

Hawthorn Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, September 11, 2017 5:00 p.m.

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

*Our Mission Statement: Hawthorn Leadership School for Girls provides a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment that enables young women from diverse backgrounds to achieve academic success in a college preparatory program and to become leaders in their communities and professions*

**Board Members:** Tim Rowbottom, Kathryn Love, Jessica Portis, Edes Gilbert, Nikki Doughty, Arvetta Powell, John Ross, Jason Hall

**Board Members Excused:** Sara Goellner

**School Staff:** Robyn Wiens, Mary Stillman, Rhonda Smith-Branch, Dalayna Jackson

**Guests:** Vicki May, Lori Sommers

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM.

There was a motion to approve the attached consent agenda, which was seconded and followed by a unanimous approval.

The Budget and Finance committee reviewed the financial dashboard. They noted that while there are shortfalls in local and state revenue, our expenses are below budget.

The Governance and Foundation’s Development committees submitted their written reports before the start of the meeting.

The Governance committee decided that all committee reports will be written and sent with the agenda in advance of meetings. They identified topics for the committee to discuss during the fall such as the role of Board members in Development, succession planning for leadership of Board and committees, committee structure, etc. They also requested continued help from Board members in identifying and cultivating potential Board members.

The Foundation’s Development committee set a goal of raising $1.5 million dollars during FY18. The committee reported that the Foundation will be hosting a fundraiser on October 20th from 6:30 to 9:30 PM and provided updates on its progress. The Development report discussed new funding sources the Foundation had pursued in the previous weeks as well as an update on its tax credits.

The Executive Director discussed the opening of Hawthorn and how excited she was for students to return and for the opening of the 3rd floor for the high school. Ms. Stillman gave an update on student enrollment. There are currently 197 students enrolled; they anticipate reaching around 200. Ms. Stillman highlighted several activities and programs occurring at the school including the computer science partnership with Microsoft TEALS, a field trip to see the solar eclipse, and a screening of the movie STEP for families and community supporters. Ms. Stillman provided an overview of her strategic priorities for the 2017-2018 school year. Her priorities focused on academics, student life, organizational health and development.

The Principal Dr. Wiens reviewed the school snapshot, noting that suspensions are lower than this time last year and that attendance is at 98%. Dr. Wiens provided an update on our student support services and new school programs. She discussed testing results for 2016-2017 and provided a plan for the 2017-2018 school year. Dr. Wiens reported that the scores in math and reading improved from last year to this year and that students who were starting their 3rd year at Hawthorn showed the most growth. To further improve math scores, Dr. Wiens is adding new tools for the math department to utilize.

Ms. Nikki Doughty discussed the strategic plan as it related to student learning.

The board meeting adjourned at 6:39 PM.



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Consent Agenda

(Applicable documentation distributed to the Board)

1. Approval of the Minutes of the prior meetings of the Board of Directors
2. Check Ledger