

Segue Institute for Learning
January 14, 2013
Meeting Minutes

Call Meeting to Order: Meeting was called to order by Angelo Garcia at 5:38pm

Attendance: All were present except for James Setaro and Mustafa Oscan. Nelly Vargas was tardy. Also in attendance were Ashley Swanson, Carlos Miranda, and Ann Manocchio.

Review Agenda: Approval of the November meeting minutes was tabled as they had not been made available to the board.

Head of School Report:

- Angelo reported that the RIDE Site Visit Renewal Report was sent electronically to the Board and the Leadership staff at Segue the first weekend of January. RIDE will not change the content in the report; however, Segue can submit a response and request that their response be a part of the public record. After discussing the report with key stakeholders, Segue will proceed cautiously with its written response as we are in the midst of the renewal process. Angelo will facilitate a PD discussion to craft the staff's response and submit it to RIDE by Jan. 25th.
- There are 20 weeks until graduation. Ms. Blair has been working closely with 8th graders, taking them on high school visits, helping them complete applications and prepare for interviews and tests. Ms. Blair has also been working with teachers to make sure that interventions for 8th grade students based on their NWEA scores are in place. Students should be getting acceptance letters in the next couple of weeks.
- Segue submitted a Request for Expansion to RIDE in the fall and has not received a response to date. The board requested that Angelo follow up with RIDE on this request.
- Ms. Lourenco is starting her principal certification program.
- Angelo extended an open invitation to visit Segue to board members.

Consent Agenda:

- Hope motioned to amend the consent agenda item *Use of Webster Bank* to reflect the *use of varied financial institutions to finance the re-construction of the newly purchased properties*. Lauren seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.
- Hope motioned to approve the *2013-2014 school calendar* and the *use of varied financial institutions to finance the re-construction of the newly purchased properties*. David seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.

Board Business:

- Finance Committee policies: Jesse presented the revised finance committee policies for second read. There were no revisions/ edits made to the policies, therefore, Hope motioned

to approve the finance policies as presented. David seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition.

- Enrollment policy: Angelo distributed a draft of the Enrollment Policy for first read. Ann recorded changes / edits to be made to the policy as a result of board feedback. Changes to the enrollment policy will be made and presented for second read at the next board meeting.
- Board Work Session January 27th: Board members were asked to submit agenda items for the board work session to Angelo by Friday Jan. 18th. We will meet at the Segue Annex. Breakfast will be provided 8-8:30am. We will meet until 12:30pm and wrap up by 1pm.
- Name Change of 501C3: At the recommendation of legal counsel, the board reviewed the Cowden Street Collaborative (the nonprofit branch of the Segue Institute for Learning School) By-laws and made recommendations to amend the bylaws. Ann recorded suggested language changes, including changing the name of the Cowden Street Collaborative to Segue Institute for Learning Inc. Edits to the bylaws will be made and presented at the next board meeting for second reading.
- Social Suspension and Physical Restraint policies: Mr. Miranda presented drafts of both policies for first read. Board members asked questions related to the types of restraint used, staff training, and liability concerns related to injuries of children and staff, etc. Mr. Miranda answered board questions (ex. CPI training for staff which focuses on de-escalation) and explained that both of these policies (social suspension and restraint) have been vetted through staff and have been in practice at Segue with success. The adoption of these policies will allow these practices to be institutionalized at Segue.

New Business:

- Head of School Evaluation: Lauren shared that she is in receipt of RIDE guidance on evaluating Angelo and that she is committed to completing Angelo's evaluation before the end of this academic year. She asked board members to step forward and join her in coordinating this process. Hope and Nelly volunteered.
- RIDE Site Visit Report: Board shared their discontent with the tone of the RIDE report and agreed to submit their written feedback to Angelo by Friday Jan. 18th so that it's included with the staff's response. Overall board members expressed concern as to how this report could impact Segue's renewal and Segue's reputation once it becomes public record.
- Nomination of New Board Members: Angelo shared brief bios for 4 potential new board members. In order to guarantee our loan, the USDA highly recommends that Segue increase the number of board members that actually reside in Central Falls. To this end, the board had been planning to bring on new members to energize the board and to increase the

effectiveness of our committees. This slate of nominees will be discussed at the board work session later in the month.

Adjournment: Lauren motioned to adjourn the meeting; Vladimir seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm without opposition.

Minutes prepared by Lucy Rios.

Minutes approved on:

Date

Lucy Rios, Board Chair

Date

Witness