

The Soulard School  
Board of Directors Meeting  
6/22/23, 4:00pm held via Zoom

Board members present: Jay DeLong (president), Steve Groves (secretary), Jamie Boyer, Pam Retzlaff, Anne Kraus, Ron Kampwerth

Board members absent: Jamie Boyer

Administrators/presenters: Sarah Christman (executive director), Eleanor White (communications & operations), Samantha Fisher (development), Shenika Bishop (principal)

Guests: Tad Hartmann (UMSL), Sherrell Hendrix, Ann Fisher-Jackson & Nava Cantor (Gladiator Consulting)

Notes: Eleanor

1. Roll Call (4:03)
2. Welcome & Opening Comments - Sarah, Jay
3. Consent Agenda
  - a. Finance Committee reviewed May Financial Statements, Check Register and Finances Dashboard - recommend approval by the board
    - i. Note that DESE made \$60,000 prior year adjustment on May payment - still waiting for DESE to explain the reason for adjustment
  - b. Vote to approve Consent Agenda - approved unanimously
4. School Related Items - Sarah
  - a. Fully enrolled for 2023-24 - 142 students (compare to 128 at end of 2022-23)
    - i. 2 students away from being completely maxed out for our class size
  - b. Attendance
    - i. Ending year at 93% attendance
    - ii. Pre-pandemic rates were closer to 96%
  - c. Staffing update
    - i. Anticipate hiring 3 new classroom teachers
      1. 1 hired so far, 1 contract pending, other interviews in the works
    - ii. Looking for 1 new special education
    - iii. Hired 1 part-time Studio Art teacher
5. Strategic Plan - Sherrell Hendrix
  - a. Review mission/vision/purpose statements, impact statements, goals
  - b. Q&A
  - c. Vote to approve Strategic Plan - approved unanimously
6. Finance Committee
  - a. Review 2023-24 budget
    - i. Based on 134 students - we currently have 142 enrolled, but numbers could change, so built budget conservatively
    - ii. Includes \$300,000 donation from SEC
    - iii. Includes teacher salary increases, increases in sped services, new teacher, purchased curriculum, etc.
    - iv. Able to maintain other programming/purchases that were previously largely grant-funded
    - v. Includes projected ending cash fund balance of 40%, which is above goal
    - vi. Vote to approve 2023-24 budget - Approved unanimously
7. Governance Committee
  - a. Board self-assessment - all board members complete online by 6/30/23
  - b. Creating formal document to state how recruit, train and orient board members

- c. Goodbyes and Gratitude
    - i. Ron Kampwerth & Anne Kraus both leaving board effective 7/1/23
- 8. Next meeting - Thurs. 7/27 at 4:00
  - a. Potentially skip August meeting and work to set calendar for 2023-24
- 9. Close - 5:00 p.m.

The Souldard School Board Meeting public participation provides each speaker no more than 3 minutes and each topic is limited to no more than 20 minutes except with the concurrence of the majority of the Board of Directors.