

Hawthorn Board of Directors Meeting  
Monday, August 13, 2018 8:00 a.m.  
1901 N. Kingshighway Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63113

**Board Members Present:** Rachana Creeth, Angell Farley, Edes Gilbert, Jason Hall, Kathryn Love, Jessica Portis, Arvetta Powell, Mary Stillman By phone: Chris Motley, John Ross

**Guests:** Lori Sommers, Vicki May, Paul Greenwood (by phone)

**Hawthorn Staff:** Raquel Evans, Sheri Miller, Robyn Wiens

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m.

The motion to approve the consent agenda was made, seconded and followed by unanimous approval.

The Finance Committee reviewed the monthly and annual financial reports. The school ended FY18 with a \$94,000 loss which was just under the forecast. On June 30, the school had an 8% fund balance which provided 30-days cash on hand. Expense management was strong for FY18 and good communication regarding revenue drivers and revenue projections resulted in no surprises. Because enrollment is falling short of target for the coming school year, we will need to revisit the budget for the year as we get more accurate enrollment numbers. Going forward, the Board understands there will be more of a time lag between month end financials and board meetings, and the Board agreed to review monthly financials on a different timeline -- for example, June financials will be reviewed at the August board meeting.

The Governance Committee met in early August to compile results of the Board Self-Evaluation. There was strong participation and the results were very positive. Overall, the Board identified focusing on the leadership transition as being its first priority for the coming year, with the understanding that the Board would support new leaders in new roles. Board members also expressed a desire for more focused meetings with tighter reporting from committees. The Governance Committee will work on establishing Board goals for the year and also review issues related to compliance with Sunshine Laws as it relates to committee work.

The Development report included a summary of end of year results for FY18. Because public funding is based on prior year's enrollment for the first few months of the fiscal year, revenue can be tight in the early months of the school year and the Development team emphasized the importance of board members making annual gifts before the end of the year, if possible. The Development team will be submitting a request for NAP tax credits in early September to support the raising of funds for future renovation of the basement and gym floor.

A motion to approve resolutions provided from Bank of America and Commerce Bank to name Dr. Sheri Miller as an authorized account user was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Dr. Miller presented to the Board on her top strategic priorities for the coming year which were tied to and derived from the school's strategic plan. She highlighted the goal of becoming a high

performing organization. She also discussed the leadership teams she has put in place, a variety of accountability measures to review our work, and the importance of using data to inform areas of focus. Dr. Miller also shared the timeline for the school to move forward in partnership with the Opportunity Trust to dig deeply into current practices at the school and develop a strategic plan moving forward.

Following a discussion of expanding our current enrollment policy, a motion was made and seconded to ratify a change in the enrollment policy to allow students to enroll in 8th and 10th grades.

Dr. Wiens provided an update on planning for the upcoming year. She announced that the school is fully staffed for the year and that the new faculty bring experience in classroom teaching and curriculum writing. We have one TFA corps member this year. With the expansion into 10th grade, the school will offer the following new courses this year: Health Education, Algebra 2, Chemistry, AP Computer Science Principles, Personal Finance and 9th grade ELA workshop. Morning Meeting will not be held every day and in its place will be monitored independent reading time.

Dr. Wiens also summarized new processes for addressing student behaviors and new counseling supports. She reviewed how the professional development for staff had been structured prior to school's opening, including proactive planning for students with IEPs or 504 plans.

A motion to go into Executive Session was made and seconded and a roll call vote was recorded with individual votes of "Aye" from each of the following Board Members: Rachana Creeth, Angell Farley, Edes Gilbert, Jason Hall, Kathryn Love, Jessica Portis, Arvetta Powell, John Ross, Mary Stillman.

After a closed discussion, and a roll call vote mirroring that listed in the prior paragraph to exit Executive Session, it was reported that no action was taken during the session.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.



## Hawthorn Board of Directors Meeting

### Consent Agenda

(Applicable documentation distributed to the Board)

1. Approval of the Minutes of the July 2018 meeting of the Board of Directors  
(circulated)
  2. Approval of Check Ledgers  
(circulated)
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