



NORTH SIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2019

Present: Board Members: Jim Brigham, Michael Zuccarello, Alison Nash, Byron Francis, Tracee Holmes, Tom Hoerr, Ross Woolsey, Kathy Anderson, Beth Louis, Ryan Bumb, Ebony Duncan Shippy, Mike Carpenter, Crystal Fowler. Present by telephone, Byron Francis.
School Administrative Staff: Chester Asher, Janine Gorrell, Brian Gross, Deb Cottin.
Observers and Guests: Bill Mendelsohn, UMSL; Lamechia Bradford, parent representative; Pat Rich and Michael Farley, EMD Consulting.
4:50 pm Meeting called to order by Jim Brigham.

Minutes for the June 11, 2019 regular meeting and July 31, 2019 special meeting were reviewed and approved with a minor amendment on attendance.

1. Administrative Report: Chester Asher reported enrollment at the beginning of school was 558 students, Pre-K through 7th compared with a limit of 510 students, and that 15 students were on a wait list. He noted there is typically a drop off throughout the year and that the administrative team expects enrollment to move toward the limit during the year. He also discussed installation of a new discipline system intended to address the very high level of suspensions in the last school year. He reported that 13 community organizations have agreed to conduct after-school programs at the school, which is intended to both enrich the programs as well as address a major complaint of teachers. He reported that Opportunity Trust had agreed to provide additional resources for coaching and professional development. A significant discussion ensued about Opportunity Trust and the influence it was having or could have on the direction of the school, including possible growth plans to operate multiple schools including a high school. It was agreed this was an important issue for a future meeting but should be tabled in order to complete the agenda.

2. Development. Pat Rich and Michael Farley of EMD Consulting Group presented the capital campaign process and the board's role in developing their personal relationships and cultivating the interest of potential donors. She said she would be interviewing individual members of the Campaign Cabinet over the next several weeks to be followed by meetings with all board members. Discussion followed about the calendar for the campaign and the "shape" of gifts, such as multi-year giving.

3. Finance: Brian Gross reported the preliminary, pre-audit financials for the 2018-19 school

year ended June 30 show a surplus of \$223K compared with a budgeted deficit of \$61K, an improvement over budget of \$284K. He attributed the improvement primarily to higher basic state aid due to higher enrollment and per-student rates than originally planned. This more than offset the deferral of approximately \$200K of federal aid due to the timing of reimbursement. Checks written for over \$10,000 were reviewed, and the check registers for May and June, 2019 were reviewed and approved. Mike Carpenter and Brian led a discussion of financing options for the Euclid expansion.

4. Governance: Tom reported on the recommendation of the Governance Committee to provide a seat on the board for a North Side parent. Byron Francis made a motion to amend the by-laws to provide that one seat on the board, with full voting rights, be reserved for a parent of a North Side student, and that the seat would be held for a one-year term. An individual would be eligible to serve six consecutive one-year term, and the election would be completed annually at the August meeting. The board approved the resolution. Subsequent to the board meeting, the Governance Committee nominated Lamechia Bradford as the first parent representative on the board, and the board approved by email consent.

5. Facilities: Ryan Bumb reported that Interface was proceeding with sub-contractor bidding for the Euclid expansion.

6. Parent and Community Engagement. Lamechia reported the activities of the Parent Teachers Organization on its first year. She and Janine discussed a number of parent and family events are planned for this year.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Rindskopf, Secretary, for
Jim Brigham, President