

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

September 2, 2015

SHEILA “Skip” NOWELL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sheila “Skip” Nowell Leadership Academy was held on

September 2, 2015 at Sheila “Skip” Nowell Leadership Academy, 133 Delaine Street, Providence, RI. Co-Chair Deborah Perry welcomed everyone, declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Deborah Perry, Gigi DiBello, Joseph DiMartino, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Patricia Flanagan, Nancy Wilson, William Walter, Michael Commendatore and Jodi LaFauci.

Absent: Michele Cinquegrano, Misty Delgado, Susan Gerskoff, Toby Simon, and Clarice LaVerne Thompson.

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Co- Chair Deborah Perry requested a motion to accept the agenda.

On a motion duly made by Stephanie Gonzalez and seconded by Nancy Wilson

it was

VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy accept the agenda for the meeting of September 2, 2015.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Joseph DiMartino, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Patricia Flanagan, Nancy Wilson and William Walter.

NAYS: 0

2. OPEN FORUM

Co-Chair Deborah Perry explained to the audience that the Board of Directors will allow for public comment, limited to two minutes per person and beginning with comments pertaining to approval items on tonight's meeting agenda before accepting comments on other topics.

Members of the Board of Directors were asked to give their full attention to speakers but were reminded that they could not engage speakers in conversation or answer questions.

If concerns or questions were raised from Open Forum topics, the Board could direct staff to follow up.

3. REPORT OF THE CHAIR, Deborah Perry

a. Co-Chair Deborah Perry spoke on her transition from co-chair to participating board member. She spoke of Deborah Smith and her influence on Deb's work as an advocate of teen pregnancy related issues.

b. Suzanne Magaziner asked to speak on behalf of the board and thanked Deb for her work and dedication to the school.

c. Co-chair Deborah Perry shared the slate for the Nowell Board: William Walter for Chair, Misty Delgado as Vice Chair, Nancy Wilson

as Secretary, and there remains a vacancy for the position of treasurer.

d. Co-Chair Deborah Perry will continue to lead this meeting and Bill Walter will lead next month.

**On a motion duly made by Stephanie Gonzalez and seconded by Gigi DiBello
it was**

VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy accept the slate for the executive board positions.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Joseph DiMartino, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Patricia Flanagan, Nancy Wilson and William Walter.

NAYS: 0

Report of the Incoming Chair: Bill took the opportunity to commend Deborah Perry and her work in non-profits. He stated that she is the most rare combination of both commitment to mission and vision as well as astute business skills. He concluded, “We are lucky to have her.”

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion duly made by Nancy Wilson and seconded by Suzanne Magaziner

it was

**VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy
rectify and accept Minutes of the
Meeting for August 5, 2015.**

**Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members
voted in the
negative as follows:**

**YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Joseph DiMartino, Stephanie Gonzalez,
Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Patricia Flanagan,
Deborah Perry and Nancy Wilson.**

NAYS: 0

5. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

**a. Bill Walter reviewed the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
and thanked Mike Commendatore for efforts.**

b. Bill Walter reported a Medicaid settlement for \$207,477.43 update

citing Nowell would not receive two quarters of claims. The billing agency, ClaimsPro, had issue with Executive Office of Human Health Services (EOHHS) with three new charter schools that opened in 2013 concerning the interagency agreements. ClaimsPro stated that the interagency agreement had been established in the first submission of claims and EOHHS claimed the interagency agreement had to be filed prior to claims submitted. Bill presented the board with accepting the payment from Medicaid minus the two quarters as well as ClaimsPro not collect the 6% share of collections. He also requested a continuance to use ClaimsPro for billing.

On a motion duly made by Dierdre Denning Norton and seconded by Patricia Flanagan

it was

VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy accept the Finance Committee Report and Medicaid settlement agreement.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the

negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Joseph DiMartino, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Patricia Flanagan, Deborah Perry and Nancy Wilson.

NAYS: 0

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

- a. The personnel committee updated that the Employee Handbook was in final draft and would be ready by next meeting.**
- b. The salary survey would not be conducted by Cindy Butler; we would pursue League of Charter Schools to assist with this.**

**On a motion duly made by Gigi DiBello and seconded by Joe DiMartino
it was**

**VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy
accept the Personnel Committee report for the 2015-16 FY**

**Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members
voted in the
negative as follows:**

**YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Joseph DiMartino, Stephanie Gonzalez,
Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Patricia Flanagan,
Deborah Perry and Nancy Wilson.**

NAYS: 0

7. STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

September 2, 2015 @5:00pm: The Committee met for an hour prior to regularly scheduled Board meeting and created a sub-group to set the agenda for the meeting on October 7, 2015.

October 7, 2015 @6:00pm: The Strategic Planning Committee will meet in lieu of a regularly scheduled Board meeting.

**On a motion duly made by Stephanie Gonzalez and seconded by Bill Walter
it was**

VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy accept the Strategic Planning Committee Report.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Joseph DiMartino, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Patricia Flanagan, Deborah Perry and Nancy Wilson.

NAYS: 0

8. MANAGING DIRECTOR UPDATE

a. Michael Commendatore reported on the health insurance increase over all is 8%. Mike is requesting the board approve a co-pay adjustments for single plan holder.

**On a motion duly made by Stephanie Gonzalez and seconded by Bill Walter
it was**

VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy accept the Managing Director's request that Nowell single plan holders pay a co-pay as well as family plan holders.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Joseph DiMartino, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Patricia Flanagan, Deborah Perry and Nancy Wilson.

9. HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE

a. Jodi LaFauci thanked Deborah Perry for her leadership, guidance and vision in building Nowell Leadership Academy.

b. Jodi LaFauci welcomed the Board of Directors and shared that both vacancies in Mathematics and Social Studies were filled with RI

certified teachers.

c. Jodi LaFauci updated the board that the End of Year Report is due September 30, 2015 and the team was almost finished with the report.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Sec. 42-46-5(a)(2) - sessions pertaining to litigation; reasonably anticipated litigation involving former employees.

i. Motion to conclude Executive Session and reconvene Open Session

ii. Vote to seal minutes/votes taken during Executive Session if disclosure of such minutes/votes in Open Session would jeopardize any strategy, negotiation or investigation undertaken pursuant to discussions conducted under §42-46-5(a)

On a motion duly made by Nancy Wilson and seconded by Patricia Flanagan it was

VOTED: That the Nowell Leadership Board of Directors enter into Executive Session.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Joseph DiMartino, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Patricia Flanagan, Deborah Perry and Nancy Wilson.

NAYS: 0

10. REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion duly made by Suzanne Magaziner and seconded by Stephanie Gonzalez it was

VOTED: That the Nowell Leadership Board of Directors vote to accept the discussion of the Executive Session.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Joseph DiMartino, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Patricia Flanagan, Deborah Perry and Nancy Wilson

NAYS: 0

On a motion duly made by Gigi DiBello and seconded by Nancy Wilson it was

VOTED: That the Nowell Leadership Board of Directors vote to seal the minutes of the Executive Session.

Vote: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Joseph DiMartino, Stephanie Gonzalez, Suzanne Magaziner, Deirdre Denning Norton, Patricia Flanagan, Deborah Perry and Nancy Wilson

NAYS: 0

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by William Walter with no objections.

Deborah Perry adjourned the meeting at 6:33PM.