

The Soulard School
Board of Directors Meeting
3/18/21 held via Zoom

Board members present: Jay DeLong (President), Steve Groves, Meghan Grubb, Ron Kampwerth, Jim Holloran, Jamie Boyer
Board members absent: Basiyr Rodney

Staff: Sarah Christman, Eleanor White, Shenika Bishop

Notes: Eleanor

1. Welcome & Opening Comments
2. Review minutes from:
 - a. February meeting - approved unanimously
 - b. 3/15 3:15 special session meeting - approved unanimously
3. School Updates:
 - a. Fully enrolled for next year with waiting lists
 - b. Will move up from 117 to 135-ish students
 - c. After spring break, will only have 9 students 100% virtual - all others hybrid
 - d. MAP/Assessment updates - Shenika
 - i. T2 assessment update
 1. Process went smoother
 - a. All but one student tested
 - b. More in person testing
 2. Star changes/supports
 - a. Added ability to mark it tested virtually or in person
 - b. More PD for teachers
 3. Using data
 - a. Establishing data teams
 - b. Purchasing more intervention materials
 - c. Improving instructional strategies for students
 4. T3 testing window being adjusted to account for MAP testing times 3-5th grade
 - ii. 3rd-5th graders taking MAP for 1st time starting 4/6
 1. Over 4 days per grade level, a.m. only, over 2 weeks
 2. Start with 4th, then 3rd & 5th grades
 3. Parents will get letter & schedule from Shenika
 4. Special check ins for kids who are still all virtual to have students come in just for testing
 5. We do need 85% of students tested this year, or we have to test additional kids in fall
 6. Test sessions were reduced for this year by about 10 minutes per session
 7. Shenika has gone through training as "district coordinator" and trained staff yesterday on issues such as tech, privacy, etc.

8. Students have done paper-based testing, and after break they will practice logging in, etc. on practice online tests
9. Can do projected MAP score predictions through STAR testing - our STAR results indicate that our MAP scores will be at or above the goals we set with UMSL as part of our Performance Contract
 - a. Concern with students scoring "below basic" - how will tiered interventions help these students perform better
- e. Summer School
 - i. Will be offering for first time
 - ii. 5 weeks in June/early July, mornings only
 - iii. Have surveyed parents and staff
 1. Estimate 40-50 students, 4 teachers
 2. Will receive funding from the state that will cover costs
4. School Calendar update
 - a. We used 1 snow day this year, so want to shift school calendar to officially move last day of school to Wed. 5/26
 - i. Approved unanimously
5. Homelessness Policy update
 - a. Remove "foster care" wording to comply with DESE regulations
 - i. Approved unanimously
6. Finance Committee update - Jamie
 - a. Has reviewed financials with Shannon at Finance Committee meeting earlier this month
 - b. We continue to be in a strong position financially based on conservative budgeting
 - c. Audit has been received by DESE and they will provide us double in March
 - d. Move to approve March financials - approved unanimously
 - e. Salary increases - Finance Committee and Executive Director recommend 4% salary increase for 2021-22 school year contracts
 - i. Typically do a 1-3% increase annually
 - ii. This year, we only offered 1% due to pandemic concerns
 - iii. We continue to be in the bottom of the salary range, statewide
 - iv. Salary increases can be covered by increase in enrollment
 - v. Move to approve 4% salary increases - approved unanimously
7. Board calendar change
 - a. Need to shift meetings to allow Finance Committee time to review financials prior to board meetings
 - i. Move Financial Committee meetings to 4th Tuesday of the month, and the Board Meetings to the 4th Thursday of the month
 - ii. Review personal calendars and notify Sarah/Jay of any scheduling conflicts within the next week
 1. If no conflicts, will move meetings starting in April
8. Board Summit planning
 - a. Sat. 3/27 9:00-12:00, via Zoom
 - b. Will send materials ahead of time for review
 - c. Will consider goals and discuss what board role will be in setting and achieving goals and make plans for next steps
9. Adjournment