

# DPA Board Meeting

August 31, 2022

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm via zoom



# AGENDA

## Board Meeting (30 minutes)

- Review and Approve the Minutes
- CEO Update
- Upcoming Board Meeting Dates

## Executive Session (30 minutes)

- CEO Performance Review
- Board Approval: STJ

# Board Meeting



## MISSION

Digital Pioneers Academy's mission is to **develop the next generation of innovators**. We prepare scholars to meet the highest academic standards, while cultivating the strengths of character necessary to both graduate from 4-year **colleges** and thrive in 21st century **careers**.



## DPA Scholar

- ★ Innovators
- ★ CEOs
- ★ College graduates
- ★ Professionals with high paying high demand jobs
- ★ Community builders

**Minutes June 23rd, 2022**  
**Board Meeting (via conference call)**  
**3:00pm**

**Attendance**

Board Present: Mashea Ashton, Paul O'Neil, Orlena Nwokah Blanchard, Mary Wells, Ms. Glass, Kevjorik Jones  
DPA Members Also Present: Erin Swide, Chelsea Allen

**Action items**

- The board votes to unanimously to approve the SY22-23 budget

**Discussion**

**Paul O'Neil motioned to approved the budget. Mary wells seconded to approve**

Chelsea Allen presented the SEL approach and using The St. James for athletic enrichment. She explained the correlation between academics/behavior and student participation in the program. Chelsea also explained the vision for the growth of the program throughout the next few years. Specifically she shared that we hope to grow this program over the next 4 years to provide SEL learning for all grades. The board then asked several questions around the pricing and what The St. James can provide that other facilities cannot provide. The board requested more information around what other contracts we had looked at and if we are getting a market fair price. The board did not take action. Mashea will provide more information about details from The St. James and other competitors at the next board meeting.

Erin Swide then presented on Aliss Williams' business, Anointed Gifts. Erin informed the board that we have spent over \$25K on staff/student gifts that Aliss Williams' company has made. The board was informed that Aliss Williams is a staff member and leader at DPA and given her leader role, this is seen as a conflict of interest. Mashea Ashton clarified that the payments throughout the year added up to over \$25K; it was not one \$25K payment made at once. In the next school year, the board has approved up to \$10,000 of services/goods from Anointed Gifts. We additionally will continue to get multiple bids and options to ensure best pricing.

Mashea Ashton then discussed the painters action the board needed to take. Mashea stated that she was waiting for one more quote for approval from the board. Next steps around this will be taken via email



# Student SY22-23 Enrollment Update

**SY22-23  
Goal 600**

*\* As of August 29, 2022*

SY 22-23 Grade	October Count	Actual 4.6.22	SY 22-23 Goal	SY 22-23 Lottery Offers	Enrolled but Proof of Residency Needed	SY 22-23 100% Enrolled	SY 22-23 Current Max Enrollment
Rising 6th	-	-	120	73	98	95	111
Rising 7th	112	112	120	25	125	118	142
Rising 8th	112	106	120	24	114	109	128
Rising 9th	111	109	120	30	115	112	140
Rising 10th	116	115	120	12	98	94	110
<b>Total</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>632</b>



## Hiring (1 of 2): Meet Our New Hires

We have had 22 new hires join the DPA team this August!

### Peter Uwakala

#### Assistant Principal, Upper Campus

- Fmr Principal, Compass Rose;  
Dean of School Culture, AF; TFA

### Imani Person

#### 10th History + Leader Fellow

- Hum Teacher + Curriculum  
Design, Pharos; SS Teacher, Atl  
Public Schools; TFA

### HS/Upper Campus

- Gerron Cooper, Dean of Spec  
Pop
- John Hazell, 8th Science
- Patrick Ward, 8th CS
- Furhan Jamil, 9th CS
- E'lexus Davis, 9th Assoc. Math
- Ian Morris, 9th Humanities
- Plentis Dupree, 10th Geometry
- Keenan Anderson, 10th ELA
- Sean Richardson, Electives
- Ronnie Brooks, Assoc Teacher
- Monique Johnson, Teacher's Aide

### MS/Lower Campus

- Marie Beasley, 6th Humanities
- Olivia Martino, 6th STEM Assoc.
- Marissa Amara, 6th Assoc. Hum.
- Rodney Brownell, 7th STEM
- Troy Young, 7th STEM
- Kendall Moeller, 7th STEM
- Ahja McDaniel, 7th Humanities
- Kennady Sowell, 7th Assoc. Hum.
- Andrea Holt, Teacher's Aide



## Hiring (2 of 2): Open Positions

We are still seeking to fill the following 7 positions.

### 6 HS Teaching Positions

- 1 Computer Science
- 1 9th Science
- 3 SPED
- 1 Spanish

### 1 MS Teaching Position

- 1 7th STEM

We currently have two senior positions that we are aiming to fill as early as this fall: Head of the Upper School and Managing Director of Operations. To fill these positions we are working with Edgility (HoUS) and POLIHIRE (MDO).



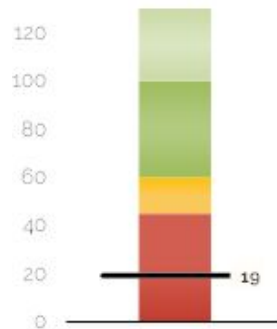


# EOY Financials (1 of 1): Update

- The school ended the year with a lower than budgeted gross margin of -8.4% and lower than budgeted cash position of 19 days.
  - Decreases driven by delays in grant reimbursements and funds that were deferred to FY23.
- Receipt of first quarterly FY23 PPF payment and receipt of delayed grant funds have returned DPA to adequate cash position.

