



Tuesday, April 18, 2018, 5:30 pm

Namaste Charter School, 3737 N. Paulina, Chicago, IL 60609

Attendees: Cathy Calhoun, Jim Scott, Eric Lorge, Jim O'Toole, Allison Slade, Natalie Neris, Doug Vahey

(by phone). Absent: Michel Mahaffey, Allison Lehman, Julie Clauer

Guests: Myrna Ronold (office manager), Casey (representative from ChiActs)

Agenda

I) Opening Items

A) Call Meeting to Order: Cathy called the meeting to order at 5:50 CT pm.

B) Approve Minutes: Cathy moved to approved Feb Board Meeting Minutes. Jim seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.

II) Public Comment: Cathy Calhoun: none

III) State of School (45 minutes): Natalie Neris

New math curriculum has improved teacher engagement. 95.6% actual attendance / 96% goal. More effort to recruit students b/c applicants down to 198 from 317. Public Montessori school now a competitor in neighborhood. Discipline infractions down by 20% / goal 10%. Parent engagement group formed.

School-wide inquiry process underway. First surveys (results from parents, staff, and students presented), then academic and qualitative data analysis, then theory of action and a 3-year Blueprint by 7/1/18. Survey data shared with teachers. 3 areas of common concern: rigorous academic expectations, caring discipline regarding bullying, timely and responsive communication.

- . B) Charter Renewal Timeline

Natalie will present a timeline at the next meeting.

IV) Finance(30minutes): Jim Scott

- . A) YTD Financial Review

March financials: 2 revenue sources: on budget for student enrollment and shortfall from development (discussed later). 85% of expenses are staff salaries and pension and we are on budget. The remaining 15% is on budget except we are over budget on professional and legal fees.

- . B) Bond Refinancing Options

Finance Committee will exploring some alternatives with MB financial.

V) Development (20 minutes): Allison Slade

- A) Current Fundraising Status

Currently at \$405,000 which is 61% of goal. Projected FYE (in 2 months) is \$471,000 which is still \$195,000 short of what we budgeted for. So we have 2 choices: raise more revenue or cut expenses if we don't want to finish the fiscal year in the red. All spring fundraising plans/events were outlined, as well as some fall events.

VI) Closed Session (60minutes): Cathy Calhoun

- . A) Vote to go in to closed session

Allison moves to go into closed session. Jim O seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- . B) Discuss Personnel Issues

- . C) Collective Negotiating Matters

- . D) Vote to exit closed session

Allison moved to exit closed session. Cathy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VII) Vote on Matters Discussed in Closed Session (if necessary)

VIII) Other Business

IX) Closing Items: Cathy Calhoun

A) Adjourn Meeting: Eric moved to adjourn meeting. Natalie seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.