



ST. PAUL CITY SCHOOL

Board Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2023
5:30-7:00 PM

215 University Ave W, St. Paul, MN 55103
Media Center

- 1) Establishment of a Quorum – Call to Order at 5:33 pm by Michael Dorner.
 - a) Board Members Present: Michael Dorner, Maria Lopez, Dayan Hernandez, Sheila Williams Ridge & Sky Davey
 - b) Board Members Absent:
 - c) Non-Voting Members Present: Dr. Meg Cavalier, Dr. Justin Tiarks, Jaclyn Rehmke, Rashad Watkins and Karl Jentoft (Ten Square Group).
 - d) Guests: Esteban Rodriguez-Hefty
- 2) Public Comments – Dr. Tiarks thanked Dr. Meg Cavalier for the service that she gave to River’s Edge Academy and St. Paul City School for 15 years. Dr. Tiarks wanted the board to strongly consider the backing of Eric Fergen as Executive Director
- 3) Declaration of Conflict of Interest – None.
- 4) Approval of Meeting Agenda with an amendment, including the approval of the Procure Agreement – Sky, seconded by Sheila.
 - a) Michael Dorner – Aye
 - b) Dayan Hernandez - Aye
 - c) Maria Lopez - Aye
 - d) Discussion – None
- 5) Approval of September 19, 2023 Minutes – Dayan, seconded by Maria.
 - a) Michael Dorner – Aye

- b) Sky Davey - Aye
 - c) Sheila Williams Ridge - Aye
 - d) Discussion – None
- 6) Director Report
- a) The Executive Director provided the enrollment picture.
 - b) District Update: Partnership with Safeway and Driver's Education started last week. The Boys Soccer team won the Conference Championship. Dr. Cavalier highlighted the importance of athletics and the relationship it has with mentorship, academics and connection to school. Teachers and paraprofessionals continue to engage in Catalyst as a component of professional development.
 - c) Primary School Updates: Different classes are going on different field trips.
 - d) Middle School Updates: Build positive community, implementing grade level meetings and supporting students with growth.
 - e) High School Updates: Bridge between first and second quarter. Students went to different colleges on college visits and will do the annual "River Mile Cleanup" next.
- 7) Approval of August and September 2023 Financials and Bills; Financials for these months do not provide an accurate picture based on the FY24 Budget Projection created in the Spring; Looking to manage cash flow due to the 10% holdback and ADSIS money that is expended during FY24 that will be received as a revenue in FY25 – Maria, seconded by Dayan.
- a) Michael Dorner – Aye
 - b) Sky Davey - Aye
 - c) Sheila Williams Ridge - Aye
 - d) Discussion – Dr. Dorner asked about the cash balance projections and if there was a concern with the cash balance projection in the month of June '24. Karl Jentoft assured the board that once financials were finalized at the next board meeting the board would get a better picture of future cash flow projections.
- 8) Appointment of Eric Fergen as Interim Executive Director - Sky, seconded by Maria.
- a) Michael Dorner – Aye
 - b) Dayan Hernandez - Aye
 - c) Sheila Williams Ridge - Aye

- d) Discussion – Maria asked what the budgetary implications would be with the appointment, Dr. Dorner talked about Eric Fergen’s salary being offset by slashing Dr. Meg’s salary after her resignation; Sky wonders if the board should move swiftly or not with the appointment, bringing up the question from other staff at school; Dr. Meg said that the appointment of Eric would be project stability for the school, it would also start the process of training the Interim Director before her resignation as well as for him to backfill his position as well; Dr. Sheila talked about her experience with another school board and how cumbersome the process can be and the necessity of moving swiftly in order to begin the full time process; Sky talked about staff not being able to process the news of Dr. Meg’s resignation and whether the board should consider delaying the appointment in order to allow for another internal candidate to step forward; Sheila talked about it being wise to inform school staff about the process of choosing the Interim and the reasoning behind a quick decision and appointment as well as clarity about what the process of hiring a full time Executive Director looks like.
- 9) Approval of September Staffing Summary - Sheila, seconded by Dayan.
 - a) Michael Dorner – Aye
 - b) Sky Davey - Aye
 - c) Maria Lopez - Aye
 - d) Discussion – None
- 10) Approval of SPCS Policy 410 Family Medical Leave - Sheila, seconded by Maria.
 - a) Michael Dorner – Aye
 - b) Sky Davey - Aye
 - c) Dayan Hernandez - Aye
 - d) Discussion – None
- 11) Approval of Procure Contract - Maria, seconded by Sheila.
 - a) Michael Dorner – Aye
 - b) Sky Davey - Aye
 - c) Dayan Hernandez - Aye
 - d) Discussion – None
- 12) Announcements – None
- 13) Motion to Adjourn – Dayan, seconded by Maria.

- a) Michael Dorner – Aye
- b) Sky Davey - Aye
- c) Sheila Williams Ridge - Aye
- d) Discussion – None

Meeting Adjourned at 6:43 pm

Submitted respectfully by Esteban Rodriguez-Hefty