

Hawthorn Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, September 12, 2016       5:30 p.m.

1901 N. Kingshighway Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63113

Board Minutes

**Board members present:** Kathryn Love (Chair)

Rachana Creeth, Nikki Doughty,

John Ross (by phone), Jason Hall, Jess Portis, Edes Gilbert (by phone)

**Staff:** Mary Stillman, Robyn Wiens

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by Kathryn Love
2. Ms Love moved to approve the consent agenda, Ms. Creeth seconded and the Board unanimously approved.
3. Ms. Portis gave the August financial report on behalf of the Budget and Finance Committee. YTD revenue totals $411,539 which includes a small carry over from FY 2016, public funds based on ADA projection and donations. ADA projected for budget was 180 with 91% attendance; actual enrollment at 172 with 96% attendance rate to date. Expenses total $419,165. School supplies and facilities costs in July and August required heavier expenses in those areas early in school year.
4. Ms. Doughty summarized updates to the strategic plan to highlight STEM and post-secondary opportunities for Hawthorn students. Mr. Ross moved to adopt the Strategic Plan as amended. Mr. Hall seconded. Board unanimously approved.
5. Ms. Stillman presented the Executive Director’s report.

She asked for board approval of the 2016-17 tuition rate for students transferring into Hawthorn from Normandy and Riverview at $10,500. Ms. Love moved for approval, Mr. Hall seconded and the Board unanimously approved.

Ms. Stillman shared the Foundation Board’s decision to set a $2 million fundraising goal for FY 17 which includes funding the school’s operating gap and funds to cover renovation of the basement and 3rd floor to prepare for high school. Tax credits still remain. Grice Group is working on schematic design for the renovation which will begin in early 2017 with minimum disruption to the regular program.

Student recruitment for 6th, 7th and especially 9th grade is an important focal point at this time of year. Efforts to retain current 8th grade students and reach out to other middle schools are in motion. Promotional materials are in the development stages and will be ready in October. Open Houses, STEM Expo and other community outreach efforts are being planned.

We continue to plan for high school and the planning is in the following categories: Student recruitment; facilities; curriculum; staffing (faculty and admin); student life (including athletics); bridging new and returning students; parent engagement.

A new YWLN school opened in Wilmington, NC this month. YWLN celebrates its 20th anniversary in NY in October. One of our 7th grade students and her mother will represent Hawthorn at the celebration.

1. Dr. Wiens gave her Principal’s report.

Enrollment is currently at 172. 6th grade goal is 75, and enrollment is currently 55. 7th grade enrollment is 72 and 8th grade enrollment is 45. We had an 85% return rate. Our ADA is almost 96%. Our free or reduced population is 82%. We currently have 10 students on IEPs and 2 students on 504 plans. We offer outsourced services for students who require services that we do not offer in house.

We completed NWEA standardized testing on September 9. Testing in math, reading and science showed 25% of 6th graders scored in the average to high range. This time last year, our 6th grade cohort 41% scored in the average to high range. We are also using Independent Reading Language Assessment to assess student reading levels. Currently, 40% of our students are 2 or more grade levels behind in reading. To help support students, we have hired a reading paraprofessional who will work with small groups of students to help them improve their reading fluency. We have also introduced Lexia, an online reading tool. We also are providing tutoring by our faculty and by Washington U students again this year.

Faculty professional development in July and August focused on the following: increasing the team capacity around student well-being, cultural competency training facilitated by NCCJ, meeting with a reading consultant for the humanities team, and restraint training focused on dignity for all staff. Individual team members have attended training in restorative justice practices.

1. The meeting was adjourned by Ms. Love at 6:51 p.m.



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Consent Agenda

(Applicable documentation distributed to the Board)

1. Approval of the Minutes of the prior meeting of the Board of Directors
2. Approval of check ledger
3. Approval of “Local Plan for Compliance with State Regulations” – Implementing Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Upcoming Dates at school of interest:

Thursday, 9//5: Hawthorn Families’ Mini-School

Wednesday, 10/19: 8th Grade Night

Tuesday, 10/25: Founders’ Day

Saturday, 11/5: 9th Grade Recruitment Open House

2016-17 Board Meetings, all from 5:30 p.m.– 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise notified:

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| October 10, 2016 | February 13, 2017 |
| November 14, 2016 | March 13, 2017 |
| December 12, 2016 | April 10, 2017 |
| January 9, 2017 | May 8, 2017 |