

The Soulard School
Board of Directors Meeting
8/26/21, 1:00 held via Zoom

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

Staff: Sarah Christman, Eleanor White

Observers/guests:

Notes: Eleanor

1. Welcome & Opening Comments - highlight new agenda format
2. Review consent agenda
 - a. Approved unanimously
3. School updates
 - a. Back to school on Monday 8/23
 - b. Enrollment update - at 132 students, 2 haven't attended yet, 1 KG student pending
 - i. Nationwide/citywide under-enrollment in KG and spots open
 - ii. We are at 22 students + 1 pending. Goal was 24.
 - iii. Enrollment overall very strong, still getting calls about open spots
 - c. Back-to-school picnic in Tower Grove Park last Friday
 - d. Great Professional Development week 8/16
 - e. Decision to keep main classrooms in building and shifted extended core at Gene Slay's Girls/Boys Club.
4. Updated MOCAP policy includes more detailed processes
 - a. Approved unanimously
5. Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) funding request review
 - a. Requesting \$**** in iPads, Chromebooks and MacBooks for students and staff, as well as hotspots for students
 - b. If we receive these devices, we will need to subcontract some tech support/set up/inventory to someone
 - c. ECF only funds up to \$400/device, and does not include software licenses or monitoring
 - d. Requesting \$36,000 in unbudgeted funds to support this tech plan.
 - i. How long does this get us through before we have to update again?
 1. Do need to look more closely at long-term plans - is it better to buy or lease? Etc.
 - ii. Approved unanimously
6. Committee reports
 - a. DEI Committee - Meghan
 - i. Now DEIB (diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging).
 - ii. 4 members so far - Meghan, Jacci (Studio Arts teacher/parent), Becky Biermann (parent), Sarah.

- iii. Still seeking more members, including building out diversity of committee
- iv. Over summer, sought proposals for equity audit.
 - 1. Signed contract with Sherita Love of Education Equity Center of St. Louis to do audit
 - a. 2 part audit -
 - i. Part 1 - This fall - Focus groups discuss school needs
 - ii. Part 2 - Next year - Capacity building w/ staff and students to create anti-bias/anti-racist curriculum
 - 2. Role of board in audit - auditors may attend board meeting, request board member survey, discuss findings
 - b. Other committees - will meet this month
- 7. Board Professional Development Plan draft
 - a. Based on board surveys from last year - focus on topics board stated they wanted more training in
 - i. Would welcome suggestions for other experts
- 8. Next meeting - Thurs. 9/23
- 9. Adjournment