

The Learning Community

Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, February 10th, 2011

PRESENT (11)

BOARD: Sarah Friedman, Marc Greenfield, Janice O'Donnell, Kathy Payson, Polly Ulichny, Roberta Jenkins Winters

STAFF: Kath Connolly, Jeremy Giller, Meg O'Leary, Tag Tanalski, Marie Whitten

The meeting was convened at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes of 12/9/10

The minutes were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes of 12/9/10 was made. The motion was seconded. The Minutes from 12/9/10 were approved unanimously.

NECAP Score Review

Kath Connolly gave a review of the school's most-recent NECAP Scores: We are particularly proud of our performance in writing, in which we outperformed the state average and jumped from a 23 % to 68% proficient! Our NECAP scores are holding steady even as we do

the hard work of growing our school to scale. This reflects deliberate and intensive planning on the part of the team to ensure that strong writing instruction was reflected on state standardized tests. We are also proud of the way our students and teachers use their voices and express their critical thinking. A general discussion of NECAP scores and interim assessments followed.

Bylaws

An overview of the revised Bylaws was conducted by Janice O'Donnell and Marc Greenfield.

The point of the revision was to update the Bylaws to incorporate practices that the Board anticipates adopting in the future. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the amended Bylaws with the changes. The revised Bylaws were approved unanimously.

Board Development

The Board discussed what types of Board members it might be helpful to recruit based on a matrix of expertise and potential contributions. Several possible candidates were discussed. Next steps were set.

Investment Update

Sarah Friedman, Jeremy Giller and Marc Greenfield have investigated several capital management/investment firms. There are some viable options to consider now. The next step is to have some of these people come to the school to discuss the school's investment

options with the Board.

 

Audit Report

Janice O'Donnell gave a brief overview of the results of the school's recent Audit. The Audit is a program audit. It is a rigorous, difficult process. The Learning Community came out of the Audit with no findings which was noted by Janice as remarkable. The Accounting Procedures Manual needed to be officially adopted. A motion was made to adopt the Accounting Procedures Manual. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. A motion was also made to approve the Audit. The motion was seconded and the Audit was unanimously approved.

External Evaluations

A discussion of the Evaluation of the co-directors, which is the responsibility of the Board, was led by Polly Ulichny and Janice O'Donnell. A wider scope for the evaluation was discussed – one that includes considering all aspects of the school. A five-year comprehensive evaluation and an annual succinct evaluation was proposed. The next step will be to issue an RFP to external evaluation companies.

LC Fundraising Event – April 29th

It was announced that The LC will be holding a fundraising event on April 29th. Board members will be briefed as details are determined.

“Meet Your Food”

The “Meet Your Food” series was announced – Local restaurant owners and catering companies are scheduled to come into the school during lunch time so that students can better understand where their food comes from and so that students can be exposed to a wider spectrum of food options.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm

The next Board meeting is scheduled Thursday, April 7th, 2011 from 5pm to 7pm.

Recorded by Tag Tanalski