



Hawthorn Board of Directors Meeting
August 17, 2020
1901 N. Kingshighway Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63113

Regular Meeting

Board Members Present: Kathryn Love (Chair), Liz Buchman, Rachana Creeth, Mil Galvin, Edes Gilbert, Alex Pearson, Mary Stillman

Hawthorn Staff Present: Daphne Robinson, Alisa Bennett-Hart

Others Present: Sierhah Price, Kristie Skor, Claire Byrne, Rose Windmiller

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Kathryn Love.

Sierhah Price of EdOps and Rachana Creeth gave the Finance Committee Report.

Current state of finances meet Wash U and DESE requirements. Cash on hand is 30 days. A budget was deferred given the current state of flux with enrollment, ADA calculation, DESE payment amount and potential return to campus. There were questions about the check register and routine expenditures with vendors. Board requested that finance team either provide a list or add memo line to check register to identify the services that each vendor provides. The finance report was accepted.

Daphne Robinson gave the Head of School Report.

Head of School Robinson reported that less than 10 families did not return their computers at the end of the year. 70 + families have registered for the school year and picked up supplies. Walks-in and website enrollments continue and scholars are being entered into Infinite Campus. Robinson and Galvin are working on developing the Head of School's 2020-21 goals; generally they will cover the following:

- **Academic achievement through assessment tests:** NWEA Assessment and a Hawthorn-created summative assessment.
- **Enrollment, Recruitment and Retention:** see above

- **Staffing – Retention, Staff Culture and Professional Development:** middle and end of year surveying
- **Budget:** operating school within budget.

Tim Rowbottom assessed school maintenance needs and most of the list has been/will be addressed.

The instructional plan for school year has changed from hybrid model to 100% virtual. Robinson is regularly checking in with staff individually and planning to use surveys, transparency and protocols to keep staff feeling connected and supported. World Wide Technology provided terrific technology training to staff, parents and students. Curriculum for the various grades and subjects was discussed. The board shared ideas around making family and staff comfortable with a future return to in-person instruction.

Dr. Echols, the City health commissioner, has signed off on Hawthorn’s Infectious Disease Plan.

The consent agenda with the prior meeting minutes was moved (with the addition of the word “discussed” which was inadvertently omitted), seconded and approved. The board deferred approval of the check register until the next meeting.

Mary Stillman gave the Foundation report.

- 8/13/20 – Foundation hosted “Challenges facing North St. Louis” webinar. Over 120 attended the talk on history of solutions for racial inequities in St. Louis. Foundation staff will send link board to use as fundraising tool with their network.
- Senior 1st Day Video – high school seniors will film and Captiva will use the footage to produce a virtual yearbook.
- Potential partnership with Liz Buchman to produce an outside mural using social distancing
- Megan Clinton is working on creating an outdoor classroom should it be needed.
- The challenge with fundraising is connecting donors to the spirit of the school given the constraints of pandemic.

The Board then approved a motion by following roll call vote to enter Closed Session to discuss legal (§ 610.021(1) RSMo.) and personnel (§ 610.021(3) and (13) RSMo.) matters.

Liz Buchman - aye
 Rachana Creeth -- aye
 Mil Galvin - aye
 Edes Gilbert -- aye

Kathryn Love – aye
 Alex Pearson - aye
 Mary Stillman – aye

A resolution to exit the Closed Session was approved by the following roll call vote:

Liz Buchman - aye

Rachana Creeth -- aye

Mil Galvin - aye

Edes Gilbert -- aye

Kathryn Love – aye

Mary Stillman – aye

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:32 p.m. *Recorded by Alisa Bennett-Hart*