

Hawthorn Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, October 9, 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 Present:** Kathryn Love, Edes Gilbert, Sara Goellner, Jason Hall, Chris Motley, Jessica Portis, Arvetta Powell, and Tim Rowbottom

**Board Members Excused:** Nikki Doughty, John Ross

**School Staff:** Robyn Wiens, Julie Hercules, Kaleigh Lawrence, Adrieanne Watkins, and Rhonda Smith-Branch

**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 YTD financial dashboard. The Committee Chair noted that there are shortfalls in local and state revenue due to lower contributions and to timing of governmental payments related to student enrollment/atttendances.  For expenses for fiscal year to date, the School is over budget on classroom supplies and under budget on plant operations; other expense categories are on target.

The Executive Director and the Foundation Chair each submitted written reports in advance of the meeting.  The Executive Director provided highlights from the first two months of school related to students and staff and identified upcoming events and needs, as well as enrollment-related matters for the Board to consider in the future. The Foundation Report provided an update on fundraising in the first quarter of FY18 and reminded the board about the October 20 fundraiser.

Dr. Wiens reviewed the school snapshot, noting that suspensions are about the same as last year and that there has been a steady increase in the number of students with IEPs, 504 plans and in evaluation for the same.  We are spending more per student than other charter schools.  Enrollment stands at 202 with about 95% attendance.  She also discussed faculty hiring and described that the MicroSoft Teals program is going well.

The Board discussed initiatives identified in the strategic plan relating to student life.  Dean of Students Julie Hercules presented information on student experiences including high school leadership, sisterhood and extracurricular activities and school behavior policies.  The Board supports the school’s efforts to maintain a focused learning environment, with student discipline decisions being made against that backdrop.

The Board then kicked off a strategic planning discussion of enrollment/facilities planning.  Tim Rowbottom and Dr. Wiens will undertake classroom utilization modeling.  We are going to analyze where are students live, what schools they come from, where we see attrition and our competition to prepare for the 2018-19  school year.

The board meeting adjourned at 6:45 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