

The Soulard School  
Board of Directors Meeting  
12/17/20 held via Zoom

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

Board members absent: Basiyr Rodney

Staff: Sarah Christman, Eleanor White, Shannon Spradling, Shenika Bishop

Guest: Bill Mendelsohn & Tad Hartmann, UMSL

Notes: Eleanor

1. Welcome, Intros & Opening Comments
2. Review and approve November meeting notes - approved
3. UMSL Performance Contract amendment - Bill
  - a. Reflects changes needed based on pandemic (i.e. no MAP testing last year)
  - b. *Approved unanimously*
4. Student Assessment - Shenika
  - a. All K-5th students tested
  - b. STAR assessment looks at literacy and math
  - c. Will be tested 3 times per year - September, February, and spring (April/May)
  - d. Computer-based adaptive test, administered in small groups or one-on-one
  - e. Some teachers have already used test results to improve and differentiate instruction -
    - i. KG increasing phonemic awareness using Heggerty program
    - ii. No major surprises - some students low, but we are addressing. Did help further identify a handful of students who need additional support
  - f. More testing in Feb will provide means of comparison and track growth
5. Review Financial Data - Shannon
  - a. Financials
    - i. Balance sheet as of 11/30: \$133,710 in bank
    - ii. 39% of revenues, 37% of expenditures from budget
    - iii. Wait until February for budget revisions, but looks like we may not have to take other budget cuts from state this year
      1. Could be more difficult in 2021-22 based on possible state cuts
    - iv. State has authorized funding based on 2020-21 attendance OR prior year attendance, so even if attendance this year is low, we are stable
  - b. Review November transactions and bank statements - *Approved unanimously*
6. School updates
  - a. School nurse funding through BJC
    - i. Recently learned it's a 5 year contract, with school taking over increasing amount of budget for this position
    - ii. Would be major increase to budget over 5 years
    - iii. Requesting more info about deadline for decision, and what other charters are doing

- iv. Tabled for now
  - b. 3-5th grade return to in-person (hybrid) learning
    - i. Of 50 3-5th grade students, about 30 are requesting in-person
    - ii. Admin have been meeting weekly with 3-5th teachers
    - iii. Families who stay with 100% virtual model should continue to receive great instruction at home
    - iv. Are using a variety of models of teaching for K-5th hybrid that work best for those teachers/families
    - v. Working to ensure that meet all IEP/special education needs
- 7. School staff roles
  - a. Principal:
    - i. ESEA, Gifted, MoCAP, Dyslexia Coordinator
  - b. Counselor/Social Worker:
    - i. Migrant student coordinator
    - ii. (Already Foster Care and Homeless student coordinator)
  - c. SpEd Coordinator:
    - i. ELL Coordinator, SpEd Coordinator LEA Rep, 504 Coordinator
  - d. *Approved unanimously*
- 8. Updated Admissions Policy
  - a. *Reviewed and approved unanimously*
- 9. Liddell lawsuit
  - a. Were informed by DESE Friday that December funding would be cut unless charters demonstrated they were addressing desegregation through programs
    - i. Charters worked with Stinson Law Firm to stop immediate funding costs and DESE agreed
  - b. Will be ongoing litigation regarding this and MCPSA is asking for \$10/student (\$1200 for TSS) to support
    - i. *Approved unanimously*
- 10. Adjournment