



SOAR Board of Directors Meeting  
September 9, 2022 8:45 am - 12:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81490985252?pwd=Q2pYQkNEbmxURG95VFVmUnZxQmsyZz09>

Attendance: Staff - Sonia Sisneros, Christy Goetz, Kristen King, Brad Fischer, Kelly Moulton  
Board - Sarah Glover, Rona Wilensky, Jessamyn Lockhart, Samm Donelson

**8:45 AM**      **Welcome and Check in**

**9:00 AM**      **SOAR Community Circle**

*9:25AM*      *Motion to convene meeting - Liane*  
*Second - Rona*

**9:15 AM**      **Consent Agenda**

- Minutes
- Monthly dashboard
  - Typo - 1 for teacher attrition (not suspension)
    - 1 teacher resigned = larger 4th grade classes
    - Have reposted this week
- Monthly financials
  - No outliers, typical for where we are in the year
  - Includes additional PEBC contract (additional Art resident)

Rona motion to approve

Liane second

All in favor

FY23 SOAR Monthly Dashboard Summary	
August	
Enrollment	480
Mobility	14 Enrolled 10 Withdrawn
Attendance	93.38%
Teacher Attrition	0
Suspensions	1 (over the summer)
July Revenue/Expenses vs. Budget	Budgeted monthly cash flow – 744,471
	Actual monthly cash flow – 746,688
	Budgeted year to date cash flow – 744,471
	Actual year to date cash flow – 746,688

9:20 AM

**Principal Report**

- Renewal update
  - Nov 17th visit
- August review
  - Rituals and routines
  - Community walkthroughs of classrooms
- Teacher work weeks
- Back to School Night Barbeque
- Family Engagement events
- Center program update
- September preview
  - Instructional observations and evaluations start 9/12
  - Required drills
- Reports preview

9:40 AM

**Senior Director of Development & Operations Approvals**

- Request for Reapproval of the FY23 Budget
  - Capture additional revenue and expenses
  - Contract w/PEBC
  - Increase revenue from increased enrollment
  - Expense of additional IAs to support larger classrooms
  - Title 1 revenue - 1 time supplemental funding for all DPS schools
  - Holding a position for 4th grade position

- Center Program costs: same expense \$20,000 above (whichever you prefer) what we receive from DPS funding. 6 center students vs. the 10 that were expected. Results in negative net income
- Liane motions
- Jessamyn second
- All in favor
- Increased enrollment
- Increased IA staffing
- Added a second PEBC resident
- Actual teacher salaries
- Additional PEBC Teacher Resident Contract Disclosure
- Approval of audit
  - Clean audit!
  - Samm moves to approve
  - Liane second
  - All in favor

**10:00 AM Senior Director of Development & Operations Report**

*Finance*

*FY23 Budget Reapproval:*

- Expense, Added an additional PEBC Teacher Resident in our visual arts classroom, \$9,000.00.
- Revenue, Increased enrollment, \$144,522.00.
- Revenue, Title 1 Increase, \$84,703.00.
- Expense, Added two additional Instructional Assistants and Instructional Support Teacher \$128,609.00.
- Expense, Maintaining a placeholder for a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher.

*Upcoming: Salary Schedules Analysis & Updated Salary Schedules for Board Approval*

- DPS Tentative agreement provides an 8.5% increase; need ratified agreement
  - Finance team working on this. Any changes will be vetted through the FC and brought to the board.

**Enrollment 5-year History**

<b>OCT 2018</b>	<b>OCT 2019</b>	<b>OCT 2020</b>	<b>OCT 2021</b>	<b>OCT 2022</b>
446	437	453	463	480

- Green Valley Ranch is the largest booming area around Denver. Choice and Enrollment asked SOAR to take on additional students due to the crowded nature of surrounding schools.

**Staffing**

Added two additional Instructional Assistants to support increased class size in Kindergarten and 1st grade:

- *Celene Salazar* comes to us from [Lena Archuleta Elementary School](#) where she served as a 1<sup>st</sup> grade paraprofessional, a 4<sup>th</sup> grade instructional assistant in their math intervention program, and a 1:1 paraprofessional in their 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade Affective Needs program. Celene is bilingual; providing support to our Spanish speaking families and she is also well versed in all around school support; such as cross guard, bus duty and supporting the school office.
- *Mika Jhargoo* is a Registered Behavior Technician (RBT); coming to SOAR with several years of experience in supporting students in autism center programs in New Jersey, Lakewood and Centennial. Her work has included instructional support, data collection and providing one on one (Applied Behavior Analysis) ABA therapy in home and center. Mika has her B.S. in Psychology from Morrisville State College, Morrisville, NY. Mika was born in the Caribbean and served as a Board member on the Caribbean American Student Union.

### 10:20 AM Director of MLE Report

- Please see attached data report.
- Proficiency and growth
  - Math proficiency = 18.3%
  - Math growth - 5th grade scores only (50 MGP is considered 1 year of growth)
  - ELA proficiency = 32.2% (below DPS and CSN)
  - ELA growth = 60 MGP (ahead of DPS and the state)
  - These results are about what was expected.
  - Focus on proficiency because it captures 3, 4, 5
    - Focus on instruction this year. Where our kids are and moving them forward.
    - Math is going to be a big focus this year. What does the highest level of proficiency mean?
    - Alignment of instruction, understanding of what best practice is
  - I-ready - 42 students were moved from below grade level to above grade level
  - Moved to GREEN on SPF!!!!
    - Green on participation which puts us over the edge into green
    - Some areas are still very concerning and we need to have some urgency around some of the sub-groups. It's an equity issue.

### 10:40 AM Assistant Principal Report

- Attendance

Consistent Attendance and communication from our families are paramount for our students at SOAR. Over the summer, the Attendance Team, consisting of Jamie Wieck, School Counselor, Megan Marulli, Social Worker, and myself, reviewed student attendance that showed chronic absenteeism or truancy. To be proactive, we

- invited all of our Kindergarten families and any student that presented twenty or more absences over the 2021-2022 school year. This event was hosted on Wednesday, August 31, 2022, from 5:00-6:00 pm in our cafeteria. Food was provided to create a warm and inviting event. At this time, there is a daily and weekly student attendance review. Beginning next week, we will start inviting families, or doing home visits, to families that may be struggling to get their children to school consistently to understand their needs and provide resources.
- [Attendance team formed over the summer to address issues of absenteeism and truancy.](#)
    - [hosted a workshop to educate around the importance of coming to school consistently](#)
      - Focused on students who were absent 20+ days
      - 25 families showed up
      - Invited partners: Denver Health, I have a Dream, Leading Edge
      - Community outreach focus
      - Next steps:
        - Teachers reach out to parents after 3+ absences
        - 5 + = families come in for a meeting to create an attendance contract, not punitive, a collaborative approach to supporting families
          - How many? 22 students who were at 5 or more absences (not disaggregated yet by sickness, COVID, etc.)
          - How do we support teachers in having conversations with families?
  - [Attendance Workshop Slides](#)
  - 167 families were invited
  - 70 families RSVPed to our Workshop
  - 25 families attended

**10:50 AM Question and Answer**

**10:34 AM Motion to adjourn - Rona, second - Jessamyn**

**11:00 AM SOAR Staff departs**

**11:05 AM Board Work Session**

**12:00 PM Adjourn**