SBS Board of Directors meeting
Tuesday September 29, 2020
APPROVED Minutes

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

Others present: Linda Simmons
Members Absent: Steven Ferguson, Kim Mendola

Public Session: No comments

Call to Order: Larry called to order at 5:20PM

New Business:

1. **Approval of the minutes** from Sept 8, 2020 Motioned by Sally 2nd by Nell- --Approved Unanimously
2. **Review of Board positions**
    a. Recommendation for all current board members to remain in current positions. -- Larry Cafero -Chair, Adam Norris- Vice Chair, Ivy McFadden- Secretary, Steven Ferguson- Treasure
    Motion made by Nell, 2nd by Jessica

Director's Update:

Enrollment update:

Enrollment: Our student enrollment as of Tuesday, 9/29/20 at 10am is 235. This is one short of our capacity of 236. This is important because the PSIS snapshot on October 1 is the number used for Charter allocation funding ($11250 per pupil). We will continue to work to fill the remaining vacancy up until 10/1/2020. It should be noted that this year has been particularly difficult to fil slots due to COVID-19 and the impact on prospective families having to consider a hybrid schedule option.

Curriculum/Instruction:

Side by Side has purchased video conferencing equipment to enhance live instruction and student engagement and motivation for grades K-8. Over the next couple of weeks, teachers will be trained and begin implementing live instruction for distance learners every day. Side by Side is also mid-launch of a digital version of our Eureka Math curriculum, and a digital IQWST middle school science curriculum has been launched. This science curriculum K-5 component is being ordered, and will be available to distance learners over the next couple of weeks. The Carver Foundation has donated 40 chromebooks to Side by Side. They are pre-loaded with a new operating system and we are currently assessing the best way to deploy them as some of our apps are not compatible. NWEA MAP benchmark testing is underway for both distance and hybrid learners. SBS staff have collaborated with parents to implement this assessment this year, and we feel it has worked successfully. Back to School Night is scheduled for Thursday, October 8 (Upper School) and Thursday, October 15 (Lower School). Back to School Night will be conducted via video conferencing this year.

COVID Support for 2020-21: Side by Side (and all CT LEAs) have received a variety of funding and equipment support from both State and Federal resources.

CRF (Coronavirus Relief Funds)

$29,342 total

$21,000 for cleaning/sanitizing/health/safety supplies *(This will be the first monies used to fund all COVID related cleaning supplies, signage, masks, etc for SBS)*

$8342 for academic support *(This will be used to hire one part time ELL tutor for Spanish speaking students—add'l support needed as a result of COVID; and for TESOL instructor full-time)*

ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) (CARES Act):

$45,700 total

$21000 for personnel *(We hired one full time Paraprofessional as additional support for COVID)*

$21000 for supplies *(This will be the secondary source of funding for additional COVID related cleaning supplies, signage, masks, etc for SBS)*

$3700 for academic supplies *(used to purchase digital platforms for our Math and Science curriculum)*

Device Support

In response to preliminary survey data, Side by Side was awarded 104 chromebook devices from CSDE and 20 Kajeet Internet hotspot devices

Carver Center of Norwalk has gifted Side by Side with 40 Asus Chromebooks

PTCO Update- with the unique school year that we are in with hybrid learning, there are no school wide fundraising efforts being considered at this time.

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

Fundraising Update- Linda mentioned the Ms. Chocolate fundraiser

Meeting adjourned 6:30pm Motioned by Sally, 2nd by Jessica

Agenda for 5:15pm Tuesday October 27th 2020:

Roll Call

Public Session
Call to Order

Review/Approval of Minutes

Action Items

Director's Update

PTCO Update

Finance Committee

Fundraising Committee

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