



Governing Board

Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 2, 2019

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Oakwood Homes
4908 Tower Rd.

Board members in attendance: Maura O’Neal, Jason McEldowney, Tim Gallagher, Kelly Leid, Mizraim Cordero, and Christopher Wildhagen

Board members in attendance (via phone): Amy Schwartz

Absent board members: Tracie Trinidad, Noel Harryman

Staff members in attendance: Jamie Prijatel (by phone) and Candace Cheung (in person)

Opening Items

- Kelly called meeting to order and declared a quorum.
- Motioned to approve 12/4/19 board meeting minutes from motioned Kelly Leid and second by Tim Gallagher.
- All board members shared good news and celebrations.

Committee Updates

- Principal Hiring - Candace gave an update on the principal search and hiring process: 24 candidates; 12 are qualified.

Unrelated to principal hiring, there are about six teachers communicating with Candace about working at the school. Most of the teachers are coming from a group of three schools in Denver; of the three schools, one is a project-based learning school most aligned with STEAD pedagogy.

Students and parents are eager to participate in the principal interview process. Parents and students contact information and interest were captured from STEAD’s listserve and represent the broadest representation from the community. These individuals: 1. Showed interest, wished to volunteer, and represented the 27J community.

The principal community presentations will be open to the public to attend. The goal is to make the presentations inclusive to all members of the 27J community.

The principal hiring process was created by: meeting with HR person at CO League of Charter Schools; Candace's experience hiring faculty and staff; and best practices in the field. The timeframe is intentional as people think about their jobs for next year over Christmas break and gives the board enough time to have a second round of interviews if needed. Candace anticipates having three finalists at the end of the interviews.

The charter school application will be posted online once there is a signed contract between 27J school district and the Board of Directors.

- Community Outreach - Tim gave an update on community outreach. He reached out to Dr. Fiedler to send an announcement about the school to the community. There is a pocket of kids from Adams 25 that opted into 27J to contact about recruitment; attend all school leadership team meeting at 27J to present the school model; and to reach out to the home-school community.

Candace gave an update on she communicates with the community about STEAD. Each time a mass email goes out everyone on the listserve and any new family that completes an interest form is added to the listserve and receives emails from STEAD – all people get it. Candace will add principals of the local schools to the list. She reminded board members to send her any questions they receive from the community to post to the FAQ in English and Spanish on the website.

- Partnership Development & Fundraising and Facilities - Kelly and Jamie gave an update. Miz shared he has a connection at Vectra and will forward his connect to Kelly. He will share updated visuals and pitch book at next board meeting.

He believes that Cal Fulenwider will donate the land. If and after this takes place, this donation will begin to generate other donations and STEAD will create a 'menu' of ways someone can support a school. There will be a big announcement to generate fundraising momentum. Private fundraising will close STEAD's funding gap. Using Stephen Nichols for under-writing.

Regarding facilities, a couple meeting were held with DLR and Saunders. The budget is higher than STEAD can afford right now. Once we upsize CAL, we can see how we can keep the Cultivate Center. The Cultivate Center is 6,000 ft. An idea is to make Cultivate its own 501c3 and have the organization pay STEAD's rent. Perhaps this can be done with the farm too and have a contract with CSA.

- Election Committee: Jamie and Miz gave an update. The board retreat will take place on 1/25 from 12:30-6pm at the Reunion Recreation Center. Jamie will present the board calendar.

Closing Items

- Motion to adjourn the meeting by Tim Gallagher, second by Kelly Leid. Unanimously approved.