

NOCCS General Board Meeting
Minutes
January 15, 2014, 6:00pm
1000 42nd Street, Oakland

Present: Carolyn Gramstorff, Mia Birdsong, Erica Mackie, Kate Hayes, Pam Rich, Mike Markman, Ann Gordon, Wendy Barry-Owen, Steve Fox, Adam Howell, Miles Armstead, Coriander Melious , Victoria Folks, Rachel Venning, Laura Geduldig

The meeting was called to order at: 6:10 pm

Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes: Pam moved to approve the December minutes

Mike seconded the motion

12 approve

2 abstentions

Passed

Development and Capital Campaign Update: David presented the Fundraising Board Report.

The Annual fund is now at \$58,500 with a little over two weeks to go. David stated that we are on course toward the \$75k goal. As of January 1st they have moved to 2nd stage and have added participation incentives in an effort to get every NOCCS family to contribute to the Annual Fund. David stressed the need to turn to the Spring Auction and New Ventures goals. He reported that they are struggling to find new parent leaders in these areas. Erica asked if the FTO is helping. David answered that he has a meeting with various targeted parent groups, including the FTO. Erica suggests we invite the FTO to present an update to the Board on their organizational progress. Wendy provided brief update on the work of the FTO. Mia pointed out that there was much lower participation in the Middle School. David responded that, in his understanding, this is often the case due to a fatigue factor as families move through the years of their child's schooling. Rachel asked why the Walk-A-Thon came in 20% under. David answered that there was no parent captain, he was new to his role and organization started a week later. In addition, the initial goal was higher than last year.

Capital Campaign Update:

David shared that a payment of \$35K was made last month and that amount has been made back in the last month. The debt is quickly and significantly reducing.

Education Report: Mahru Elahi introduced herself and presented her Fall Trimester work on teacher development and her work toward building a program to support 8th graders in their transition to high school.

Teacher Development Focus areas:

Self-reflection and cycles of inquiry

Relationship building

Critical lenses on practice

Start small, and move slowly

Substantial change in practice requires all of the above

She reported that they were running an ongoing Literacy-based teacher development. Teachers developed an Inquiry question, collected data and observed in colleagues classrooms, reflected on the process and worked to refine inquiry question. For their 2nd cycle of inquiry teachers are getting more specific.

8th grade transition to high school

Communication with parents

Hosting high schools to share information with the community

Organizing group shadow day at Envision Academy

Growing Edges: Attendance was low at high school information night. Mahru is looking at future steps for improving this process.

The Board discussed and asked clarifying and probing questions.

Finance Update: Rachel shared that she was happy to hear David's development report and the status of the Annual Fund. It was reported that Carolyn pushed back against SPED bill from OUSD and it was reduced down to \$12k from \$40k. OUSD also agreed to not exceed 5% over their budgeted amount. Rachel reports that finances look strong for this year. Carolyn shared that it looks like we are on a 5-year upswing in regard to public school funding.

Director's Report: This was pre-read by the Board. Members asked questions

Committee Updates:

Charter Renewal committee: presented a power point of their progress preparing for the NOCCS Charter renewal that is coming up next year. Pam shared an outline of the renewal requirements and the work they will be doing over the next year.

Community committee: They have looked over the community objective. They are making some recommendations for amending some of the goals. Wendy distributed an information sheet that reflected these proposed amendments in the key action steps. Kate encouraged the committee to focus on how the school welcomes and works with a diverse community. Coriander discussed that defining diversity is an important piece of this work.

Changes: exchanging "the FTO" for "Community Building, Inclusion, and Outreach Team"

Add-Ensure out reach plan for local school population (Hoover/Emerson/Sankofa)

KAS: Recommend to include history of how NOCCS came to be.

Omit: "Resource personnel to support the school in a targeted recruitment effort."

Governance Committee: The committee had to cancel this month's meeting. They discussed proposed revisions to the Bylaws.

Finance committee: Reported that they met and worked out schedules for reviewing the month end closes. They are discussing how to update the Fiscal Policy Manual.

Personnel committee: Reported they have been moving forward with the teacher compensation/overhaul plan. They sent out a survey and 100% of teachers responded. They have collected a great deal of data on different teacher salary schedules. Goal is to increase teacher compensation. They plan to meet with the insurance representative to gather more information and hope to increase teacher benefits. Kate shared that the staff was appreciative of these efforts.

Development committee: Nothing to add from earlier report

Technology: Will provide support for Governance committee project to collect all Board documents. Carolyn reported that NOCCS is acquiring new technology

Facilities: Will be bringing a proposal to the February Board meeting for funding for a temporary play space in the NOCCS parking lot. This will be needed while construction is being done on the park. The start date for this work has been pushed back to June or July. They have created an interim watering protocol to keep the dust down in the park.

Education Committee: Big focus is moving curriculum around the Common Core Standards. Mahru shared that she and Krea Gomez have written a grant for equity work and have begun the planning for monthly professional development focused on equity.

Special Education committee: They scheduled a visit for several reps from OUSD SELPA to visit. They found out that they missed the deadline for Eldorado so NOCCS will stay with OUSD next year.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:52