



Notes for the Board Meeting on September 29, 2015

In attendance:

Brian Martin	Jeff Mueller	Massomeh Muhammad
Brittany Tuber	Jennifer Pearsall	Matthew Greenberg
Ceilia O'Donnell	Kate Hooker	Mollie Fox
Erin Acosta	Kurk Shuman – via phone	Reid Chase
Gina Palma – via phone	Kyla Kupferstein – via phone	Roseanne Baker

Jeff Mueller called the meeting to order.

1. Review of the Financial Statements - Gina Palma

Gina walked through the financial summary. At the moment we are looking to be on budget. The only known overage is end of severance. This is was supposed to come in last year but did not arrive till this year. We are under enrollment but have a higher Special Education number. She continued discussing compensation, benefits, administrative, professional services, professional development, marketing and recruitment and all remaining categories. In the end, we are over budget but are still looking at having a net income of \$320,000. This will significantly go up once we have our enrollment numbers.

Questions came up about copying overages, how much we are spending on copying and our contract with the copying service. There was discussion with ideas on how to lessen this cost.

2. Discussion & Approval of Audited Financials - Jeff Mueller

Jeff discussed the audited financials. This was reviewed by an outside accountant. Everything looks healthy and good. No internal weaknesses, in terms of controls, was found.

Discussion on compression numbers, financial buffers and ensuring a healthy bank account came up. Mathew responded that all the buildouts are complete ensuring future revenue will remain true revenue. Historical context on pupil freeze or less income was brought up.

Jeff called for motion to approve. Kurk motioned and Kate second.

3. Lower School Academic Leader Share Out

This was the first full week of school. Brittany shared that the first unites are set for the first six weeks and are well underway with a beginning focus on routines. There are only one new pair of teachers. Every other teacher, besides associates, are returning and able to pick up where they left off. The Special Education number is 29 with one classroom being at 30. The 1st grade ICT classroom is right at the 60/40 mark. Learning specialists are pushing in on a daily basis. Brittany thanked Massomeh for having 45 iPads with apps to help in math and literacy. These will be used on a daily basis for centers. She said field trips are beginning with K/1 attending Brooklyn Grange, a rooftop farm, which has become a tradition. She mentioned a residency beginning with the 1st grade classes. The cost is split between Ed time and field trip budget thanks to the PTO. 1st grade is piloting this program.

4. Director of Operation Share Out

Massomeh shared that she manages 17 people and that we were able to filter security guards with Securitas to have two guards per school that we like. She discussed how the Operation Manager was over everything and this year the role was broke up. We now have a tech person on site, someone dedicated to clubs, a parent coordinator and a campus sustainability manager. Massomeh talked about the MS buildout, specifically the second state-of-the-art science lab for 7th grade, an additional staircase and a renovated kitchen that now allows for hot meals.

5. Assessment Team provides 2014-2015 state exam data breakdown

Brian, Roseanne and Mollie went through the state exam data breakdown. Rosanne found it interesting that the 4th grade girls outperformed the males in math and the males outperformed the females in ELA. Mollie emphasized growth and being on the right track. In all grades we have grown in our ELA proficiency. In most cases, the same is true by demographic group.

Jeff gave accolades and asked if this can be attributed to anything specifically, what the scores tell the assessment team in terms of need or how to improve and what the game plan is. Brian responded that the city gave an analysis of every kid who took the test. This shows every question and how they did. This tells the team what to address moving forward. Mollie chimed in that this was new to this year.

Jeff asked about what improvements the team is seeing. Mollie gave credit to having a larger staff. This allows for small group instruction that is more tailored for each child's needs. She said it is the people and the brains in the building that can support each other.

Matthew chimed in that the students are growing at a greater rate than the city, district and state. Jeff asked Ceilia (parent) if the parents appreciate the depth. Ceilia said they do and that it helps how the assessment team makes themselves available and shares context on the parent role in the school towards continual improvement. Reid asked if two teachers in a classroom is common. It was discussed that this is not normally the case in other schools.

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

None

Meeting adjourned.