

The Soulard School  
Board of Directors Meeting  
7/27/23, 4:00pm held via Zoom

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

Board members absent: None

Administors/presenters: Sarah Christman (executive director), Eleanor White (communications & operations)

Guests: Tad Hartmann (UMSL)

Notes: Eleanor

1. Roll Call (4:03)
2. Welcome & Opening Comments - Sarah, Jay
3. Consent Agenda
  - a. Vote to approve Consent Agenda (June meeting minutes) - approved unanimously
4. School Related Items - Sarah
  - a. Updated board packet now contains updated Mission/Vision/Purpose statements
  - b. Enrollment updates
    - i. Currently at 142 enrolled
      1. Eleanor/Laura following up with families to make sure that everyone is returning/attending, not just holding a spot
      2. Numbers could change in August, but still strong with waiting list
  - c. Hiring updates
    - i. 3 new classroom teachers - hired
    - ii. 1 new studio art teacher - hired
    - iii. 2 sped positions - contracts given - waiting to hear back
    - iv. 1 new p/t OT
    - v. If both sped positions return contracts, we will have no vacancies
  - d. UMSL partnership - Transitional Fellows Grant
    - i. Debra is UMSL fellow to help study/enhance co-teaching model to provide additional individualized support for students
      1. 2-3 days/week helping teachers plan, set goals, provide PD
    - ii. Fully funded by UMSL grant
5. Finance Committee
  - a. Did not meet this month - will provide updates for June/July at next meeting
6. Governance Committee
  - a. Review proposed board meeting schedule for 2023-24
    - i. No August meeting
    - ii. No November meeting due to Thanksgiving holiday
    - iii. Meeting in December moved slightly earlier to review audit
    - iv. No March meeting due to Spring Break
  - b. Board professional development
    - i. Looking at needs based partially on board self-assessment
    - ii. UMSL has some required PD
      1. Sunshine Laws
      2. Title IX
    - iii. Other PD topics

1. New market tax credits or other fed/state/local dollars available for capital needs
- c. Build communication between board and parents/staff - add letter to welcome packet for next year? Newsletter write-up?
  - i. Board members invited to attend
    1. Back-to-School BBQ - Fri. 8/18
    2. Parent Partnership Night - 9/7
    3. Curriculum Night - 9/20
7. Next meeting - Thurs. 9/28 at 4:00
8. Close - 4:40 p.m.

The Soulard 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.