

The Soulard School
Board of Directors Meeting
2/23/23, 4:00 held via Zoom

Board members present: Jay DeLong, Steve Groves, Pam Retzlaff, Ron Kampwerth, Anne Kraus

Board members absent: Jamie Boyer

Administrators/presenters: Sarah Christman, Eleanor White, Samantha Fisher

Guests: Susan Marino (UMSL)

Notes: Eleanor

1. Roll Call (4:00)
2. Welcome & Opening Comments - Sarah, Jay
3. Review Consent Agenda - Jay
 - a. Approved unanimously
4. Board Training: Charter Schools & MSIP6 - Susan Marino
 - a. Districts are accountable to DESE and earn a status of either accredited, provisionally accredited or unaccredited
 - i. Charters are only held accountable by their sponsors
 - b. MSIP (Mo School Improvement Program) is way DESE accredits/evaluates districts
 - i. APR (Annual Performance Report) distills everything from MSIP into a single number that can be compared to others
 - ii. 70+ is considered accredited
 1. 85 is even better and can qualify charters for 10 year renewal (not just 5 year)
 - iii. MSIP6 cannot be compared to MSIP5
 1. But we never got an APR score under MSIP5 anyway due to our start date and covid
 - iv. Is being phased in over 3 years in terms of max points possible
 1. Some points we're not eligible for because we're only K-5 and because we have some very small student groups (Black, Hispanic, ELL, IEP, Free/reduced lunch) - since we have <30 kids in each of these groups, can't get points in these areas
 - c. Points assigned for:
 - i. Achievement status - ELA, Math, Science MAP scores (3-5th grade)
 - ii. Achievement growth - how much our students have grown
 - iii. Success Ready - not eligible
 - iv. Graduation Rate - not eligible
 - v. Follow-Up - ???
 - vi. Continuous Improvement Plan - based on strategic plan
 - vii. Response to Standards - ?? (not until 2024)
 - viii. Climate & Culture Survey
 - ix. Required Documentation - ??
 - x. Success-Ready Students
 1. KEA - show that we assessed all our kg students for readiness
 2. ICAP - does not apply
 3. Attendance - 90% of students present 90% of the time
 - xi. Timely submission of documents
 - d. Overall takeaways
 - i. Student performance is essential (52% of APR) - if students are not performing well, it's very hard to get renewed

- ii. Submitting documents on time is essential (6% of APR)
 - iii. Student group points we are not currently eligible, but might be in the future - might be pooled over 3 years
 - iv. TSS will have 132 possible points
 - v. Continuous Improvement Plan and Response to Standards will be worth 38/132 points (29% of total score)
 - vi. How can school & board deal w/ strategic plan, CSIP and charter renewal simultaneously - much will be repetitive!
 - vii. While distilling a school/district to a single number is fundamentally problematic, it's a reality and the media, etc. will pay attention
 - viii. Cannot discuss draft numbers because DESE has embargoed info until mid-March
5. School updates - Sarah, Eleanor
- a. 2022-23 Enrollment
 - i. 129 enrolled (unchanged)
 - b. Attendance
 - i. Currently at 92% (pre-covid was closer to 95%+)
 - c. 2023-24 Enrollment
 - i. Open House was in late January and was a success
 - ii. Current families are currently completing re-enrollment
 - 1. So far of 113 eligible returning students, have heard "yes" from 99. Waiting to hear from remaining 14. No "no"s yet
 - 2. Currently 67 new applicants
 - a. 45 KG applicants (for 24 spots)
 - d. General updates
 - i. A fall student club worked w/ Metropolitan Theater St. Louis and their play was selected to be performed by pros
 - 1. 3 grade levels will go watch the play in March as a field trip
 - ii. ITEF (Innovative Technology Education Fund) grant \$70,000 this year
 - 1. Have used funds not just to update technology, but also to purchase Plant Waves - hook to plants to hear their biorhythms converted to sound
 - a. Using for amazing integrated lessons about SEL, STEAM, Performing Arts, Studio Arts, etc.
6. Finance Committee - Salary Scale - Ron, Sarah
- a. Met earlier this week and reviewed all consent agenda items
 - b. Reviewed updates to 2022-23 budget
 - i. Main change was that "funding equity" bill passed last summer resulted in TSS receiving \$180,000 additional funding this year
 - ii. Committee approved recommending budget amendment
 - iii. Vote to approve amended budget to reflect additional funding
 - 1. Approved unanimously
 - c. Adding board member as bank signer on school accounts - recommended by UMSL - will be Jay
 - d. Reviewed salary scale draft
 - i. Plan to propose a 2 year gradual implementation of salary scale
 - 1. Will review and approve at March meeting in order to provide info to staff in time for contracts
7. Strategic Plan Update - Sarah
- a. Gladiator Consulting has conducted 5 additional planning sessions
 - i. Identified 4 key areas for growth:
 - 1. Academics

- a. Content & curriculum
 - b. Academic outcomes relating to MAP testing
 2. Philosophy/Culture
 - a. Closely tied to academics but captures the more abstract things we want the students/staff/families to learn
 3. Resource Development
 - a. Fundraising
 4. Facilities
 - a. Short- and long-term needs
 - b. What is needed to stay the same, what is needed to grow?
 - i. Reliance on Gene Slay's Girls & Boys Club building
8. Other Business
 - a. April board meeting to be held in person?
 - i. Would want to consider location
 - b. Development/Fundraising Events - Samantha
 - i. Annual Appeal begins soon - Samantha will be in touch about donations
 - ii. Wine Dinner was a great time
 - iii. Trivia Night on 3/11 - at Franklin Room
 1. Let Samantha know if you want to sponsor or host a table
 2. Together Credit Union is the presenting sponsor
9. Adjournment (5:05 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.

Next Meeting Thursday, March 16, 2023, 4:00 p.m.