

GROWING UP GREEN CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 13th 2018

Location: Growing Up Green Charter School (Elementary School)

Commencement Time: 7pm

In attendance: Matthew Greenberg, Kate Hooker, Marc Greenberg, Anita Amoh, Roseanne Baker, Nancy Wong, Aris Colgan, Erin Acosta, Ira Greenberg, Lauren Barkan, Jackee Nielsen, Steve Viola, Jenn Slutak, Kathryn Klingenstein, Anne Levonen.

Gina Palma: via phone

GUGI

Financials

Gina went through the Financials for GUGI and said we are on budget and under budget for a number of things. The SPED per pupil revenue was projected to be higher than originally anticipated in the budget due to a higher number of SPED students. Title II funding allocations approved by NYS were lower than anticipated in the budget due to NYS adjustments.

State Test Results

Roseanne went through GUGCS State Test Results at GUGCS. She said some grades at GUGI saw as much growth as 21% in proficiency from 2017-2018. Roseanne said the test has changed this year to only 2 days of testing (instead of 3).

Highlights from the year included:

- GUG I students outperformed the City and State in every grade in Math proficiency!
- GUG I students outperformed the City and State in all but 2 grades in ELA proficiency. However, GUG I's 2 year cohort surpassed the City and State in ELA proficiency in every grade!
- GUG I students across all testing grades (3-8) grew 9% in Math proficiency from 2017 to 2018 while the City and State grew 5% and 4% respectively!
- Some grades at GUG I saw as much as a 21% increase in proficiency from 2017 to 2018.
- In their first year of testing, GUG II's 2 year cohort came within 3% of matching City and State ELA proficiency.
- GUG I & II special education students surpassed City, State, and District proficiency averages in ELA.
- GUG I special education students surpassed City, State and District proficiency averages by over 10% in Math.

Nancy Wong, Leader of GUGCS II said it was the first round of testing for third graders at GUG2. She said once the leadership team was given the results, they took time to sit down and analyze them. A schedule of guided reading was blocked out for entire grade levels. Dr. Wong also said that the school had kids coming in with high needs and one of the first things built into the school's schedule was to address this need. The GUG2 team looked where kids mostly struggled in the exam. Similarly in literacy, Aris Colgan said that they hoped to help students in their reading (many students were reading below the level the test was written in), and that they would also look into helping children lower their anxiety levels while testing.

Ira Greenberg asked about attendance at GUGCSII and Dr. Wong said it was generally around 90% and believed the annual report said it was 92%. Ira asked if higher scores correlated with higher attendance and said it would be interesting to see if this was fact or not.

Lauren Barkan from GUGCSI ES (School Co-Leader) then spoke about testing for the Upper School. She said that the test is now untimed and that the majority for ELA tested for at least five hours for each day of exams. She also mentioned that the school was using Read 180 again and that a learning specialist was dedicated to each grade level to help with any deficiencies.

Jenn Slutak (Middle School Leader) said that the MS has made a year-long goal. She said there was a writing initiative being introduced for the entire year where writing would be incorporated in all subject areas. Ms. Slutak also said that an excitement for writing would be built within staff members as well as students. The MS team stated that they look at data and target at-risk students. There were also other changes to the Middle School, including building on students who come in at a lower level (6th graders), co-teaching all 7th grade ELA classes, and having learning specialists on hand.

Jackee Nielsen, Director of Support Services said that the school had seen a lot of success by researching Match 180. It is an algebra-ready course. Steve Viola, the Middle School's Assistant Leader said that the school would work on a math workshop model to prepare students for testing.

Fundraising Update

Erin Acosta, the school's Family Engagement and Advancement Coordinator gave a presentation on the school's Fundraising efforts so far. She said that just under 30% of families from GUGI have contributed to GUGI's \$300K goal (to pay for school supplies, overnight trips, day trips, sports, and associations). GUGI would also have a goal of raising money, with \$100K for the 2018-2019 school year.

New Business

Matthew Greenberg introduced Marc Greenberg — a prospective Board Member — to the GUGCS Board. Marc Greenberg is the Executive Director of Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing in New York. Greenberg's organization is a coalition of religious organizations and individuals working with and on behalf of homeless, poorly housed, and at-risk individuals.