

SOAR Charter School Board Meeting

Date, Time and Place: July 10, 2015, 4800 Telluride St. BLDG 4, Denver, CO 80249

Attendance of Board Members:

Present: William Weintraub, Sue Sava, Shelli Brown, Ethan Hemming, Rosann Ward, Ellin Keene, Dan Smink, Claudia Gutierrez

Present by phone: Brad Fischer

Absent: Rona Wilensky

Quorum? Yes

Also in attendance: Marc Waxman, Sonia Sisneros, Lacei Martinez

Members of the public in attendance: Shalita Green, Dudley Thurmond

Meeting brought to order - Dan moved, Bill seconds 8:44 AM

Business Meeting

8:45 AM: Public Comment

- Ms. Green and Mr. Thurmond engaged in several meetings since late May to resolve a racially charged issue of concern that they believed to be a reflection of Mr. Nieto's immaturity.
- They felt their issue was not given proper respect and was handled poorly, both by Mr. Nieto, as well as Soar's Director, Marc Waxman. They felt that escalating the concern to the Board level was the only way to have their voices heard and get resolution.
- Board members listened as they summarized their concerns and suggestions. Some Board members had been previously involved in attempts to fact find and move towards resolution at the end of the school year.
- Overall Ms. Green and Mr. Thurmond would like to see further action taken.
- The board will now go into executive session to further discuss.

Motion to adjourn 9:05AM

9:00 AM: Executive Session re: Parent Complaint
Board meeting commenced at 10:28 AM

9:20 AM: Election of New Officers

- Sue Sava – Board President
- Shelli Brown – Secretary
- Ellin Keene – Vice President
- Ethan Hemming – Treasurer

Shelli moved, Bill seconds 10:30 AM

9:30 AM: Consent agenda

- Updated budget – Capital Construction
 - Not allowed to be used for rent before, but now we can.
- We're working on plans for these funds as we go
- Vote on revision budget

Motion to approve consent agenda, Rosann moved, Bill seconds 10:34 AM

- Financial policies
 - We spend about \$35k each month on the credit card. Our limit is \$50k – okay to keep there.
 - Budget – showing a revision because the Capital Construction funds we get were not allowed to be used for “rent” when we are in a DPS facility (if we had our own facility we could put the funds towards rent). In the past we used these funds for things like construction of sound proofing music room; we also recently thought we'd use these funds for some kind of outside permanent signage. If we didn't have a similar project we had to send the funds back; last year we sent back roughly \$24k to DPS at the end of the year. However, just a few weeks ago we received word from CDE, through DPS, that we can now apply these funds to rent. We adjusted the budget to reflect these changes plus a few other changes; most of the “new revenue” from cap construction went into contingency and we are working on a plan for those funds as we go, Marc can speak to this if needed.
 - Financial policies – we try to vote on this each year before the audit so the auditors have an updated copy. The big change in the policy is the statement that we have a \$25k credit card limit when we actually have a \$50k limit. On average we use about \$35k on the card each month and did once hit the limit last year so I think the limit is good at this point. All other changes were minor, more wording fixes than anything.

9:35 AM: Finance Committee Report

- Was not discussed due to time constraints

9:45 AM: Director's Report

- 1 teacher resigned
- Discussion around DRA

➤ Discussion around renewal

10:00 AM: FY15 Student Achievement Data
➤ Was not discussed due to time constraints

10:40 AM: Review of FY16 Annual Board Calendar
➤ Add to meeting agenda for August

10:45 AM: Other Committee Reports
➤ Was not discussed due to time constraints

11:00 AM: Adjourn

Bill moved, Rosann seconds 11:03AM