## Days of Cash

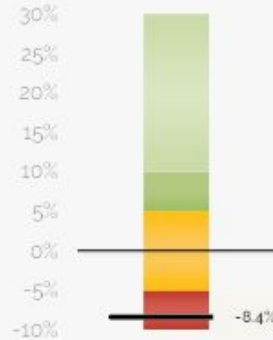
Cash balance at year-end divided by average daily expenses



**19 DAYS OF CASH AT YEAR'S END**  
The school will end the year with 19 days of cash. This is below the recommended 60 days. The cash position materially increased in the first month of FY23 with the receipt of outstanding receivables.

## Gross Margin

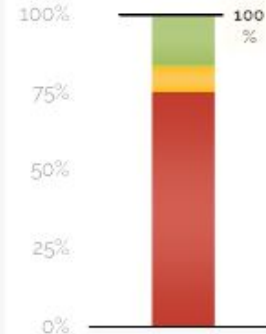
Revenue less expenses, divided by revenue



**-8.4% GROSS MARGIN**  
The forecasted net income is -\$1.1m, which is \$1.4m below the budget. It yields a -8.4% gross margin.

## Grants Invoiced

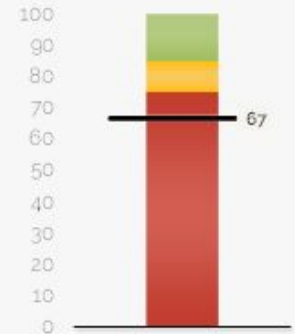
Federal grants requested divided by federal grants awarded.



**100% GRANTS INVOICED**  
All grant funds tagged for FY22 have been recognized.

## Forecasted FAR

Forecasted calculation of PCSB's Financial Audit Review (FAR) at year-end



**FORECASTED FAR SCORE: 67**  
The Financial Audit Review (FAR) is the PCSB's annual evaluation of the school's financial and operational position.



## Upcoming Board Meeting Dates

- Thursday, October 6, 2022: 3-5:00pm (in person meeting)
- Thursday, December 8, 2022: 3-5:00pm
- Thursday, January 19, 2023: 3-5:00pm
- Thursday, March 16, 2023: 3-5:00pm (in person meeting)
- Thursday, May 4, 2023: 3-5:00pm
- Thursday, June 15, 2023: 3-5:00pm

# Executive Session

# CEO Performance Review



## Board Approval for COI (1 of 3): St. James

The DPA leadership team is requesting approval from the board for the sports and enrichment programming that DPA offered to scholars this past spring, and that the school hopes to offer again in the 2022-23 school year.

- Last board meeting, board asked for more details on competitors and DPA's decision making process
- For sports and enrichment programming, DPA considered:
  - ▾ Hire full time staff for programming
  - ▾ Identify outside programing
  - ▾ Identify outside facilities (Athletic Republic)
  - ▾ Identify outside facilities and programming (The St. James)





# Board Approval for COI (2 of 3): St. James

## Decision Matrix

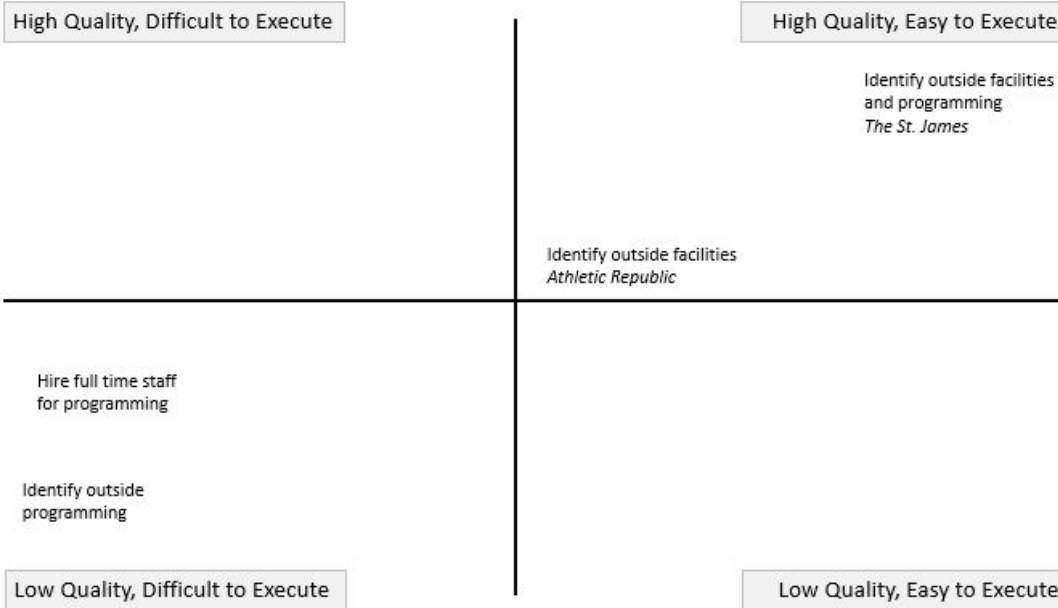
Programming Option	Program Cost	Program Quality	Program Ease of Execution
<i>Hire full time staff for programming</i>			
<i>Identify outside programing</i>			
<i>Identify outside facilities (Athletic Republic)</i>			
<i>Identify outside facilities and programming (The St. James)</i>			
<b>Matrix Key</b>	<i>Less favorable</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>More Favorable</i>

DPA ultimately partnered with Athletic Republic and The St. James for programming last year.



# Board Approval for COI (3 of 3): St. James

## Program Quality vs Ease of Execution Grid



DPA ultimately partnered with Athletic Republic and The St. James for programming last year.