application. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Approve Elementary and Secondary Education Act Consolidated Application.

Ms. Solomon presented a resolution to approve Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) application. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Approve Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) Application.

Ms. Solomon presented a resolution to authorize use of federal funds for employee salaries. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Authorize Use of Federal Funds for Employee Salaries.

Ms. Solomon presented the Financial Report. The following subjects were discussed:

- Budget and Secretary's Report, as of 6/30/19
- Check register and Purchase Orders, 6/1/19 – 6/30/19
- Treasurer's Report, 6/1/18 – 6/30/19

It having been moved and duly seconded, the trustees voted unanimously to approve resolutions to accept the aforementioned resolutions and reports.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING IS Monday, SEPTEMBER 16th at 9:00 am, AT CAMDEN PREP MT. EPHRAIM ELEMENTARY (1575 MT. EPHRAIM AVENUE).

COPEWOOD IS BUILT TO LAST

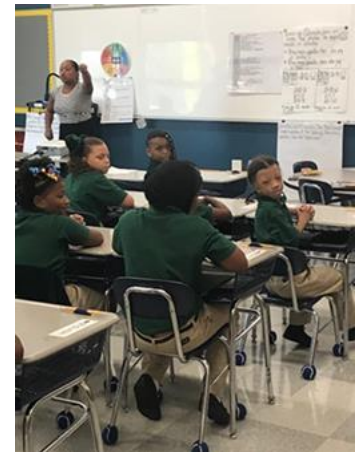
From the moment our scholars entered through our doors they were greeted by teachers and staff that were eager to start their pathways to college with them. Copewood's incredible staff began sweating the small stuff around our schoolwide goals of using What to Do language and increasing their Teacher Radar through Be Seen Looking dance moves. Their hard work has laid a solid foundation for the beginning of the year, and we are excited to see the growth their scholars will make in the months ahead!



Teachers monitor student work as scholars record their counting.



We celebrate scholars for showing their personal best and use special crowns at the end of the day!



Scholars track the speaker while she explains her thinking.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our teachers are hungry for feedback to go from "good to great" in their instruction. We are excited to support them reach schoolwide and personal goals through Real Time Feedback, Leader Modeling, and Professional Development sessions after school. Each of these opportunities allows teachers to see the model, practice key teacher actions, and build their muscle memory to lock down our goals.



The Copewood 2019.2020 Staff

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND ENGAGING FAMILIES

We are excited to develop relationships with our families and build a strong foundation for how to partner around academics and Core Values that will prepare every scholar to thrive when they make it to the college of their choice. In the days leading up to the first days of school we welcomed families to tour classrooms and chat with staff during Meet Your Teacher Day. We also welcomed families to our Back to School Night. This evening was another opportunity for families to meet teachers, hear from school leaders, and feel what it is like for their scholars to be engaged in exciting content! Yes, families sat in their scholars' seats and walked through a typical math lesson! Not only did this give them a real-life experience of what their scholars enjoy throughout the day, but it provided them with valuable strategies that they can use at home.

Camden Prep, Copewood Elementary School | Principal: Laura Fern
1650 Copewood Avenue | DOO: Sunita Yadavalli

A Growing Family:

This year we are proud to say Camden Prep Mount Ephraim Elementary opened our doors to over 435 scholars in grades kindergarten through fourth grade! In our sixth year of existence, we are excited to be stronger than ever. This year we are looking forward to continuing our growth with our middle school serving grades five through eight and more siblings than ever before! We are thrilled to be back at our home at 1575 Mt. Ephraim Avenue. Our families love our new building!



CHECK OUT OUR AMAZING MT. EPHRAIM ELEMENTARY RENOVATION! OUR GYM IS AN EXAMPLE OF THE BRIGHTNESS AND INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGING THAT COVERS THE WALLS IN OUR BUILDING!

2019-2020 Launch:

We opened the doors to our newest scholars for their first day of Kindergarten on August 19th and to our first through fourth graders on August 21st. School leaders and teachers greeted them with bright smiles and introduced them to many of our systems at Camden Prep. Kindergarten students learned how to walk to their breakfast tables in HALL position, to raise a vertical hand to participate, and to track the speaker by following them with their eyes. Our first through fourth graders learned about loud and proud expectations, our behavior chart and the importance of Camden Prep core values of responsibility, respect, courage, justice, and caring. Our 1st -4th grade teachers jumped in to help in various ways, from guiding scholars to their seats and checking summer homework packets, to modeling how to raise a vertical hand and monitoring bathroom lines. It was all hands on deck! After a strong first days launch, scholars were arriving each day with great enthusiasm to tackle the school year. Our teachers are sweating the small stuff every day, focusing on our initial schoolwide goals of using clear What To Do language, Building Momentum through Challenge, and Increasing Teacher Radar, all of which are *Teach Like a Champion* taxonomy techniques. Their hard work has laid a solid foundation for the beginning of the year, and we are excited to see the growth their scholars will make in the months ahead!

