

Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: December 19, 2017

Members present: Reed Hillman Daniel Soucy, Pamela Boisvert, Chris Tieri, Louis Fazen, Dan Pear, Keith Blanchette, Jasmin Rivas

Members absent: Richard McGrath

In Attendance: Jim Donahue, Tina Krasnecky, Lisa DeTora, Zainha Rivett, Jessica Miller

Order of Business

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1. Minutes: October 27 Meeting
2. Introduction and Welcome to PAC Rep Jessica Miller
3. Approval of Revised Staffing Strategy
4. Year-to-Date Financial Performance
5. Report of the Director of Teaching and Learning
6. Report of Executive Director
7. Committee Updates and Proposed Schedule for 2018

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Adjournment

Agenda items may be taken out of order.

Meeting opened at 5:05 p.m.; quorum was established.

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No Comments

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 27, 2017

Minutes were reviewed; corrections were taken.

Mr. Hillman entertained a motion to approve minutes with corrections.

MOTION: Ms. Boisvert made a motion for approval.

SECONDED: Mr. Soucy seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in favor.

Introduction and Welcome to PAC Rep Jessica Miller

Ms. Miller has been chosen by the Parent Advisory Councils (PAC) to be their Board representative. Ms. Miller is the parent of a first grade student at the Academy and she was chosen by lottery by the Parent Advisory Council.

Mr. Hillman entertained a motion to approve Ms. Miller's nominated to the Board of Trustees.

MOTION: Mr. Fazen made a motion for approval.

SECONDED: Ms. Tieri seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in favor

Approval of Revised Staffing Strategy

Mr. Donahue reviewed with the Board a proposed staffing strategy. This change in strategy is the result of the resignation earlier this month by Kristen Rhodes, Director of Student Support (DSS). Mr. Donahue explained that he had solicited input from DESE and the current special education consultants working at the school.

Mr. Donahue explained that the proposed strategy, which does not fill the role of DSS, is the best given the current needs of the students. He indicated he believed these positions could be filled within the current year budget. These positions are as follows:

- Behavior Specialist/Adjustment Counselor – full time position
- Special Education Teacher – full time position

A consultant will be hired to address any special education administration needs of the school for the remainder of the year.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Hillman entertained a motion to approve that the Executive Director and Director of Teaching and Learning be authorized to replace the DSS position with two full time positions; a behavioral specialist and a special education teacher.

MOTION: Mr. Soucy made a motion for approval.

SECONDED: Ms. Tieri seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in favor

Year to Date Financial Performance

Ms. Krasnecky reviewed financial performance through November 30. Overall the school is performing very close to budget. Mr. Blanchette indicated he had reviewed the statements with Ms. Krasnecky prior to the meeting.

Report of the Director of Teaching and Learning

Ms. DeTora, DTL, reported on the following: Town Meetings, report cards, MAP Testing and upcoming student led conferences. Town Meetings are school wide weekly meetings that are student led and they are going very well. The school's first (of four) report cards have been sent to parents. Ms. DeTora indicated she was very happy with the final format used and all the teachers did a very good job on them. MAP testing in reading and math for the whole school is complete; second and third graders also had a language component. This was computer based and went very smoothly; these tests will be administered again in February and early spring. She will provide data to the Board on the results of the students which will be compared to national standards. Student led conferences, a key element of the EL curriculum will be held in late January/early February. These conferences replace the traditional parent-teacher conferences and have the student showcase their work to their parents. The entire staff is looking forward to these.

Report of the Executive Director

Mr. Donahue reported that everyone at the school was looking forward to Christmas break. He recently met with the staff to discuss the resignation of the DSS as well as staffing needs going forward. Mr. Donahue indicated that the school's facility needs for the future will become a topic for detailed discussion in the spring. Discussion ensued.

Committee Updates and Proposed Schedule for 2018

Board discussed establishing development and community engagement committees.

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Ms. Rivett inquired about the school's compliance with IEP documents. Mr. Donahue responded that we were behind early in the year but now he is focused on getting them all up to date.

Mr. Hillman entertained a motion to adjourn.
MOTION: Mr. Fazen made a motion for approval.
SECONDED: Ms. Rivas seconded the motion.
VOTE: All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15

Respectfully submitted:

Tina Krasnecky on behalf of Daniel J. Pear
Secretary, OSA Board of Trustees

Documents in meeting package:

OSACPS Board of Trustees Agenda, December 19, 2017
Meeting Minutes October 27, 2017
Financial Statements Performance for Periods October and November 2017
September and October 2017 Financial Statements