

SOAR Charter School Board Meeting

Date, Time and Place: August 11th, 2017, 4800 Telluride St. BLDG 4, Denver, CO 80249

Attendance of Board Members:

Present: Rona Wilensky, Liane Morrison, Sarah Glover, Claudia Gutierrez, Sue Sava

Present by Phone: Jerry Osei-Tutu

Recused: n/a

Absent: William Weintraub

Staff Absent: n/a

Quorum? Yes

Also in attendance: Laurie Godwin, Sonia Sisneros, Kelly Moulton, Lacey Martinez

Members of public in attendance:

Going forward, all Board meetings will adjourn at 11:30 AM.

Meeting brought to order – Rona moved, Claudia seconded 8:52 AM

Agenda:

- 8:45 Public Comment
- 8:50 Consent Agenda
 - Minutes
 - Monthly dashboards
 - Monthly financials

Motion to approve consent agenda: Rona moved, Sarah seconded 8:56 AM

- 9:00 Director of Development & Operations Report
 - Finance Approvals
 - Re-approval of FY18 Budget
 - \$110k carryover from FY17
 - FY17 Preliminary Financial Audit Discussion
 - The audit went great. There was nothing to report or adjust.
 - We use John Cutler, an outside vendor, for our yearly audit.
 - We will be ready to approve the audit in September.
 - In September we will go over the update to the financial policies & procedures.
 - Enrollment numbers are strong and we still have waitlists in every grade.

- KIPP built a campus on the south side of Green Valley Ranch Blvd. We are losing students to this campus so we want to look at marketing and think about what our market differentiator is.
- We need to think about marketing & PR in the sense that we want people to know about SOAR & what SOAR represents. We also need to be mindful that while we're marketing, we will have families come into the school that may be turned away due to space & waitlists.
- Clayton Early Learning, located in building 5 next door, is closing due to financial issues. We are losing SOAR students who have siblings at Clayton Early Learning because parents are expressing the commute issue.

Motion to approve FY18 budget: Rona moved, Liane seconded at 9:00 AM

- 9:15 Reflection on Board Survey Overview
 - Sue shared responses that were extracted from Board surveys on what the Board thinks the Board is doing well and what the Board can improve on.
 - The Board would like more classroom visits for Board education.
 - Based on things the Board would like regular updates on, we've added:
 - D + O insurance update
 - Fund-raising updates
 - Review by-laws
 - Sue & Sarah to take over this responsibility
 - On-boarding protocol
 - Marketing and PR
 - Family Engagement
- 9:30 Head of School Report
 - Hiring
 - We interviewed over 40 people and went with the 20 best candidates.
 - We added a math/literacy Interventionist and an additional paraprofessional to help support teaching staff.
 - We also have a Director of ELA & Assessment which is a new position this year.
 - Discussion around para to teacher pipeline.
 - Rona will check in with NextGen to inquire about programs pipeline programs.
 - MSV trauma training
 - We will not be moving forward with this, this year.
 - The Board acknowledges & is thankful for Bill's wisdom in recommending to not recruit an MSV staff person as a Board member.
 - Our data numbers are in and they have improved. We will review in the September meeting.
- 10:00 DPS Site Visit: Charter Renewal
 - Friday, September 8th at 8:45 a.m.
 - DPS will interview 3 to 4 Board members directly after the meeting

- Laurie & Sonia have built a much stronger relationship with DPS this past school year so we're excited about this visit.
- 10:30 Board Pipeline Update
 - Rona met with a lawyer that will visit a Board meeting then decide if she'd like to join our Board.
 - Rona is also in contact with a SOAR parent who we'd like to ask to join our Board.
 - We would like to potentially vote on these folks during the October Board meeting.
- 11:00 Adjourn

Motion to adjourn: Jerry moved, Liane seconded 10:37 AM