

NORTH SIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2020

Present: Board Members: Kathy Anderson, Ryan Bumb, Mike Carpenter, Ebony Duncan-Shippy, Crystal Fowler, Byron Francis, Brian Gross, Tom Hoerr, Tracee Holmes, Stanford Richardson, Ken Rinderknecht, Pat Shipley, Liza Weiss.

School Administrative Staff: John Grote, Stella Erondy, Leah Harris, Sara Paracha, William Randall, Stephon Greenlee.

Teacher: Megan Rose

Others: Tad Hartmann, UMSL; Tucker Grote, Young Friends.

4:30 pm - Meeting officially called to order by Kathy Anderson via Zoom.

Stanford Richardson, Project Manager with Interface Construction, was introduced as newest North Side Board Member.

Mission Moment: John Grote discussed the North Side goal to get all students, or as many as possible, up to grade level. Most students coming to North Side are found to be working/achieving below grade level. John feels it is important for this achievement goal to be incorporated into Strategic Planning.

Public Comment Period: No one was present for comment.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the October 13, 2020 Board meeting were approved by unanimous vote of the Board, with no corrections or comments.

Administration Report: John Grote, Stella Erondy and Leah Harris presented extensively on current Covid considerations and effects at North Side, including the approach regarding

contact tracing. One person at Middle School had a positive Covid test, resulting in the Middle School's in-class opening being rescheduled to November 19. The importance of trying to maintain in-school learning was stressed, while acknowledging there is some anxiety among parents and teachers. 75% of Elementary students are in school, 25% are learning virtually. Buses are running with appropriate Covid spacing, and breakfast and lunch meals are being bagged. The school day has been shortened - with ES ending at 2:30 and MS ending at 1:30.

John reported the resignation of one very inexperienced second grade teacher. One very able UMSL practicum student has been hired to become a paid TA; it is anticipated this will happen with another practicum student. Stella discussed the renewal of emphasis on phonics at the ES. Leah discussed the merits of the Navigator math approach being used at MS. She has been impressed with the new MS math teacher, Ms Ayeni, who is working closely with Mr Greenlee.

Finance Report: Brian Gross reviewed aspects of the Revised Budget for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year. It was moved and seconded and approved by a unanimous vote of Board members present to approve and adopt the Revised Budget that was presented at the October Board Meeting. Will Randall presented a written report and a review regarding monthly and year-to-date Revenue and Expenses. Will reviewed check registers for the months of September and October, 2020, discussing checks issued for over \$10,000. It was moved and seconded and approved by unanimous vote of Board members present to approve the September and October check registers. Brian Gross advised he will create a Google email address for all Board members, to allow all to be able to access North Side documents.

Development Committee Report: Sara Paracha provided a review of her written Development Report. This included grant requests made since September, 2020, and 2 major grant requests in progress - with Charter School Growth Fund and a DESE Literacy Grant. Sara

also reviewed various donor engagement strategies being planned and development infrastructure strategies. Regarding the Capital Campaign, the remaining amount needed to be raised to meet the Kemper match is \$237,850. Planning continues, including visits to potential outdoor venue sites, for the annual Magic of Childhood Gala. The indoor space at NEO on Locust does not seem feasible for an April 2021 Gala date. Sara presented responses from the Board member survey regarding preferences for the Gala - Indoor, Outdoor, or Virtual; possible locations; day of the week. Sara reported an increase in the number of North Side followers on Instagram and Facebook since September, as well as much interest in the first Newsletter.

Young Friends Report: Tucker Grote of the Young Friends Board related that YF is evolving and has contemplated a name change. YF is hoping to expand its membership. Covid considerations have resulted in some communication issues, as well as the cancellation of the Rollin' With North Side

bowling fundraiser event. Instead, a fundraiser event is scheduled at Top Golf in Chesterfield on Thursday, December 10, from 6:00-9:00PM. Sponsorships continue to be sought, and individual or 6-person bay tickets can be purchased through the North Side website.

Facilities, Governance, and Educational Leadership Committee Chairs all reported no updates and nothing new to report.

Strategic Plan: Kathy Anderson opened discussion regarding how/when to proceed with a new Strategic Plan. Kathy has interviewed a couple of potential candidates to be possible Facilitators for Strategic Planning. Discussion was held regarding various aspects, including:

- How/how much to involve North Side staff?
- What are the critical pieces/guiding principles for moving forward that the plan should involve?
- How quickly does the plan need to be developed?
- Is an outside Facilitator needed to guide

the process?

- Any long range goals for school expansion?

- Other related matters.

It was determined the Board should hold a meeting in December for the sole purpose of determining how to proceed with the Strategic Planning process.

Old Business: It was pointed out that all Board members need to be fingerprinted and have appropriate background checks completed to be in compliance with Board service requirements.

At 6:08 PM a motion was made, seconded and approved by unanimous vote to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

At 6:20 PM the Board ended Executive Session and the Board meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Rinderknecht, Secretary