



Hawthorn Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, November 16, 2020 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
1901 N. Kingshighway Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63113 Via Zoom:
<https://zoom.us/j/5813822665>

Regular Meeting

Board Members Present: Kathryn Love (Chair), Liz Buchman, Rachana Creeth, Nikki Doughty, Mil Galvin, Edes Gilbert, Sara Goellner, Angell Farley Jackson, Alex Pearson, Mary Stillman, John Ross

Hawthorn Staff Present: Daphne Robinson, Alisa Bennett-Hart

Others Present: Sierhah Price, Lori Sommers, Doug Thaman, Christy Moreno

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

Christy Moreno, Bilingual Director of Advocacy at the Missouri Charter Public School Association (MCPSA) was introduced. Ms. Moreno, based in Kansas City, described her and MCPA's roles serving families. She also outlined the MCPSA's efforts with respect to charter school funding equity, explaining that charter schools receive \$600–\$800 less funding per student than public school students. She also described charter schools' commitments to transparency, board training, and financial oversight.

The Finance Committee Report was led by Rachana Creeth and Sierhah Price, who described variances from the approved budget and other financial matters. The Board accepted the finance report.

The Governance Committee Report was given by Edes Gilbert. The committee is working on succession planning for officers, adding new board members, updating materials in the board manual, and a mid-year review of the goals with the Head of School.

The Consent Agenda was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Daphne Robinson gave the Head of School update. She described that approximately half the school's students have opted for in-person learning. She described and the board discussed the educational program challenges during the pandemic. She discussed technology challenges for students and teachers. The job description for the Director of Recruitment and Enrollment Management has been developed and will be circulated broadly.

The Board discussed the follow up steps from the October board meeting's SWOT Analysis. The Board is working on these matters:

1. Teacher pipeline initiatives
2. Teacher/Staff retention polices and approaches (including benefits/compensation)
3. High School: How do we make small size a plus? (immediate and longer-term visions)

4. Wrap Around resources for parents and students (big vision and then scaled plan to implement)
5. Transportation exploration (possibly include other creative ways to draw students from across the city)
6. Washington University partnership: how can we work even better together?

The Board member members split into three Zoom break out rooms to discuss: (1) Teacher pipeline and teacher/staff retention, (2) Wraparound resources, and (3) Washington University partnership.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:34 p.m. Recorded by Alisa Bennett-Hart