



Board Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2013 – 6:00 – 8:00pm, Crawford Elementary Community Center

Board Members Present:

Taishya Adams
Angie Ham
Ryan Harrison
Dayna Norman
Chelsea Yost

Others Present:

Jennifer Douglas, School Leader

1. Opening Business

- Meeting called to order around 6:05pm.
- Approval of agenda: Motion to approve made by Ryan Harrison, seconded by Chelsea Yost. Motion passed unanimously (MPU).
- Approval of minutes from Sept 12, 2013 Board Meeting: Motion to approve minute made by Chelsea Yost, seconded by Ryan Harrison. MPU.
- Public Comment: Taishya Adams charged the Board to step up and fully commit to the work before us. Recent interviews have shown the interest in NLCHS and we can't let the momentum slip away. All board members present committed to respecting timelines and working hard.

2. Authorization

- Authorization through CSI vs. APS: Given that APS can't provide a facility, we will most likely go with CSI. Motion to select CSI as authorizer of choice made by Ryan Harrison, seconded by Chelsea Yost. MPU.
- Brief review of the budget raised the following questions:
 - Professional development service contracts show 3% increase per year – is this based on number of students? How is this calculated?
 - Budget reflects insurance, but has a vehicle/van been budgeted?
 - Food service?
 - Non-capital equipment refers to a "set of laptops" – how many? What type?
 - Transportation needs – should we include field trips and internships?
- General discussion of the interview process: Taishya appreciated the different viewpoints – where CSI had more of a macro view than APS. Jennifer mentioned that the differing concerns from both regarding enrollment were interesting. It was reported Aurora Central had 53 pregnant teens last year. We are already partnering with Colorado Youth for Change as a part of our recruitment strategy.

3. Strategic Conversation

- Childcare and timeline for opening: Our ideal scenario was for use of facility at Central and a partnership with Jamaica Child Development Center for childcare. Knowing NLCHS will not be at Central, and after conversations with a student and the Teen Parenting Program at Arapahoe Ridge High School in Boulder, do we bring childcare in house? It would have major implications for facilities and timeline to open school. Taishya and Chelsea felt opening an early childcare center is not realistic at this time, could significantly delay opening of the school, and potentially slow momentum when excitement and expectations are high. Board members suggested considering all possibilities for partnership with existing early childcare centers. Whatever options we look into, we will approach Jamaica first in order to maintain the relationship. Our new approach is to add criteria in facilities search to either (1) be within a specified vicinity to an existing early childcare center, or (2) provide enough space for a center to move in to provide services. Jennifer will begin meeting with providers such as Jamaica, Clayton, and Mile High Montessori. At the next board meeting, key individuals will be invited. We'll present the ideal scenario, known barriers, and potential solutions. After discussion, board will vote on the issue. This discussion will lead into strategic planning.
- Invite advisory board to November meeting. Taishya Adams will invite advisory board members and organize this meeting.
- Other critical participants: one strategically selected member (Non-Board) from each committee. Each committee chair should send Taishya the person they want to invite.
- Strategic Planning retreat – Feb 2014

4. Board Development

- Committee Development: Review and approval of committee descriptions and goals:
 - Health & Wellness Committee
 - Academic Committee
 - Youth Leadership Council
 - Development and Outreach CommitteeReview and feedback on all committee descriptions and plans were discussed. Committees to revise descriptions and plans and email to board prior to the next board meeting.
- Set up regular meetings for each committee prior to next board meeting [or in the next couple weeks?]: some scheduling conflicts exist, and meeting schedule will be adjusted accordingly.

5. Next Steps

- Next Board Meeting: Taishya to plan next board meeting. Outline for meeting will be sent out in 2 weeks for board review and feedback. Materials for the next meeting should include:

- School overview - an abridged version, roughly 3 pages
 - Committee descriptions and plans
 - Core questions, both academic and non-academic
- We still need:
 - Facility lead; this could potentially be Bill from finance committee.
 - Early childcare lead
- Board needs to take Board Development modules online. Each board member committed to completing 1 module prior to our next meeting. Be sure to check which modules have already been covered by another board member.
- 501(c)3 application fee is \$750. Each board member committed to giving or getting \$107 by October 31st. Checks should be made out to Colorado League of Charter Schools, a 501c3 that will serve as fiscal agent.
- Meeting Debrief
 - Plusses: Free food! Informative discussion and a frank conversation about raising the bar in terms of focus and commitment to the work before us.
 - Deltas: Everyone will try to be on time for meetings; board members will come prepared for meetings and commit to respecting deadlines.

7. Meeting adjourned: 8:01pm.