

SOAR Charter School Board Meeting

Date, Time and Place: December 9, 2016, 4800 Telluride St. BLDG 4,
Denver, CO 80249

Attendance of Board Members:

Present: Sue Sava, Sarah Glover, Rona Wilensky,
Jerry Osei-Tutu, Liane Morrison, William
Weintraub, Claudia Gutierrez

Present by Phone: n/a

Recused: n/a

Absent: Dan Smink

Staff Absent: Lacey Martinez

Quorum? Yes

Also in attendance: Laurie Godwin, Sonia Sisneros, Brad Fischer, Kelly
Moulton

Members of public in attendance: none

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

Meeting brought to order: Rona moved, Bill seconded at 8:46 am

8:45 Public Comment

No members of the public are present

8:50 Consent Agenda

Minutes

- No changes or questions

Monthly dashboard

- Good stability this month; only 1 student moved to Thornton
- Board discussed suspension data. Laurie thinks will be a reduction in disciplinary actions since the culture is being reset and expectations redefined

Monthly financials

- business as usual; we are where we should be
- Expeditionary Learning will come in on Jan 5 and 6 to talk about management in the active classroom – this will give teachers multiple tools to get kids moving; it supports teachers with PD and is aligned with Responsive Classroom;

Motion to approve the consent agenda – Bill moved; Liane seconded 9:06 am

9:00 Finance Update ; Approval of the revised 2016-2017 budget

- Brad shared about Title 1: DPS is thinking about dropping to 60%; currently the percentage is 63% (we made it by a few kids). DPS wants you to build a program with Title 1 dollars, the money currently pays for interventionists; the dollars don't follow the kids because they want you to be able to build a program; we can push on the percentage
- Brad said the budgeted expenses always need to be more than our actual spending, so we re-approve.
- In January you should re-approve, but budget shouldn't change unless you have new revenue, so we're re-approving now
- If there are expense lines over 50k, then the Board needs to re-approve
- Unknowns: PPR, charter credit on Title 1 funds
- There is \$11k more with adjusted enrollment
- There was \$50k that came in from title services; budgeted conservatively because of projections
- Expenses: hired two long term subs and they were intentionally on boarded
- Danielle is overseeing Sped and Sonia has different duties and was paid a stipend
- Additional coaching services in the PD line

Motion to approve the revised budget – Bill moved, Liane seconded at 9:18 am

9:20 Mission Moment

- Claudia shared about her experience as a parent and shared her appreciation for the foundation her children received at SOAR.
- The board wondered: Are there ways we can support the transition from SOAR to middle school?
Sonia reported on middle school fair (7 schools came, and students interviewed the schools)

9:30 Board Education/Classroom Observation

- Laurie reviewed the board information for walkthrough by highlighting focus areas

10:15 Board Education/Classroom Observation Debrief

Noticing's:

- Learning targets posted and referenced in some rooms
- Connection to the learning of the day
- Consequences were discussed and enforced
- The use of turn and talks
- Teachers working with students individually
- Some checks for understanding
- Some use of academic language

Wonders:

- Do students know the “why?”
- Are there consequences for all kids in all situations? What happens if you don't do your work?
- What motivates kids? How are we building relationships?

10:45 Head of School Report

- ELL/ELD
SOAR is not in compliance with the consent decree
Targets:
 - Academic language present in all classrooms
 - Sheltering strategies
 - Differentiated instruction – 45 minute ELD block
Kids are grouped by language
Focus on K/1
 - December 7 site review
 - We are “not meeting” on the SPF
- Math PD survey
Laurie shared data
 - Overall teachers feel supported and more confident
 - Staff sees value of math coaches; have asked for literacy coaches

Laurie shared a proposal for 2017-2018

Students (M-F)

7:45 Breakfast
8:00 Doors open
8:15 Instruction begins
3:15 Dismissal for all

Staff

7:45 start everyday

3x a week – 4:00 p.m.

1x a week – 4:30 p.m.

1x a week (Friday?) – 3:30 pm

Teachers supervise lunch and recess; Laurie and Sonia are looking at options for supervision

Sonia is looking into the bus availability.

The Board celebrated the work of Laurie and Sonia.

Motion to adjourn – Liane moved, Rona seconded 11:16 a.m.

11:15 Executive Session (Personnel)

Present: Sue, Sarah, Rona, Liane, Jerry, Bill

Motion to adjourn – Bill moved, Rona seconded 11:55 a.m.

11:30 Adjourn

Motion to adjourn – Liane moved, Sarah seconded 11:59 a.m.