

4-17-25 REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER at 5:38 pm

Attendance: Dr. Levent Kaya, Dr. Jamie Campbell, Dr. Melissa Landrau Vega, Crescent Miller, Grace Hakizimana, Erol Akmercan, Rae Gallagher, Baris Yilmaz, and Crystal Confer.

II. – PUBLIC COMMENT

Please review the “Public Participation in the Board Meetings Policy”

No public comments

III. - ROUTINE APPROVALS

- **Regular Board Meeting Minutes February 20, 2025**

Tabled to the June meeting (February and April minutes) – No concerns

IV. –OLD BUSINESS

- **Charter Renewal Process**

The assistant superintendent is writing the report. They might be presenting it to the Board on the 28th. They requested the updated lease and the initial charter agreement, which were sent. No questions or concerns.

- **Financial Interest Forms**

Rae only needs to collect three more financial interest forms. She will email the people missing forms. The deadline is the beginning of May.

V. -NEW BUSINESS

- **2025 - 2026 Draft Fund Budget**

Rae used the opportunity to present her financial report too. Reports are uploaded to the Board's drive.

Rae presented a snapshot of the financial position as of March 31st with an enrollment of 320. In the last month everyone has submitted checks and deposits faster.

The detailed budget draft was also included in the financial documents folder of the Board's drive. The revenue is primarily from local (school district tuition) sources and lunch payment reimbursements. There are also state and federal grants sources.

Draft expenses include instruction, support services, business expenses, maintenance expenses, non-instructional expenses (breakfast, lunch, field trip, etc.), facility costs (down from last year, since we haven't had many expenses there), and lease payments. When creating the draft, they looked at the deficit (based on this year) and what changes could be made to balance the budget. Changes included tuition reimbursement (dropped down), professional development (dropped down), staffing changes, and curriculum and subscriptions (some downsize). Budgeted for 330 students with about 80 special needs.

Erol asked how were the union expenses accounted for and Dr. Kaya explained that they looked at how a 3% increase for staff would look like and it yielded a possible shortage of 1.4 million dollars, which led to a discussion about possible position cuts instead. However, a 3% increase (of the total cost of salaries from the Union) is included in the draft.

Crescent moved to approve the draft. Erol seconded. All in favor – unanimous vote.

- Building Lease Renewal

Dr. Kaya reported signing the lease for the next 6 years. They went through negotiations with Dream Schools. We hope not to have the rent increased. We have almost the same lease as now, except that it is 6 years instead of 5. The current rate is \$19, and the following year it is going to increase 2.5%. They wanted to have the same triple net lease that they have now. Another item was the facility fund, which they didn't agree with, because they ask that we maintain the building regularly to avoid any major expenses or repairs in the future. They are going to start repairing the roof.

Maintenance of the building – Dr. Kaya explained that we do not have the expertise to determine when to update some areas like HVAC. We need guidance on what amounts to budget for these possible items. It is important to

get different quotes and opinions from different companies. It might be better if Dream Schools provides some guidance on the timelines of necessary inspections or improvements, especially for preventive items. This item will continue to be discussed

Jamie Campbell excused himself.

- **Discussion – Comments on Social Media**

Melissa discussed some of the social media posts about YSCP where parents are discussing specifics about teachers and staff, and she wondered if we needed to address it, especially because of the drop in enrollment. After some discussion, we determined we did not really need to address some of the comments, since there is always going to be comments from people who have something negative to say. Mr. Yilmaz and Dr. Kaya assured us that the school considers all comments and reflects on whether there is anything the school needs to address.

VI. -COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **High School/Facility Committee** – No report
- **Non-Union Staff Contract Committee** – No report

VII. -CHARTER SCHOOL'S ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS

- **CEO-Principal Report** – Dr. Kaya provided the principal report
- **PYP Assistant Principal Report** – Ms. Confer provided the PYP report on academics, compliance, enrollment, personnel, and building/facility. Many celebrations and academic events took place in the last few months.
- **MYP Assistant Principal Report** – Mr. Yilmaz provided the MYP report
- **Business Manager Report** – Report was offered earlier with the budget report.

VIII- FUTURE AGENDA PLANNING

- Charter renewal
- Final budget approval
- February and April minutes' approval

- Schedule approval for 2025-26

IX- EVALUATION OF THE MEETING

X- EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

XI- ADJOURNMENT – 7:27 pm

Melissa moved to adjourn; Crescent seconded; all in favor-unanimous