

GATEWAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2016 @ 5:00 PM
MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Therese Arsenault, Beth Berliner, Allison Thoreson Bhusri, Cynthia Billops, David Booth, Sapna Boze, Laura D'Amato Contreras, Sharon Gillenwater, Sam Kary, Susan Kase, Lisa Kirkland, Annie Klebahn, Susan Masto, Joyce McMinn, Sharon Olken, Will Parish, Jackie Quella, Suzanne Schultes, Suzanne Schutte, Laura Spivy, Jennifer Tulley, Aaron White

Board Members Excused: Adina Safer, Julie Wise, Valerie Toler,

Board Members Not Present: Phil Susser

Also present: Chris Hero, Anna Heidinger, Rachel Kamen, Megan Orciari, Danielle Ciccarelli

Call to Order, Welcome, Approval of Minutes from February 10th, 2016

Sapna called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm. She asked for a motion to approve the February meeting minutes. They were unanimously approved, without issue. Sapna reminded the Board about the next speaker series event, featuring Stevon Cook, and invited everyone to attend.

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

Development Update

Sapna turned the floor over to Anna Heidinger for the Development Update. Anna thanked Sapna for mentioning this year's third and final speaker event, and asked Trustees to please come and support this initiative. Attendance and input from Board members helps us to evaluate the series. Anna reviewed the fundraising dashboard; we are at 90% of our goal. She thanked everyone for all they do and their financial support of the school. She mentioned that there will be two Gateway Impact Campaign events this spring: a reception on April 28th, and a second reception on May 5th. We would like to have four to six Trustees at each reception Anna will reach out to Trustees individually. Anna acknowledged and thanked Julie Wise and the GSA for their hard work organizing the auction. They did an amazing job and the event was a success.

Investment Update

Lisa Kirkland gave the Investment Update. GPS investments are down only 3%, which is not bad, considering the current market. She spoke about committee recommendations and the reasons for their investment diversification. The goal for our investments is slow and steady.

Finance Update

Chris Hero gave the Finance Update.

- a) Update on One-Time Funding Projects – Chris reviewed our one-time, mission-consistent funding. He announced plans for a 4,000 square foot STEAM center under the KIPP gym, which will align with our mission of supporting 21st century education. The space will be designed to be used during school, after-school, during the summer, and will be used for programs across schools. The impact on our budget will be minimal, as costs will be spread over many years. We are targeting a summer timeline for demolition. There was a discussion concerning our lease of the school and investing in capital improvements. The head of facilities at the district is a big Gateway supporter. Chris gave an update on GPS and Impact Labs Website development and told the Board that the district has approved plans for the GMS outdoor space.
- b) Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Discussion – Chris reviewed the baseline budget for next year. He explained that, when coming up with the budget, we first put in all the things we know to be true, such as projections of state revenue, projections for enrollment, and expenses. The next step is collecting input from all stakeholders regarding their priorities. He shared the major considerations that our stakeholders have been talking about in ongoing discussions and asked the Board to give feedback. Next month, Chris will come back with a proposal that balances the budget and addresses some of these considerations. Sharon mentioned that we are looking at many ways to support our faculty and staff. Our facilities use-fee (rent) is. The regulations are very clear about how the SFUSD can charge us. It is tied to what their costs are. Chris is using their numbers to justify the cost we think we should pay per square foot.
- c) Educator Effectiveness Grant - Vote – There was a vote on whether or not to approve the grant of about \$60,000 from the state for professional development, teacher training, recruitment, course work, subs, etc. The grant was approved unanimously.

E.D. Report

Beth thanked Chris, and passed the floor to Sharon for the Executive Director's Report.

- a) Gateway High School WASC Update – Sharon thanked everyone who came to the WASC reception. GHS hosted a five-person accreditation committee three and a half days earlier in the month. The committee's biggest take-away was that it is extremely apparent that the focus is on kids and that the focus is across the board and is on all the kids. The committee noted that our teachers really get to know the students and support them. The second thing the committee notes is the excellence of our teaching staff. They were appreciative of the level of reflection and how hard they work to figure things out. Their main advice to staff was, "You guys are really good, and it is important that you realize that." Sharon thanked the schools' staff for all of their work on WASC.
- b) Director of Partnerships Update - Initiatives and Partnerships
Sharon introduced Rachel Kamen, Director of Partnerships. Rachel thanked everyone who attended and assisted students at the resume workshop prior to the meeting. Rachel talked about all of the work she has been doing to bring opportunities to our students.

Gateway students are volunteering in classrooms and on the playground at Cobb Elementary. Rachel and Chad Slife, the principal of Cobb Elementary, developed a training program to teach our students about child development, job skills, etc. Rachel is working to develop a similar program in which high school students volunteer at GMS.

Rachel is looking for ways to enhance after-school opportunities at GMS and develop an after school resource guide.

She is currently building a partnership with Inneract Project to bring a co-curricular in video game design and animation to our school next year. We are also partnering with the SF Maritime Park Association to bring marine biology focused field trips, classroom curriculum to GMS and GHS and a project week offering.

Rachel has been working with Megan and other staff to create a solid communication plan to get word of opportunities to students, via Facebook, student-focused emails, school publications, a searchable spreadsheet, etc.

Beth thanked Rachel for the amazing and impressive work that she has done in the three months she has been at Gateway.

Adjourn Meeting – Beth adjourned the meeting at 7:04

Signed: Allison Bhusri
Allison Bhusri, Board Secretary

Date: 7/30/16