SBS Board of Directors meeting
Tuesday August 24, 2021
APPROVED MINUTES

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

Members Absent: Kim Mendola
Call to Order: Larry called to order at 5:31PM
Public Session: No comments

Review & Approval of June 2021 minutes. Motion to approve minutes made by Adam 2nd by Sally-- Approved

New Business:

1. Election of officers
    1. Larry Cafero Chair
    2. Adam Norris Vice Chair
    3. Kimberly Grimm Treasurer
    4. Ivy McFadden Secretary

Motion made to approve officers by Nicole, 2nd by Nell-- approved unanimously

2. Review and Approval of BOD meeting schedule for 2021-22
4th Tues of every month. Public session 5:15.
Discussion for in person/remote meetings will take place at a later date.

Director Update:

I. **COVID-19 update:**
- School will open at full capacity as scheduled on 8/30/21 (staff on 8/25)
- Remote learning no longer an option (all SBS students must attend school in-person)

- Effective the start of the 2021-22 school year, all school personnel, staff and students will be required to wear masks when indoors. (CT Executive Order requires masks indoors at schools through 9/30)
- Masks do not need to be worn outdoors
- 3 feet of distancing at all times
- All school employees must provide proof of vaccination or submit proof of weekly negative test results
- Fully vaccinated teachers may remove masks during active instruction
- Visitors will be limited to scheduled and approved visits only (proof of vaccination required)
- Parent forum for Q&A on 8/25 at 6pm

II. Summer update

- **K-8:** Full-day Summer school was in session at SBS for 6 weeks for approximately 68 students grades K-8. Approximately 15 SBS staff, including certified teachers and administration worked the summer program. The daily schedule consisted of academics in the morning and enrichment in the afternoons. Enrichment activities included weekly trips to Silverman's Farm, Bowlmor, Skyzone, and the Aquarium. There was also a magic show performance for all students.
- **PREK:** Through our FRC there was a 3 week PreK summer program for approximately 8 students

III. ESSER II (Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds- ROUND II)

- Side By Side was awarded $215K through the second round of ESSER funding
- Funding for 3 years of summer programming and staffing; Additional paraprofessional on school staff (tutoring); replacement servers for infrastructure; fall kick-off event to introduce service providers to families

IV. ESSER III (ESSER American Rescue Act- ARP)

- The ESSER ARP application was submitted on 8/16. Side by Side is in line for an additional $485K award. The grant period is from July 2021 – September 2024. Eligible requests must fall into any of the 5 priority areas: (1) Learning acceleration/student enrichment; (2) Family & community connections; (3) Social, Emotional and Mental Health of students/staff; (4) strategic use of technology or (5) building safe & healthy school. Side by Side's requests include:
    i. Additional summer staffing
    ii. Supplementation of administrative salaries for summer months
    iii. Extended hours and days for school nurse supervision (during summer)
    iv. Training and hiring of a Registered Behavior Technician on staff
    v. Digital curriculum supplements in ELA, Math and Science for PreK-8
    vi. Additional student and staff chromebooks and laptops (cycle of replacements through 2024)

V. Side by Side Charter renewal- 2021

- This is a renewal year for SBS. This means that in addition to the usual reporting to CSDE, Side by Side will be subject to a comprehensive audit and review of all student, financial and operational data. This includes but is not limited to a renewal team site visit, a public hearing, etc.
- First visit from the State Board of Education is scheduled for 9/23/21

VI. Administrative Contract expirations:

- Both SBS administrators have expiring contracts in June 2022

VII. Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) Initiative:

This fall, Side by Side was selected to participate in Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)'s first pilot of a new Social Emotional Learning Assessment and intervention system at no cost. All K-8 students will take the Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA) mini- assessment and engage in social emotional learning activities that focus on the following domains: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, goal directed behavior, personal responsibility, decision making and optimistic thinking. The DESSA comprehensive assessment system includes the DESSA-mini and the DESSA, an in-depth assessment for our most at-risk students. This strength-based assessment suite provides a data-driven approach to SEL leading directly to strategies and interventions for our most vulnerable students, and will enable us to support students' well-being and life skills development over time, as well as improve our SEL programming. We will be holding a parent forum in early October to introduce them to the new system.

Finance and Fundraising will be discussed at a future meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Nell 2nd by Kim Grimm

Meeting adjourned 6:05pm

Agenda for 5:15pm September 28th 2021:

Roll Call

Public Session
Call to Order

Review/Approval of Minutes

Action Items

New Business

Director's Update

Finance Committee

Executive Session for purposes of personnel matters

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