**Hawthorn Board of Directors**

Minutes of Board Meeting 5/16/16

Hawthorn Leadership School for Girls

1901 Kingshighway Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63113

**Board Members Present:** Kathryn Love (Chair)

Rachana Creeth (by phone), Edes Gilbert,

Jason Hall, Sara Goellner, John Ross, Nikki Doughty

**Staff:** Mary Stillman, Robyn Wiens

Raquel Evans (minute recorder)

**Washington University:** Vicki May, Lori Sommers

**Other:** Paul Greenwood (by phone)

The meeting was called to order by Kathryn Love at 5:42 p.m.

1. The Board unanimously approved minutes from the April 18, 2016 board meeting.
2. Budget and Finance
   1. The Board unanimously approved the March and April check ledgers.
   2. Paul Greenwood presented the April financial statements and forecasts through the end of the fiscal year. We anticipate ending the year with a budget surplus ahead of the DESE 3% requirement.
   3. The FY17 budget is in the process of being developed based on a projected 200 students. The biggest changes on the revenue side will be a reduced need for Foundation support due to not having the science lab renovation costs. On the expense side, the increase will be due to adding several teachers and one administrator.
3. Board Reports
   1. Governance -- Edes Gilbert distributed a self evaluation form to the Board to complete. The Governance Committee will assess the feedback and report back at the June board meeting.

Cory Elliott has resigned from the Board due to scheduling conflicts.

* 1. Strategic Planning -- Nikki Doughty reported that the Strategic Planning team has met twice to discuss priorities for the school over the next three years. Topics highlighted are: recruiting and growing talented staff; student recruitment; financial sustainability; student leadership.
  2. Liddell lawsuit -- Kathryn Love, John Ross and Mary Stillman shared updates on the motion to compel filed by SLPS that would redirect funds raised through a sales tax that currently go to SLPS and charter schools so that those funds are available only to SLPS.

The Board took a role call vote (all members presented voted aye) at 6:28 to go into closed session to discuss legal matters affecting Hawthorn. Hawthorn and Wash U staff were invited to join the closed session. The Board took a role call vote (all members presented voted aye) at 6:39 to come out of closed session. No action was taken during the closed session.

John Ross moved that Hawthorn should join the MCPSA consortium for legal and PR representation related to the SLPS/Liddell motion to compel. Edes Gilbert seconded and the Board unanimously approved.

1. Principal’s Report
   1. Student recruitment/enrollment – We have sent out Intent to Return forms and have a good rate of return, though we are hoping that more families will get them completed or they risk losing their spots. We currently have 42 new students enrolled between 6th and 7th grades. Our FB ads are the most cost effective way to market the school and to push attendance at our monthly open houses.
   2. Standardized testing – We finished the state MAP testing and it went smoothly. We will have those results in the fall. Also in May, we are completing the NWEA testing in Language Arts, Math and Science as well as our Independent Reading Level Assessments.
   3. We are in the process of hiring new teachers for 2016-17.
   4. The end of the school year will bring several project based learning units to culmination, including a dance recital, readers’ theater project and Rube Goldberg machine presentations.
2. Foundation Report
   1. The May 3 Fund the Future event raised gifts and pledges in excess of $120, with the final number not yet tallied. The expenses were approximately $10,000.
   2. We have received recent grants from Mysun, Monsanto, MasterCard and the St. Louis Philanthropic Foundation.
3. Executive Session
   1. The Board took a role call vote at 7:07 (all members presented voted aye) to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters, including compensation. Mary Stillman was invited to stay and other non-Board members were dismissed. The Board took a role call vote at 7:26 (all members presented voted aye) to come out of closed session. No action was reported during closed session.
4. Adjournment at 7:26