SIDE BY SIDE
CHARTER SCHOOL

Board of Directors Meeting
May 23, 2023
Final Minutes

Present: Nell Conroy, Matt Nittoly, Britnee Henderson, Larry Cafero, Stephanie Cecio, Amanda Gormley, Kim Grimm, Adam Norris
Absent: Colin Konkel, Ewa Derlukiewicz, Sally Davids

Meeting began at 5:18 PM.

Public Session

Jahneel Small joined us as a member of the public. She is the Community Engagement Manager for the Connecticut Charter Schools Association and was invited to attend a meeting by Matt Nittoly. Jahneel is a resource for us to connect with the wider charter school community and will be working to help facilitate parent engagement. She also attended the parent forum in May of 2023.

April minutes approved by Steph and Nell.

Director Update:

I. 2022-23 end of School year
   a. Graduation scheduled for June 15 @6pm- BOD requested to attend (Please RSVP)
   b. Last day of school- Mon. June 19 (June 16 and 19 ED's)
   c. Special busing for 6/19

II. SBS Summer Program (July 5-August 4)
   a. Registration closed (70 students)
   b. Collaboration with Carver
   c. Approx cost of summer program= $85K
   d. Final year of funding from ESSER grants- SBS contributes approx. 40% (Carver= 60%). In FY22 SBS contributed $30K; in FY23 SBS contributed $19K; in FY24 SBS will contribute $35K

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III. Teaching/Learning Update:

In May, students were busy taking the Smarter Balanced assessments in Math, and the Next Generation Science assessment. These assessment results will be used in part to determine our school and district performance index next fall. They will also provide valuable information for teachers to plan for fall learning and during our Excelerate program this year. Classes demonstrating the most growth will earn a class specific celebration.. Aside from testing season, our eighth graders are excitedly packing for the annual Washington D.C. graduation trip, to take place Wednesday 5/24-Friday 5/26. Additionally, all middle-schoolers will have a fun break before the end of the school year at Holiday Hill. This trip is to celebrate a full year of in-person, "back to normal" learning.

IV. 2023-24 School year

a. Final year of ESSER funding
b. 1 year temporary ***SRBI intervention Teacher*** (grant funded)
    - The SRBI interventionist position will be a year long position that would provide teachers and administration with the necessary human resources to help close the achievement gap occupied by our most struggling learners and exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. The primary role for this instructor will be to meet the intervention needs of students who have failed to make progress after Tier 2, classroom based interventions in the areas of reading, mathematics and social emotional learning. In Tier 3, the frequency and intensity of interventions is increased, so that students are receiving more intense support more often. Daily instructional activities will include small group and individualized support for struggling learners

c. Seeking F/T General Music: Recent candidate conducted demo lesson
d. Seeking P/T 0.6 Art

<u>Finance committee update:</u>

Adam reviewed the current balance sheet. We remain in our expected position at this point in the year.

The draft budget will be provided before the board meeting in June for final approval.

Kim motioned to move 250k to First County Savings Account, seconded by Adam.

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Fundraising:

The Booster Thon Fun Run completed successfully. The final tally has not been completed pending a few final pending donations and awaiting a final invoice from BoosterThon.

Fundraising planning should begin for next year. We discussed hosting our fall Cocktails for a Cause in September (any Friday except September 8th for Kim to participate). We also need to pick a date for a gala, which requires the most planning — consensus was that April has worked best in the past for weather considerations.

Playground Committee update:

The committee met with an additional vendor to gather more pricing and design options. We are also beginning a process to visit some recent playgrounds to gather design ideas in working with playground vendors. The goal is to have some additional ideas to discuss for our June meeting. The committee will report back with more information next month.

Action items:

- Next official meeting will be on Thursday, June 15th, 2023 at 5:00 PM
- Outdoor space committee to research companies that have renovated other play spaces in Norwalk to get some ideas for SBS and an idea of potential costs
- Need to vote on board member approvals at the June meeting

Meeting adjourned: Todd and Adam motioned to adjourn at 6:13 PM