

SCHOOL IN THE SQUARE CHARTER SCHOOL

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

MEETING MINUTES

Location: School in the Square

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

Other Attendees: Carrie Amon, Alan Dichter, Jennifer Grazel (by phone), Bob Keogh, Evan Meyers, Chelsey Pinke,

Materials provided to the Board prior to the meeting: August meeting minutes, August dashboard, Meeting presentation, ED report, August financial package, ED Roles and Responsibilities.

**BUSINESS MEETING:**

Mr. Pollack opened the meeting at 5:30.

Mr. Meyers presented a description of an S2 student who faces many challenges both inside and outside of school. The board discussed the student, some of the many issues confronted by students in the school, and how the school is addressing those issues and student needs.

**Principal's Report:** Ms. Amon informed the board about a flood in the school the prior week and a one-hour "fire drill" experienced the prior day because of a gas leak in the building. Ms. Amon informed the board that the first month of school has been smooth and productive. The building is filled to capacity with some teachers sharing rooms. The students and staff are adapting to the challenges of the limited space well.

Sixth and seventh grade is having "Prime Time" every morning before academic class time. Both teachers and students like it. Prime Time, advisory and voice are all programs that serve social and emotional needs of students.

Many students receive extra small, personalized learning sessions in reading and/or math for extra help or in "book club" for advanced reading.

**ED Report:** Mr. Meyers reviewed the ED report that was prepared for the board. Mr. Meyers discussed the need for additional space for the school, especially if the school will expand. He has several spaces in mind. Mr. Meyers discussed the mentorship program where experienced teachers work with newer teachers. He also said that he is getting ready to launch this year's mentorship program for students with adults from outside the school.

Mr. Meyers also informed the board that 150 students have signed up for after school activities (with 7 choices available). The program will start shortly.

**Development Committee:** Mr. Talish reviewed the Development Committee's annual goals. He informed the board that the development committee is in the process of reviewing fundraising assumptions and per student costs of the current programming. The November fundraiser has been rescheduled for the spring.

**Finance Committee:** Mr. Keogh reviewed the August financials. Ms. Tucker reviewed the committee's annual goals. She also discussed that S2 will now split funds between Fidelity and Webster Bank so that we are able to receive higher interest rates on our balances in a low risk way. Mr. Tucker discussed implications of Friends of S2 being the landlord for the school and the need for new insurance for Friends.

**Academic Committee:** Mr. Levenson reviewed the committee's annual goals. He then reviewed the roles and responsibilities document completed by Mr. Meyers for the upcoming year. The Academic Committee met with Mr. Myers and Ms. Amon to evaluate student growth as reflected on state test scores and internal testing.

**Governance Committee:** Ms. DeLong reviewed the Governance Committee annual goals.

**Board Voting:** The board voted on the following items:

- **Approval of the 8-25-18 Meeting minutes.** Ms. DeLong made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the August Board meeting. Mr. Levenson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted: Michelle DeLong, Secretary