



I. Roll call

- A. Members of the Board in Attendance: Cathy Cappellieri, Anne Dichele, Joy DeJaeger, Bill Murphy, Mary Newbery, Angela Nida, Adam Norris, Carole Oddie, Nicole Shagoury, Jimi Napoli, Skelton Key
- B. Members Absent: Nell Conroy, Matt Nittoly, Evan Levinson, Kristina Testa-Buzzee
- C. Public Attendance: NONE

II. Public Session

- A. Nothing to report.

III. Call To Order

- A. Anne Dichelle at 5:41

IV. Review of Minutes

- A. Motion from Cathy, second from Carole
 - 1. Changes to the minutes:
 - a) Add Skelton to Board Training
 - b) Add Tickets to Cocktails for a cuse.
 - 2. Move to accept and approved.

V. Reports

- A. Director's Update
 - 1. **NECSN Legislative breakfast:**The NECSN sponsored Legislative breakfast took place as scheduled on the morning of 11/20/14. Our audience was comprised of SBS students, parents and Board members, as well as staff from NECSN. Guest speakers included a SBS parent, a SBS 8th grade student and Board Chair, Anne Dichele. Legislative guests included Mayor Harry Rilling, State Senator Bob Duff, State Representatives Gail Lavielle and Bruce Morris. In addition, two members of the Norwalk Board of Education attended as well. The topics discussed ranged from the importance of school choice and charters, in addition to

concerns about the role, weight and frequency of standardized testing in education today.

2. **Health insurance Renewal for SBS:** The SBS group health insurance plan for F/T employees is set to renew on 12/1/14. The renewal includes two plan options for SBS employees to choose from: A conventional plan similar to the current expiring plan and a Health Savings Account (HSA) option. Under the conventional plan option SBS will continue to offer a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) whereas the employee will be responsible for the first half of the plan deductible and the employer will reimburse for the second half. Under the new HSA option SBS will fund 50% or more of the plan year deductible into each employee's HSA. The HSA deposits will be made for employees on a quarterly basis. The healthcare plan renewal will represent an approximate 17% increase from 2013-14.
3. **Aldrich Museum:** On November 12th, SBS Upper School teachers attended a "meet and greet" at the Aldrich Museum which included an introduction to the artist David Scanavino who will be doing a residency here with the 7th grade in January. The primary objective was for teachers and leaders from Scotts Ridge Middle School in Ridgefield, Classical Magnet in Bridgeport and Side By Side to establish an overarching essential question for the project which will have a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) focus. The essential question developed was, "Why do we create?" and will be directed towards framing "Creation" as including both art, engineering feats, solving problems, etc.....Our next step will be a December 15th trip for the 7th grade to visit the Aldrich, meet the artist in his installation and explore with him the reasons he creates.
4. **Curriculum Update: (Mary Newbery)** Social studies integrated curriculum units are near the end of development, with teachers finalizing learning activities and culminating performance tasks for later units. They are still working to embed diverse texts throughout. Discussion has begun around adopting a formal, Common Core aligned curriculum for Language Arts due to the challenges of locating and integrating sufficiently rigorous texts as required by the CCSS, as well as the strains on infrastructure required for the monitoring and supervision of a guaranteed and cohesive school wide literacy curriculum that is solely teacher created. Matt and Mary are in the process of collaboratively leading full staff and individual discussions with teachers to look at student outcome data and to make plans for improvement.
5. **Cocktails for a Cause:**Cocktails for a Cause took place as planned on Friday, 11/14. There were 80 guests in attendance and the night was a tremendous success. Net proceeds totaled a little over \$3000. (the 2013 C4C net was \$5K;

HOWEVER, there were two one-time “donations” totaling \$3K for the 2013 event that went towards that net total)

B. PTCO Update

1. Raffle

- a) iPad Air \$299
- b) A staples gift card was donated for \$150
- c) Some printing costs
- d) Expected net approximately \$2500
- e) Bar graphs will be used to show which classes are working the hardest for the school and rally some healthy competition between grades.

2. Fundraising is going for Enrichment

- a) One has been booked already
- b) The “Bubbles” Guy

C. School Performance Data

1. Mary reported on school performance data. She reminded the board that we do not have SBAC data because it hadn't been standardized yet. The science CMTs are given in grades 5 & 8. They are also the only CMTs still existing. Mary explained the data that we currently have.

- a) 8th grade had 4 below basic / 8th grade had 5 at proficient
- b) 5th grade only had 1 / 5th grade has 9

2. Our students will be taking the SBACs this year, which will create our baseline data for tracking purposes.

V. Committee Updates & Open Issues

A. Standing Committee - Nothing to report.

B. Finance Committee - No major issues or problems to report. Adam did note a few items for the Board.

1. On the balance sheet under assets you will note we opened up a PTCO account. You will see a \$1000 starting amount.

2. Profit & Loss Statement

a) 4170B - Extended Day: The turn out is lower than expected and was budgeted. We are unfavorable at \$1800 due to a lack of involvement in our extended day program.

(1) pg. 2 6112-A3, (offset account for extended day) We spent less money there by \$700 which does help offset the cost for Extended Day

(2) Anne posed a question about the difference between what we budget for extended day and what the FRC Grant does and how it is used to assist with extended day? Adam and Anne will be looking at that for next month.

b) 4190C - Seasonal Fundraiser: \$2600 favorable to budget and that is only including the Miss Chocolate and Harvest Fair Fundraiser. It does not include the money raised during Cocktails for a Cause

c) 6111B5 - Specials: We are ahead of budget due \$6441 favorable due to no Spanish teacher was that was budgeted there.

d) 6323I - Student Services - Research & Portfolio Instructors is \$6700 unfavorable

e) 64000B-4 Heat account is on schedule for budget. We have only had one delivery of oil this year.

C. Facilities Committee - Bill stated there is a women who has worked in the development business. He has a meeting set up with her on Dec 2, and they are trying to arrange a meeting with GE Capital. All of these things are with the intent to find the financial means to move forward with the new annex plans. Currently, the goal is to target corporate donors as the funds within the state are currently tied up.

D. Fundraising Committee - Cocktails for a Cause

1. A little over \$3000 was raised.

2. Owner was pleased with Side By Side Charter School

3. We had a high turnout and participants said it was one of the best ones thus far.

4. Sat. May 9, 2015 is the date for the Gala. It will be held at the Norwalk Inn again.

VI. New Business

A. None

VII. Executive Session

A. None

VIII. Agenda for following Meeting

- A. Roll Call
- B. Public Session
- C. Review of Minutes
- D. Reports
 - 1. Director's Update
 - 2. PTCO Update
 - 3. After School Program Update
- E. Committee Updates
 - 1. Standing Committee
 - 2. Finance Committee
 - 3. Facilities Committee
 - 4. Fundraising Committee
- F. New Business
 - 1. Outreach Plan for New Students
- G. Executive Committee
- H. Set Agenda for Following Meeting

VI. Adjournment

- A. Motioned by Joy, seconded by Nicole.
- B. Minutes submitted by: Angela D. Nida