

**North Side Community School  
Board Meeting Minutes June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Attendees: Pat Shipley, Kathy Anderson, Byron Francis, Mike Carpenter, Liza Weiss, Ryan Bumb, Tracee Holmes, Stacy Erker, Alison Nash

School Staff: John Grote, Leah Harris, Martine McGull, Will Randall, Sara Paracha

4:35 PM Kathy Anderson called the meeting to order via zoom.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of the May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021, board meeting were reviewed and approved by unanimous vote of the board, with no corrections or comments.

**Public Comment Period:**

No one was present for public comment.

**UMSL Annual Review Report:**

- The UMSL annual review consists of recommendations for NSCS staff and board. It is recommended all board members review the report.

Highlights include:

- Board governance – Liza and Byron working at the policy manual
- Kathy- will do executive evaluation, this has been a concern of UMSL and they would like us to formalize an executive director evaluation (we will start this in august)
- Build more community relations with board/community/parents

**ED REPORT**

- Core principles and practices – special activities make a special place – house competitions, extended day etc. are important signature pieces / part of the culture of North Side
  - o Pat noted to include this in conversations with candidates they will interview for the new ED position
- Summer school has begun, all in person no virtual (approx. enrollment 200 in the elementary school and 50 at the middle school)
- This year has been more holding action in face of the virus and staff changes, next year will focus on restoring culture and rebuilding staff
- Goals for next school year will be presented in august
- Plan to be in-person next school year, State requires plan for safe return and public comment. This meeting holds as a public comment period
  - o Kathy- how is access to vaccines? Can the board help? The Little Bit foundation helped to set up a vaccine day at the church today 6/8 (second shot 6/29). This was set at the middle school because students are eligible for the vaccine, we can inquire about the elementary school as a site as well
  - o Class quarantine would happen if there is an outbreak, trickier on the middle school side with the split up schedules

- Should we collect which students are vaccinated? Talk with Lance
- Staffing – currently short 3 teachers at the MS, this year we have ESSR funds to hire additional teachers
- Opportunity trust – a lot of funds this year went to work with 2 principals, we are requesting it again but unsure if we will get it. We are currently exploring partnership for the next school year.
  - Question from board – how valuable is the training? A: Leah – real time application with being a principal – very helpful, lots of resources immediately application, all helpful for a 1<sup>st</sup> year principal. Martine – networking and resources were very valuable, guide for an incoming assistant principal. Based on this feedback we will apply to renew this support but will not partner on items there is not a mutual agreement (i.e – search firm)
- Principals:
 

Leah – finishing state testing, finalizing schedule for next year, finishing hiring and working on PD for return. Data is not good for NWEA testing, opportunities for growth, classes balanced in terms of ability and thinking about interventions and grouping (middle school was virtual March 2020 – Jan 2021) and then only 2/3 came back. Martine – more students basic/below basic than advanced/proficient. Working this summer on these pieces. 4<sup>th</sup> NWEA at the last week of summer school to see if we have growth. drops in fourth grade between winter and spring math/ELA however other grades have mostly had increases. Daily check-ins and social emotional learning lessons. Small group interventions using assessment data. Attendance incentives for summer

#### Finance

- April cash balance = \$2,742,563 and current liabilities = \$2,426,413 Current Profit/loss TYD = (\$311,678)
- Capital project – LED lighting in a building, \$1400 rebate from Ameren, can do this with other buildings
- Strong cash position – suggestion to pay down the loan
  - No official policy on using a certain % of the reserves. Internal policy - reserve ratio is at least 20% of our budget
- Check register – Payments to Third Baptist: \$12,500 is the June lease payment, \$32,952 are construction costs and some costs are from last year. The check register was approved by the board.
- BUDGET 2021-22
  - revenue estimate based on average daily attendance of 475 students - \$9448 and capital pledges and ESSR, expenses – bringing pre-k back, more staffing
  - Budget – increase of \$127,497
  - The pro-forma budget was approved by the board unanimously.

#### Development report

- NS received the Bayer grant for \$25,000 and Pott foundation for \$15,000, Incarnate Word was denied, and several others are in progress/ pending
- Gala net to date is \$78,435 with additional gifts coming in. expenses were \$18,066

- The remainder of the report compare development progress to original goals presented this year:
  - o Expecting a shortfall of \$33,000 if no other gifts are received this year
  - o Major progress has been made on strengthening the infrastructure and cleaning data
  - o Significant increases in online donation
  - o Donor retention increased by 20% and attrition decreased by 25%
  - o Digital presence has increase as seen by growth of followers on social media, web traffic and email open rates
- Goal FY 2021-22
  - o The goal for the next fiscal year is \$540,000. This is a stretch considering the shortfall this year and several one-time gifts from previous years and other lost relationships. Additionally, partnership with The Opportunity Trust plays a role in meeting this goal, this number may need to be revised based on this.
- Sara Paracha was commended on excellent performance as Development Director by several people at the meeting.

#### Facilities

- No update
- Ryan – keep working on strategic plan – would like updates by end of June

#### Governance:

- Governance had a meeting
- Tracee's term expired and Lamechia's term expired
- Lamechia will not renew her term and someone else will be voted on in August
- The board voted unanimously for Tracee's term to be renewed.
- We have 4-5 spots to fill on the board (Ryan will follow up with Will Ball)
- Recommendation for a new board member – Mike Quinlan – the board voted unanimously to bring Mike on as a new board member
- Discuss what skill levels are needed

#### Parent and Community Relations:

- No update on parent/ community relations
- Any parent gatherings? Alison will inquire
- Would the middle school have a separate or the same parent group? Board members thought a separate group may be better as middle school students have different challenges

#### Old Business

- Zoom and in-person meetings are tied – we can offer both
- DAY/TIME – Tuesday 4:30 pm will remain and meetings will be at the middle school
- No meeting in July

No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.