

SCHOOL IN THE SQUARE CHARTER SCHOOL

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

September 26, 2017

MEETING MINUTES

Location: School in the Square

Board Members Present (in alphabetical order): Michelle DeLong, Scott Gottlieb, Scott Levenson, Aaron Listhaus, Michael Pollack, Walter Rendon, Joel Talish, Mindy Tucker

Other attendees: Carrie Amon, Alan Dichter, Peter Gatof, Evan Meyers

Materials provided to the Board prior to the meeting: August financials, Board meeting presentation, dashboard, Executive Director report and August meeting minutes

BUSINESS MEETING:

Ms. Tucker opened the meeting.

Committee Reports:

Governance Committee ("GC"). Ms. DeLong reviewed topics to be discussed at the October 15 retreat. Mr. Meyers discussed his progress in pursuing other new potential Board members. Mr. Rendon discussed meeting with Community Board 12 to discuss S2 as well as meeting with new leader of Robin Hood. Mr. Rendon had a conversation with Wes Moore, CEO of Robin Hood over the summer and will follow up soon.

Academic Committee. The board formally welcomed Mr. Dichter back. This year the academic committee will to quarterly reviews of performance and test data. (Last year the committee did reviews on a trimester basis). Ms. Amon discussed the test scores and academic challenges facing current sixth grade students. She discussed small group and other strategies being used to help students.

Finance Committee. Ms. Tucker noted that we are on track to receive audited FY17 financials before next month's board meeting. Mr. Tucker stated that we are looking into new banks for S2 accounts. We are considering large banks with branches close to the school. Ms. Tucker reported that 6 schools have assigned their leases and are receiving increased funding that includes operating expenses. Mr. Gottlieb addressed negotiations with the church. The church has tried to renegotiate agreed upon terms. He will meet with church again and reiterate that we are not renegotiating agreed upon issues. The budget has not significant changes this month. We still have \$150,000 from Walton grant which will be used for extended day programming and construction this year. We still have \$35,000 from the CSD start up grant due to the school. Ms. Tucker agreed to present a proposal around the appropriate thresholds for Board approval for budget changes.

Development Committee. Mr. Talish noted that the "Back to School" fundraiser will be on November 13 at the school. A Friendraiser event has been set for November 20th. The fundraiser will also serve as

a thank you to donors and as a way to show off the school. Mr. Talish reminded trustees to get lists of invitees to him so that invitations can be sent out expeditiously.

Board on Track Assessment. Mr. Pollack reviewed the BOT assessment that the board took in the spring. He noted that we are way ahead of most boards at this stage of our development. As a board we are relatively happy with Finance, Academic Oversight and how we support Mr. Meyers. We believe we can improve on Board recruitment. The Board will look more deeply at the results at a later date.

ED Report: Mr. Meyers reviewed the Executive Director report. Mr. Meyers told the board that doubling the size of the school has been a seamless process. The children are all engaged in the program. Curriculum night was successful. Despite the long day, parents want more time at school. The school is now open from 8 am – 5:15 pm. Teachers (not outside vendors) supervise the children both before and after school.

Board Votes: The Board voted on the following items:

- **Approval of 8-29-17 Meeting minutes.** Ms. Tucker made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the 8-29-17 Board meeting. Mr. Talish seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Mr. Pollack adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted: Michelle DeLong, Secretary