Back to School Night:

We were excited to greet parents during our Back to School Night sessions this year! This is the perfect opportunity for us to officially welcome families to the new school year, and review important school information that would set them and their students up for a successful year ahead. Our families had a chance to hear from school leaders, our deans of students, our operations team, and most importantly, our entire K-4 team of teachers. During the course of the evenings, families learned about some of the systems and expectations for the school year from the leadership team. They then attended classroom workshops where they were able to participate in mock lessons and also gain specific strategies from their scholars' teachers for how to best support their students during Life's Work (homework). There were many smiles as families learned about literacy and math strategies and practiced their scholars' college classroom cheers! Our families left Back to School Night confident that their scholars are on the path to college graduation because of their scholars' rigorous education at Camden Prep.

Observation and Feedback:

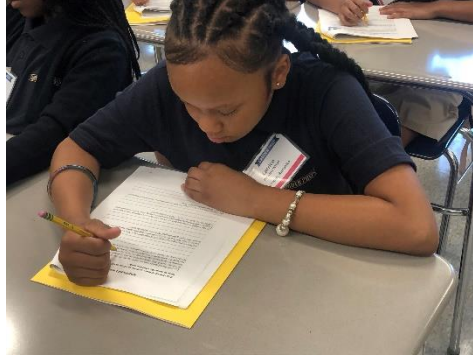
At Camden Prep we foster a culture of working hard to go from *good to great*. We are excited to support our teachers in their professional development through weekly cycles of observation and written feedback. Teachers have been excited to receive and reflect upon their feedback, and they walk away with clear, actionable steps to take their teaching to the next level.

Our Community of Learners:

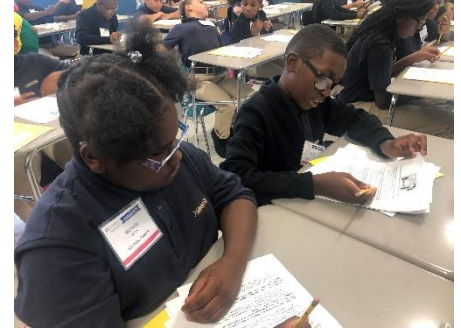
We are proud to welcome a new group of 5th graders to Camden Prep Mt. Ephraim Middle School this year! This year, we welcomed a new group of almost 90 5th graders, our biggest class yet, many of whom have been at Camden Prep for five years. We are excited to bring this group of founders into our already growing community and to continue our commitment to them and their families to see them to and through college.



Students were excited to share out their answers on their first day of school with Ms. Vint, their induction teacher.



Students dove into their assignments on day 1, learning about Camden Prep's core values and how to be a positive member of our community.



Students engaged in group work during their first weeks of school to get to know each other better and to learn from their peers.

2018-19 Launch:

We opened the doors to our newest students for their first day at Mt. Ephraim Middle School on August 19th and to the rest of our students on August 20th. We began our first day with a community circle that explained some of the key procedures we will ask them to take part in daily. We also discussed the idea that often, the biggest achievements have humble beginnings to explain how much they will accomplish this year. Our newest students also learned how to turn and talk, how to transition into our community circles, and how to speak confidently and proudly to a group. Our most experienced teachers taught our new students on day one to ensure their first day was structured and focused. During this induction day, our newer teachers observed and prepared for upcoming lessons. It was all hands on deck!

Our teachers are sweating the small stuff every day, focused on our beginning of the year goals of mastering the What to Do Cycle by giving clear directions, checking to make sure that they scan every student meeting those expectations, and praising the students who go above and beyond. We know that our launch will lay the foundation for a successful school year in year four of Camden Prep Mt. Ephraim Middle School.

8th Grade Begins

We are excited that this year we will have 8th grade for the very first time at Camden Prep. Our 8th graders are going to be the first class to graduate Camden Prep Mt. Ephraim Middle School and will eventually be the first class of Camden Prep students to graduate high school! Our 8th graders have been getting ready to take on their leadership role within the school by having 8th grade specific community circles every week where we cover topics like making sure you speak in a way that makes your voice heard and how to set big goals for ourselves.

In addition to the added responsibilities our 8th graders have throughout their school day, our 8th graders also have additional celebrations and freedoms. Some exciting privileges include field trips and social events, culminating with the 8th grade dance at the end of the year.

Coaching at Camden Prep:

At Camden Prep we've built a culture of working hard to improve our instruction every day. Each week, teachers are observed by their instructional leader and given a clear and specific action step. Then, teachers meet with their instructional leader to practice this action step so they can be prepared to execute new strategies with their students. This cycle of observation and feedback is the backbone of the work that we do at CP-MMS.