



Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Agenda

Board Members Present: Laura Blankfein, Matthias Ederer, Adam Falkner, Mark Hall, Laurence Heilbronn, Randall Iserman, Michelle Murphy, Max Osse, Peter Sack

Absent: none

The Meeting was brought to order by Chair, Randall Iserman, at 6:03pm, and a quorum was found present.

- Review and Approve Minutes from Board Meeting of April 14, 2021
 - Trustee Blankfein motioned to approve; Trustee Ederer seconded.
- Introduction of new Managing Director of Operations, Nadir Romo Quezada
- Finance Committee Report
 - March Monthly/YTD Financials
 - Slightly ahead of budget by about \$5K
 - Continued trend of higher than budgeted revenues thanks for Special Ed.
 - Year-to-date, ahead of budget. By about \$140K
 - Expect to have a surplus of \$87K at the end of the school year.
 - Financial indicators in all 4 categories are looking good and promising.
 - Budgeting for next year has kicked off.
 - Question asked: How would student attrition impact our financial outlook?
 - We should be ok.
 - Q3 SUNY budget report
 - It's a reflection of YTD. Nothing unusual.
- School Leader Report
 - Early High School Acceptance results
 - Specialized High Schools
 - Still unable to access SHSAT results.
 - We have one student accepted to Brooklyn Tech, and one accepted to Staten Island Tech
 - Independent Schools
 - The Masters School, Bard Academy at Simon's Rock, Bay Ridge Prep



- (Catholic) St. Vincent Ferrer & Jean's Baptiste; Cardinal Hayes; Cathedral; LaSalle Academy, Cardinal Spelman, & Cardinal Hayes; Monsignor Scanlan & Cardinal Hayes.
- Recruitment
 - Still working with a headcount budget of 255 students.
 - We accepted all applicants. If we don't get an enrollment confirmation within a certain time, we rescind.
- Program Committee suspended April meeting
- Parent teacher conferences were completed
 - Families with children with Promotion in Doubt.
 - Seven students, who will be in school four days a week as a result of the conferences. Remote learning was a detriment to their academic progress.
- Graduation celebration update by Dean Barnes.
 - June 25. (June 26 in case there's inclement weather)
 - Thinking of a Rainbow theme.
 - Full-Circle theme since graduation is at PS 111.
 - Guest list will be limited to 2 guests per child.
 - Only administrators and the 8th grade team will attend. (And Caitlin Lewis).
 - Looking at logistics, and giving a swag bag.
 - Adding a new tradition that we started last year, with the drive-by celebrations.
 - Thinking of adding a commencement speaker.
 - Graduation will be live streamed.
- Update on Renewal Conditions
 - There are Closing (improvement) and Absolute measures
 - Two things we're still working on
 - Artistics conditions.
 - Quantifiable goals in artistic rubric.
 - Still waiting on high school conditions. We want to find the high school that best fits each student. We know our students and work to figure out what will work best. We need to find out from SUNY if that works for them.
 - SUNY will want us to have a high school match that has high-achieving goals. We want students to be challenged, in high school, but not overwhelmed.
 - Question: how are we defining higher achieving schools?
 - Graduation rates. Academic achievement.
 - We dropped prioritizing placing students at arts based schools.
 - Question: Family survey to gauge best fit. Did we do that?
 - We will need to take a look at that. We're not sure if that's something that SUNY will accept.
 - Active Ingredients Program



- They asked select schools. Test scores don't capture all of the programs that enable students to have success.
- We will be a pilot school to figure out what the active ingredient is.
- This is led by Dr K. Willow, Ms Frank, and Elisa.
- Arts integration on Tuesdays and focusing on well-being.
- Note: this is a big program nationwide. SUNY strongly encouraged CSA to do this because of our social emotional learning.
- The goal is to measure successes that are not strictly test and academic-based.
- Math curricula
 - Using EnVision Common Core.
 - We start new topics with kids, and allow them to figure out a problem on their own, and then in groups and have them demonstrate their strategies for how they solved it.
 - They talk about a conceptual understanding.
 - It's problem-based.
 - There are differentiated groups.
 - Led by Katherine Benscome.
 - Summer School will be Math Focused
 - Mornings for 3 weeks from 8/2 to 8/20.
- Caitlin added:
 - Working with Relay.
 - Best thing that came out of it: she and Katherine and her are creating a plan and will present it to other teachers.
 - The questions they'll answer: How do we create the best lessons for our students? We can do it for Gen Ed, and also wanted to extend it to SpEd.
 - Question asked: Is there accompanying skill work?
 - There's an online quiz book and a paper workbook.
- Summer program:
 - Trying to figure out who to invite.
 - Trying to figure out how to gauge if 6th graders will need it.
- Executive Session
- New Business (none)
- **Motion to adjourn May 2021 meeting At 7:33pm**
 - Trustee Osse motioned to adjourn; seconded by trustee Hall