SBS Board of Directors meeting
Tuesday October 27, 2020
APPROVED Minutes

Roll Call: Members of the board in attendance: Larry Cafero, Nicole Shagoury, Sally Davids, Steven Ferguson, Ivy McFadden, Jessica Garnett, Nell Conroy, Ewa Derlukiewicz, Anthony Pavia, Kim Grimm, Adam Norris, Nicole Shagoury

Others present: Mary Newbery
Members Absent: Matthew Nittoly Kim Mendola

Public Session: No comments

Call to Order: Larry called to order at 5:32PM

New Business:

1. **Approval of the minutes** from September, 2020 Motioned by Nell 2nd by Sally- -- Approved Unanimously

Director Update:

10/1/2020 Enrollment update:

Enrollment: Our "October 1" snapshot for student enrollment for FY21 was 235. This is one short of our budgeted max capacity of 236. Therefore, from a revenue perspective this will show up as a negative variance - $11,250 by year-end.

COVID-19 update:

Side by Side has been operating with a hybrid learning model since opening in September.
Some of those who elected for full-remote school, have since changed and are now attending school.
Currently 32 students PreK-8 are full-remote

Side by Side has not had any confirmed cases of COVID-19.

The City of Norwalk has experienced a recent spike in confirmed COVID cases during the month of October. (Over 200 cases reported during week of 10/15-10/21) Specifically during the past couple of weeks the State Dept. of Health has declared Norwalk a Red-Zone city (due to 38.2 average daily cases per 100,000)

Norwalk Public Schools has had more than 75 reported cases impacting 30 of their schools at one time or another since the start of school. Due to the recent rise in cases, Norwalk Public Schools is considering transitioning to full remote distance school for all middle schools and high schools within district. Based on this current information available, Side by Side Charter School will continue with its hybrid model even if NPS transitions its MS and HS to full remote.

Side by Side Charter School is not a Norwalk Public School.

- Although Side by Side is not a Norwalk Public School, we do share bus transportation with NPS (our students ride-share with students from Columbus Magnet School)
- If Norwalk Public Schools moves to DISTRICT-WIDE, K-12 full- distance learning due to concerning trends in city COVID data, it is very likely that Side by Side would do the same (especially due to our shared busing with NPS)
- If Norwalk Public Schools moves to distance learning for just some of their schools or grade levels, this does NOT necessarily mean that Side by Side would do the same.
- Side by Side will continue to monitor our own student population and school community along with city COVID data and consultation from the Norwalk Department of Health to make any decisions to stop in-person learning in our classrooms

Side by Side school administration is also considering implementing a proactive and preventative scheduled school closure/transition to full-remote learning during the peak winter months. Using the precautions outlined in our official "reopening 2020 plan" all students and staff presenting any symptoms associated with COVID are required to remain home until medical clearance is given, a negative test results, or a 14-day quarantine period ends. Considering these factors, it is likely going to result in significantly higher numbers of students and teachers missing school during the winter. While the idea of changing back to full-remote learning is worrisome for everyone in the school community, doing so in a preplanned, prepared manner would alleviate some of the stresses that would come with having a sudden, unexpected closure. We will continue to monitor trends and data in the community prior to making any final decision for a change to full remote school.

Curriculum/Instruction:

Live streaming projectors are installed and teachers are using them to enhance and increase live lesson learning for students learning remotely.
Fall MAP testing is complete, and teachers are analyzing data to plan instruction for students.

We are beginning a new cycle of teacher support and evaluation, this year our teacher's goals are focusing on student social and emotional well-being and engagement in school when remote.
Digital science curriculum has been purchased for grades K-5, and should roll out soon. Phenomena studies will focus on their real world to minimize the need for lab equipment, etc. should distance learning continue for a prolonged period of time.

CSDE beginning of the year reports completed: In addition to many of the newly required reporting requirements related to COVID-19 and school reopening this fall, school administration is also focused on the typical fall reporting to the State Dept of Education. This includes:

- Charter School Annual Report
- School Safety & Security plan
- Federal Entitlements
- ELL reporting

Finance Update- Adam reviewed the Balance Sheet, P & L Statements and updated the board on any changes

PTCO Update- none

Fundraising Update- none

Meeting adjourned 6:00pm Motioned by Sally, 2nd by Steven

Agenda Tuesday November 24th 2020:

Roll Call
Public Session
Call to Order
New Business
Action Items: Review/Approval of Minutes
Director's Update
Finance Committee

*New action items will be posted within a week of the board meeting