

GATEWAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015 @ 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Board Members Present:

Therese Arsenault, Beth Berliner, Allison Thoreson Bhusri, Cynthia Billops, David Booth, Sapna Boze, Laura D'Amato Contreras, Sharon Gillenwater, Amy Joseph, Susan Kase, Susan Masto, Joyce McMinn, Sharon Olken, Will Parish, Adina Safer, Sue Schultes, Laura Spivy, Phil Susser, Valerie Toler, Aaron White, Julie Wise

Board Members Excused:

Deundra C. Hundon, Lisa Kirkland, Annie Klebahn, Jackie Quella, Suzanne Schutte, Jennifer Tulley, Brianna Zelaya

Board Members not Present:

Felix Chinchilla

Also present:

Chris Hero, Anna Heidinger, Megan Orciari

1. Meet in GHS Garden: Call to Order, Welcome, and Approval of Minutes from March 18, 2015

Beth Berliner called the meeting to order at 5:00 and called for the approval of minutes from March 18, 2015. They were approved without issue.

2. Garden Update with Justin Berthiaume

Justin Berthiaume, GHS science teacher and the head of the garden program, gave the Board members a tour of the garden. He spoke about the garden's origin and what the program means to the students. Duncan Alexander, a GHS student, spoke about his experiences working in the garden and what it means to him. Brantley Jones, the garden's designer, spoke about the garden's layout and the principals upon which it is designed.

Justin thanked the Board for their help and support.

3. Public Forum

Beth opened the floor for a Public Forum. No further discussions or motions were introduced.

4. Committee on Trustees

Beth spoke on Jackie Quella's behalf. The Board Survey will open to Board members tomorrow, April 23rd, and will close May 3rd. This is an anonymous survey for Board Members to give Board leadership feedback, and to help the Co-Chairs with Sharon Olken's evaluation. The Committee on Trustees would like 100% participation.

Sharon gave the Update on Board Leadership. The new co-chair (unofficial) will be Sapna Boze. The full slate will be presented and voted on at the May meeting.

5. ED Report

Sharon thanked Justin for the garden update and talked about upcoming events at the school.

Sharon Introduced Megan Orciari, Gateway's new Director of Communications.

Sharon updated the Board on Gateway Middle School's upcoming charter renewal. The Board of Education vote is on April 28 at the SFUSD School Board meeting. We would like the community to come out in support.

6. Development

Anna spoke about the Gateway Impact Campaign, a multi-year effort being developed to support the schools' strategic initiatives. The Campaign will seek three-year stretch gifts from individual and institutional funders to strengthen existing programs at Gateway and attract seed funding for Gateway Impact Labs. The campaign will run parallel to Gateway's ongoing fundraising programs that support core operating costs needed to meet budget.

Susan Masto gave an update on the 2015 Luncheon. The 13th Annual Matters of the Mind Luncheon will be held on October 15 and Ronnie Lott will be our featured speaker. The team is organizing the Host Committee and seeking table sponsorships!

Anna presented the cash flow to date. We continue to be on track and have reached 80% of our fundraising goal.

7. Budget

2015-2016 Budget Approval. Chris Hero went over the proposed 2015-2016 Budget. He mentioned that the personnel budget approval is the most important step in the budget process. The Board reviewed the proposal for personnel line items, within the context of a balanced budget, and voted to approve them. The line items include:

1. Invest in teachers in their first 8 years
2. 3% increase for faculty scale
3. 4% increase for employees who are not on the scale
4. Program to allow teachers to move across scale
5. College loan payback program
6. Teacher stipend adjustments

Aaron White forwarded a motion to approve the personnel budget. The motion was seconded by Adina Safer. The budget passed unanimously.

8. Open Forum

Beth encouraged everyone to give comments or suggestions for next year's board meetings. Beth said that we covered a lot of issues tonight that may provoke questions or comments and the Board would love to hear them.

9. Adjourn Meeting –Beth adjourned the meeting at 7:05.

Signed: Allison Bhusri
Allison Bhusri, Board Secretary

Date: 9/2/15