

SOCIAL JUSTICE SCHOOL

Social Justice Public Charter School Board of Trustees Meeting November 28, 2023

Board Members Present: Pat Brantley (PB), Tammy Tuck (TT), Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio (NRY), Eric Goldstein (EG), Maia Shanklin Roberts (MSR), Caitlin Campbell-Hahn (CCH), Joel Smith Goering (JSG)

Board Members Absent: Dionne McDonald (DM), Aaron Stallworth (AS)

Staff Members Present: Myron Long (ML) Executive Director

Guests Present: n/a

A. Meeting Opening

Roll Call; Establishment of Quorum; Call to Order, Approval of Minutes

TT called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm and established a quorum with 7 board members and 1 staff member present.

TT shared the October 2023 board meeting minutes for review and requested a motion to approve. NRY moved to approve and PB seconded.

Adoption of the October Meeting Minutes:

- 6 votes = yes
- 0 votes = no

B. Activity - Mission Moment

ML called for a moment of silence to recognize the life of Derrick Johnson's mother.

C. Executive Director Updates

- Possible last round (ish) of conversations with ownership of 14th street building; next step LOI and license agreement
- SJS is being represented by Latham and Watkins for this transaction
- Parent meeting will be held in December

Student Enrollment

- SJS continues to enroll scholar-activists with two scholar-activists enrolling this week
- PCSB projected enrollment: 140; originally 150 (reduction is consistent with historical deductions)
- Ed Fest is Sat, 12/2 and we still could use some volunteers!

Staffing Data (9.22.23):

- Currently have 1 position that we are seeking to fill (para pro)

2024 Budget Updates:

- Ed Ops updated the budget to test for an additional FTE needed to meet a scholar-activists IEP needs
- Net income 11k
- Contingency of 50k
- Doesn't include two additional grants that SJS was most recently awarded
- WTU spending plan updates

Problem of Practice:

Myron to name in meeting: Tension between chronic absenteeism and enrollment policy

Context: SJS policy says that we can un-enroll scholar-activists who are absent for 20 consecutive days.

D. Committee Updates

Executive Committee

Board Survey:

- We still need a treasurer and secretary
- As a reminder, the board took a self-assessment survey through Bellwether in late October to inform SJS's strategic plan implementation
- After reviewing the [board survey results](#) and attending the Bellwether-led convening on strategic plan implementation (Nov. 6th), Caitlin, Tammy, Neils and Myron met to debrief the results and discuss next steps.
- **Our takeaways from the board survey:**

- There's some disagreement/discrepancies in board member responses, perhaps because of the mix of long-serving and new board members
- Wins: board members have a strong understanding of student data and school finances (this is huge!)
- Room for growth:
 - Increased understanding of board policies and key documents (e.g. charter, board by-laws, annual audit and management letter, financial policies, staff/family handbook)
 - [SJS Board Manual](#)
 - Opportunity to give the board a somewhat more nuanced/holistic view of how the school is doing (e.g. family/staff feedback, non-academic student data)
 - Opportunity to put clearer expectations in place around what is expected of SJS board members
 - Opportunity to put more structures in place re: how we evaluate and support Myron, and how we monitor school progress over the course of the year
- Proposed next steps:
 - In its December meeting, Exec. Committee will solidify owners and timeline for initiatives to address growth areas above.
 - Low-hanging fruit (e.g. sharing board documents, operational support for board meetings)
 - SY23-24 priorities
 - Board member job description and engagement expectations (NRY)
 - Emergency and planned succession planning (CCH)
 - Calendaring out board engagement on various non-academic and academic topics
 - Longer-term priorities
 - Greater clarity on ML goals and evaluation process

Board Recruitment and officers needed

- We still need a treasurer and secretary
- ML still actively looking for Board members (fundraising and advocacy focus)

Finance Committee

- **Additional Funding**
 - New Leaders Roberts Award 10k
 - CTE Middle School Expansion: 100k (over two years)
 - Pandemic Relief Funding \$20k
- **Audit**
 - Need to review audit in tonight's meeting
 - And vote for approval

Audit Report & 990 Board Approval

- 8 votes = yes
- 0 votes = no

October Financials

- With enrollment shortfall, the PCSB requires that the school submit a revised budget.
- The revised budget reflects an enrollment of **124** students (26 fewer than the original budget), including fewer LEP and at-risk students.
- \$4,835,703 in revenue, a 2% drop from the original board-approved budget.
- \$4,824,888 in expenses, a 1% drop from the original board-approved budget.
- At year-end, the revised budget shows a net income of **\$11,215** and **117** days of cash on hand (vs. \$46,798 and 126 days in original board-approved budget).
- Key budget updates
 - \$254,596 in WTU funding to support salary adjustments, stipends, and hiring of dedicated aid (Jan. '24)
 - Reduced staff to 30 FTEs for SY23-24
 - Reflects new lease accounting rules for long-term building leases
 - Includes contracting of the Mecca Group en lieu of student family wellness specialist

Student Performance Committee

Q1 Grades Updates

- 54% of SA's have a 3.0
- 26.6% of SA's have a 3.5 or higher
- 7% of SA's are below a 2.0 (mostly due to attendance concerns)

In-Seat Attendance:

- SJS: 86.2%
- Sector: 86.62 %
- Truancy: 16%

Student Wellness and Culture Survey

- Staff Perception

Community Engagement

-Facilities Community Engagement

- Political Mapping (Updates on Councilwoman Nordeau + PAVE Parent Rep

-Year Review PCSB Engagement

- Board and Staff Member Engagement

E. Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.