

Our Community School
Board of Directors Meeting
June 19, 2008

Board members present: Kellie Jackson, Scott Miller, Louis Pugliese, Carolina Goodman, Katherine Geeslin, Danielle Quinto, Chris Ferris

New Board members: Jana Harper, David Marsh, Bobbi Blatt, Bill Maxwell, Susan Friedman, Heather Ashton.

Non-Board members present: Beth Wolfsbauer (note taker), Laura Bauer (Ex Ed)

Strategic Planning - 5:30pm - Each Board Committee submitted drafts of Action Plans. David suggested to include another column to indicate when the committee would report to the Board. Scott Spooner suggested that the action plans will help set Board agendas. With deep appreciation from the Board, Scott Spooner was presented with artwork from OCS students.

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:55 by Board Chair Kellie Jackson

Minutes were approved as corrected.

Finance Committee Report

- Chris presented a report to the State indicating our student demographics, teachers and qualifications, which is referred to as the “Consolidated Application”. Laura explains that last year it entitled us to \$35,000; this year it is worth about \$43,000. Ken moved to approve, Carolina seconded. Motion carried.
- Laura requested that the Board review the 2007-08 check register.
- Fiscal Update: Of the 40% eligible for the Free or Reduced Meals program, only 30% of those students are utilizing the program. This is part of the reason we show a \$47,892 deficit. Not everything has been reconciled. Bobbie suggested that we distribute applications for the Meals program throughout the school year as family circumstances can change. \$35,000 in Title One funds are expected soon. We currently have a positive cash flow, but will need to access our line of credit in the fall. Our funding does not arrive until October. Attendance meets our projection. To date operating expenses are \$50,000 under budget.
- Last year, \$43,000 was spent on Ex Ed services. Ex Ed is requesting \$50,000 for 2008-09. Finance Chair, Ken Rickerman, commented on the outstanding service we receive from Ex Ed. Kelly moved to approve, Scott seconded. Motion carried.
- Chris recommends a new fiscal policy of requiring a purchase order (prior approval) for any parent expense. For staff, any expense over \$300 will require a purchase order, as well as any school credit card purchases. Louis moved to approve, Katherine seconded. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee Recommendations:

Prospective Board Members left the room and the Current Board members were presented with information about each of the candidates. OCS lawyer was consulted about the possible conflict of interest due to the fact that that Bill Maxwell’s spouse has been working for OCS as a Development Consultant. There is no problem as long as Nikki Maxwell’s contract remains the same or decreases while Bill is a Board member. The Board unanimously voted to elect each candidate.

Development Committee Report

- The Mid-Valley 5K is scheduled for October 4. Ken Rickerman reports that the current work has to do with securing sponsors. We have \$2,500 now, but will need a total of \$6,000 to underwrite the cost of the event, so that registration fees will be profit. We expect 300-500 participants. Neighbors have indicated support. We are now waiting for city permits, looking for parking, organizing an Expo, and inviting other schools to participate in the “Kids Dash” -- where other students can get pledges to raise money for their respective schools. David suggests that we identify our expectations to see if we meet the goals we set for ourselves. He also wondered if other Board committees could be actively involved, e.g. Program and Wellness.
- The Development Committee is responsible for overseeing the fundraising schedule, which will appear on the school calendar. The Committee is also writing descriptions of fundraisers for the Parent Handbook. Both items will be given to families at the Welcome Picnic on August 22.
- Annual Reports were distributed at the end of May. Thank you to Chris Earl for the layout.
- The Annual Giving Campaign materials will be sent to families in the August mailing.
- Chris and Nikki are working to create a charter school collaborative; grant makers are more likely to award programs that impact a larger number of students.

Facilities Committee Report

No report at this time.

Governance Committee Report

- A number of community members have knowledge and talent to contribute, but do not have time to be a Board member. Scott suggested we create an Advisory Committee so that OCS can benefit from people with expertise in business, law, building design, or real estate. Jana so moved. Bill seconded. The motion carried.
- Scott distributed the Principal’s Evaluation and discussed the way in which it was conducted. Carolina pointed out that Chris does much more than what is outlined in her job description. Danielle added that Chris is doing things that are the responsibility of Board members. Chris needs time to support the faculty in reaching their stated goals. David asked for clarification of the role of the principal and the role of a board member. Scott moved to renew Chris’s contract. David seconded. Motion carried with one abstention. Scott moved to increase Chris’s salary by 2%. David seconded. Motion carried with one abstention.

Principal’s Report

- Teachers spent a day at New Heights for Singapore Math training. There are two more days scheduled in August, one in late October, and one more in March.
- Seven teachers (including 3 new hires) will be attending Responsive Classroom training in August.
- Teachers return on August 20. Students return on September 2.
- Enrollment is full, with many on waiting list, except for third and sixth grade. We have a number of retentions in second grade, and some families want their children to begin middle school in sixth grade.
- Bobbi suggested we articulate why WASC accreditation is valuable, prior to starting any work on determining Expected Schoolwide Learning Results (ESLRs).

New Business

- Election of officers. Danielle moved to elect Scott Miller as Chair of the Board. Bill seconded. Scott distributed his expectations. Motion carried. David moved to elect Carolina as Board

Secretary. Louis seconded. Motion carried. Chris moved to elect Katherine as Board Treasurer. Jana seconded. Motion carried.

- Chris described the media attention that resulted from a classroom service learning project about day workers. Bobbi moved for a Board statement to support for Danielle and Chris for modeling good educational practice. David seconded. Motion carried. Louis suggested we table the discussion about how to handle controversial issues with the media until next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolina Goodman
Board Secretary