

The Soulard School
Board of Directors Meeting
10/26/23, 4:00pm held via Zoom

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

Board members absent: None

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

Guests: Bruce Hensel, Informed Improvement (presenter)

Notes: Eleanor

1. Roll Call (4:02)
2. Welcome & Opening Comments - Sarah, Jay
3. Consent Agenda - Jamie
 - a. Review consent agenda on recommendation of Finance Committee
 - i. September financials + Annual Secretary of the Board Report (ASBR)
 - b. Approved unanimously
4. Governance Committee Report - Steve/Sarah
 - a. Board growth
 - i. Welcome new board member Annie Lehrer
 - ii. Vote to approve Andrea Hayes to board
 1. Approved unanimously
 - b. Charter renewal update
 - i. UMSL has approved us
 - ii. Final formality is for us to be approved by the State Board of Ed
 1. Scheduled for December meeting consent agenda
 2. Could request to present rather than just consent agenda if we want to show ourselves as a positive example to the board
 - c. UMSL Annual Review
 - i. A lot to celebrate as we review the first 5 years
 - ii. Areas for improvement include better supporting "student groups" (low income, Black/Hispanic, IEP students); building cohesive curriculum, staff retention, honing co-teaching practices
 1. Already identified by school in strategic plan and other planning docs
 - d. Covid Policy Update
 - i. Vote to approve revised covid staff policy - Approved unanimously
5. School Updates
 - a. Enrollment - still at 137
 - b. Attendance
 - i. 2 charts provided - attendance percentage (93%), and 90/90 rule (86%)
 - c. Personnel Updates
 - i. All open positions are now full with hiring of 1 classroom teacher, 1 special education teacher, 1 part-time paraprofessional all starting in October
 - d. School Data Updates - Shenika, Bruce
 - i. Review MAP scores for 2021, 2022, 2023
 - ii. Bruce present MAP score predictor
 - iii. Literacy bill 622 update & Reading success plan review

- iv. Next steps: continue to work with UMSL fellow on co-teaching practices, Grown Your Own \$10,000 grant to implement some after school academic programs
- e. Arriving with all the changes of being a public private school in St. Louis City
 - i. Neither of these issue were budgeted for, SPED and Literacy Plan
 - ii. Bring a small group together in November to discuss resources at every level and the realities of being a small school and connections/decisions that we can make to navigate it well. Will proceed in committees with these discussions.
 - iii. Dec. 14 is the next meeting, will be more audit focused
- 6. Close - ***** p.m.
 - a. Motion to adjourn Jamie/Steve

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.