SIDE BY SIDE
CHARTER SCHOOL

January 24, 2023
FINAL Minutes

Present: Nell, Adam, Matt, Amanda, Ewa, Kim Grimm (remote), Larry (remote), Todd, Britnee
Absent: Stephanie, Sally

Meeting began at 5:25 PM.

November minutes approved by Nell and Amanda.

Director Update:

I. **Staffing update:**
   (1) Art Long term sub change effective 2/1/23

II. **Teaching & Learning Update:**

As we approach the halfway point of the school year, students are taking their mid-year NWEA benchmark assessments to help teachers plan instruction for the second half of the school year

Teachers and administrators are meeting to discuss teachers' Student Learning Objectives (SLO's), which are goals teachers set as part of their evaluation process that include plans for accelerated and differentiated instruction to enhance student growth. This year, all teachers selected one academic area (i.e. Math, Reading, Science) to focus on based on their students' achievement levels, and student progress is measured using a standardized, grade level assessment. Additionally, teachers also set one social emotional learning goal, for which teachers identify a social emotional learning standard that is in need of reinforcement and developmentally appropriate based on their students' grade level. For example, kindergarteners often work on self-regulation and awareness and middle-schoolers frequently work on goal-oriented behavior. To support the achievement of these goals, teachers plan activities to explicitly teach students the skills that will help them be successful in the selected domain. To support this process, students are screened by teachers using the DESSA, a social emotional skills teacher questionnaire based assessment, and students' progress is measured based on their overall DESSA score growth for the year.

III. Side by Side enrollment lottery 2023 (important dates)
- Mon 1/23- online applications available

- Wed 2/22 informational Open House at 10:30am
- Wed 3/15 informational session at 5:15pm
- Mon 4/3 lottery applications due by 4pm
- Wed 4/26 LOTTERY at 5pm

Finance committee meeting: See Adam's report

Fundraising:

FUNRUN Booster Thon – Discussed terms of the contract and resource planning for who can execute on the run for SBS. Agreed that the new gym teacher is a good candidate to promote participation amongst the students and that Evelyn can help with organizing the prizes for distribution. Voted to sign the contract and proceed with scheduling the run. The target dates for this even are the week of May 9th to May 18th.

Brainstorming of additional fundraising ideas for this year:

- For the upper school students some competitive activity against teachers since the students did not love the fun run or the party idea from last year
- Discussed the idea of a Gala but agreed that the time and expense to organize is high and the cost/benefit ratio is much better for smaller events such as the fall brewery event
- Agreed to plan for a rooftop beers/cocktails event across the street targeting 100 to 120 people. Aim for an early May event in the hopes of warmer weather.

Outdoor space

The church and grounds are now a part of the St. Joseph / St. Latislau parish. Before we can proceed with any proposed changes to the parking lot or nunnery lawn areas we must meet with the new management team. Matt and Larry are waiting for a time to sit down with them and discuss.

Action items:

- Next official meeting will be on Tuesday, February 28, 2023
- Need to solicit donations for tee shirts for Fun Run

- Outdoor space committee to research companies that have renovated other play spaces in Norwalk to get some ideas for SBS and an idea of costs
- Matt and Larry to meet with parish re: outdoor space options

Meeting adjourned: Todd and Britnee motioned to adjourn at 6:16 PM

<u>Agenda for SBS Board Meeting February 28, 2023:</u>

- ✓ Roll Call
- ✓ Public Session
- ✓ Call to Order
- ✓ Review/Approval of June Meeting Minutes
- ✓ Guest presentation (Ian Norris): *Therapy Dogs in Schools*
- ✓ New Business
- ✓ Director's Update
- ✓ Finance Committee Update