

Gateway Public Schools
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Wednesday, April 25, 2018 @ 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Board Members Present: Therese Arsenault, Beth Berliner, Sapna Boze, Sara Byrne, Elizabeth Colen, Sharon Gillenwater, Annie Klebahn, Susan Masto, Farley Neuman, Sharon Olken, Molly Orner, Mary Plant-Thomas, Jackie Quella, Kevin Rafter, Suzanne Schutte, Laura Spivy, Dina To, Julie Wise

Board Members Excused: Akriti Agarwal, Joyce McMinn, Will Parish, Valerie Toler, Aaron White

Members not present: Allison Bhusri, Adina Safer

Also present: Chris Hero, Danielle Ciccarelli, Chanda Guerin, Rachel Kamen

Call to Order, Welcome, Approval of Minutes from March 14, 2018

Susan called the meeting to order at 5:08 PM. She asked for a motion to approve the minutes from March 14, 2018. It was noted that Therese Arsenault was incorrectly marked as absent in the April minutes, so a change will be made. The minutes were approved unanimously, with noted change.

Susan reminded everyone to fill out the annual board survey.

Open Forum:

Susan opened the floor for a public forum. No further discussions or motions were introduced.

Rachel and Beth - College and Community Task Force

Sapna gave the floor to Beth and Rachel, Co-Chairs of the College and Community Task Force. Beth began by giving Trustees a history and context for the idea and formation of the committee. It was formed to support Gateway's current college program, across both schools. Beth and Rachel they gave a slide presentation outlining the work of the task force.

The first job of the task force was to understand how Gateway currently supports students. Gateway has a strong program, and the task force looks to engage the community to support students' college aspirations, knowledge, process and access (College AKPA). One of the task force's missions this year has been to identify short and long term programs and practices to adopt at Gateway.

GMS does not have an official college curriculum, so the task force is exploring ways to support the middle school in this area. Currently, students visit USF and Stanford, and work is done in advisory. Career day helps students understand how college enables them to pursue their interests. The task force talked about having GMS alums come to the middle school, a USF Partnership with GPS, workshops for parents, and beginning the discussion about college course requirements.

Rachel talked about GHS's college counseling program. Gateway High is unique in that it has required college counseling classes. We have 2 college counselors, 4 college visits, SAT prep (Khan Academy), counselors working with families directly, info nights, 1 on 1 help with applications. Some students work with outside organizations.

Some suggestions for GHS include more robust formal SAT/ACT prep, keeping track of GHS alum, a 1:1 volunteer network, more frequent college visits, creating a scholarship database, and involving families in 9th and 10th grade.

The College and Community volunteer program started yesterday. The task force wants to build a sustainable volunteer infrastructure that can grow. Beth added that they have a big wish list, they just need the volunteers.

Development Report

Sapna thanked everyone who came to the Conversations about Impact event and gave the floor to Chanda for a brief development update. Chanda turned everyone's attention to page 7 of the board packet, and reviewed the fundraising numbers and information about outreach to donors, specifically folks who have given in the past but who have not given in the past 2 years. She reported that the Olympic Club Foundation visited on Friday. Chanda gave a brief review of Foundations and Grants. Sapna thanked Chanda and asked Annie and Mary to give the FAC update.

Faculty Affairs

Annie and Mary explained that Sharon shared a compensation update with both schools, last Wednesday, and the reception was positive. Teachers said that it was very clear that leadership has taken their feedback into account. Teachers were glad to hear about taking an additional year to place staff on a scale.

Sharon O. discussed moving to new model next year, and taking the year to place people while moving forward with the part that makes a difference to faculty, an increase in their salary. Sharon presented slides to show how the career stages model targets work, and a breakdown of increases, year by year. She reminded the board that, today, they will only be voting on next year's compensation.

Sharon asked if anyone had questions and there was a conversation about her presentation.

Sapna thanked Annie, Mary and Sharon, and gave the floor to Chris and Laura for the Finance Report.

Finance Report

Laura Spivy spoke with the board about Gateway's 2017 tax return, which the board is called on to approve. She explained that the 990 was prepared by our accountant, and she and Chad Foskuhl reviewed it. She recommended that the board approve the tax return. Suzanne moved to approve and Susan seconded. Gateway's 2017 tax return was approved without issue.

Chris distributed a packet related to the FY19 draft budget. He remarked that this is an exciting budget and a lot of work has gone into it. He reviewed the major budget drivers and a proposal for how we will balance the budget. He noted good news about state funding. Negative revenue seems unlikely at this point. He also presented projections for FY20 and FY21.

Laura noted that Chris is presenting the full budget and future year projections to give Trustees a picture of what is coming up. We predict future years as best we can, but it is difficult to do precisely. We need to look out 3 years when making decisions. She added that today the board will vote only on compensation items, not the full budget. Chris and finance committee specifically recommended to the board a 7% salary increase which would go to 10% if the parcel tax passes.

After a discussion, the board convened a closed session to vote on approval. The FY19 compensation items were approved unanimously, without issue.

Adjourn Meeting Susan Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Gillenwater', written over a horizontal line.

Signed: _____ Date: ___ May 11, 2018 _____
Sharon Gillenwater, Board Secretary