

SMS Board Meeting January 18, 2017

Board Minutes Tenaya records in Stef's absence:

Board members present:

Randy Flood
Angi Hunter
Tenaya Kolar
Amy Jonas
Phoebe Pilaro
Christine Fonner--director

Members of Public:

Sandy Kelly--accountant
Greg Bloomfield
Greg Travelstead
Don Sammis
Erin Story
Kelly Siemens

Motion to approve of 3 snow days: January 6, 9, 11
Approved--all Aye's

Motion to approve Special Education Teacher Contract for Dena Bauchman

Discussion:

Christine: requirement to remain in special education compliance, salary on teacher schedule
Approved--all Aye's

Christine: Dr. Goral: Confirmed visit with board: Wed, February 1, 5pm
January 30- February 3 visit to coach teachers

Framework Discussion

Christine met with Mandy & Kristin:

- Cost & space inhibitive to do full 2nd KG classroom (2 ams)--tax a lot of resources.
- Am & pm--financially responsible
- Mandy suggested: 2 lead teachers that could alternate by block or by am/pm
- Waldorf curriculum could be decreased by 30 min a day and still maintain efficacy.
- Now extended care is in KG classroom until 2:45--extended care could be put into a portable or a yurt but Mandy's passionate idea is to have am KG class indoors. Pm class full on outdoor.

- Establish a niche that doesn't currently exist. Fix space issue. Speads to those who love outdoor ed. Several people who could be on committee to develop outdoor ed program. + yurt, space to use.
- Fire code issues with yurts--as classroom. Can be a meeting space, but not a classroom. Hub for where they begin the day
- Parents who want all day: yes, but would need to pay.
- Music needs a spot, double track 1st grade next year. Space for extended care.
- 4,5,6 upstairs. Learning resource, library, upstairs.

Randy's framework #'s:

- We have tried to expand, floating at 140
- Framework: growth or model as is?
- Viability to achieve growth.
- Hit a certain scale/number and we have access to other grants.
- when you do grow: education of families, pain of growth

Christine:

- Have to promote KG enrollment Jan 28, 30, Feb 8
- Need clear framework to do so.
- Preenrollment: now until March
- March 1 is Open House (when open enrollment begins)--35 pg application
- Christine: We need to promote 6th grade benefits to 5th grade students. Student leadership program.

Framework Committee will schedule to meet to finalize

- Dual Tracking--at what grades does this make financial sense?
 - Randy waiting on Bloom Foundation to help further with #'s
- Parent Education night--get excited about 6th grade year to flourish.

Christine: compliance issue if we do not complete construction (grace period), which is over. Randy will find out if we are required to finish construction upstairs if we *don't* utilize the space.

Greg T:

- still operating under loan not approved. Cash flow is limited.
- If parents not clamoring for it enough to return a survey.
- Capital outflow--save for another day.

Erin Story: public comment.

Space for music-disaster. Erin has really lost the excitement of the students, so distracted, can't hear each other play, not playing off each other. Not getting feeling of when it comes together. Not teaching them. Haven't grown, regressed. Amount of set up/tear down time is enormous. Losing time to track evidence of growth. Lost a lot of closeness. Yelling, losing voice, huge

problem. Dread it b/c she loves what she does. Feels like a waste of time: 10 minutes of real work in. In feeling life right now: 7-14. Must feel it. Can only feel bases. Not going in. Some have not developed strong will (development from 0-7 has some holes). Work on developing skill and stamina, feels like an impossible space. Overwhelmed & nervous.

Christine: liability on instrument side, people touch them all the time, despite barriers, etc.

Randy Flood: Does Erin know any high net worth individuals interested in music (symphony, SVCA)?

Erin: violin & base on Mondays. Class period: 50 minutes, tune, by the time they go in. + different block of time. Cello & viola on Tuesdays. Wednesdays=everyone at lunchtime. Singing Thursdays--better (no instruments). After school option: better players, small group. 1.5 hours to set up instruments (names on stands, organize music), disabilities, huge setup.

5th and 6th grade orchestra

4th violin in 4th classroom--problem but doable. Also playing flute & singing

3rd grade: folk dancing, flute, singing.

2nd grade: pentatonic flute, singing, some folk dancing

1st grade: 1 hole flute, singing.

Christine:

- Teacher resource room--important.
- Plan B: displace 3rd grade into specials teachers room, (special teachers set up desk in teacher classroom: Spanish, farm and garden, handwork, Ms. Kelly). Doable if no other options. Small feat.

Randy: cannot commit to portable, as we are cutting expenses.

Sandy:

- received 63K short term loans, 6.5K from parent council
- Have not paid rent: if closing at end of month, not sure how that conversation goes
- Feb 15 is when next state check arrives.
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Randy:

- (Jan 15-Feb 15) prorated, refund security deposit. Randy will broach rent with owner.
- Negotiated late payment from Sun Valley: 5K this month, 5K next month
- Buying time with the short term loan, not a solution.
 - Generate fundraising
 - Reduce expenses.

Tenaya Fundraising committee Update

- Major Donors Program did not generate funds necessary

- Greg & Phoebe have not made calls
- Others are complete/still following up.
- Annual Fund Campaign/Parent Appeal

Phoebe:

- Christine needs to meet with Chris-lay out why we need his support for 3 years.
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- Model of having to raise anywhere over 300K/year is not sustainable. 150K great.
- BCSC--strategy to use.

Greg T: Board needs to adapt clear strategy: grow b/c charter commission says grow or other. Financial realities. Clearly announced plan with milestones, objectives. Commit to funding pain curve. Check in every so often, measureability.

Randy:

- Spoke with lawyer Chris Yorgeson.
- Liz Corker resigned. Headwind BCSD
- Measure in front of legislature, about sharing in property taxes. Not this year, maybe next year. Overhaul stabilization levy. Bloom foundation propose Charter schools share in local property tax. If we fail, this is what it looks like: share local property

Greg T: Umbrella lobby group for charter schools. If we can draft a bill, Steve Miller willing to push that through. Board must adopt a strategy that we are going to be around in 2 years. View towards sustainability and survival: no improvements, not worth it to put in effort for legislation, if we may not be around for 2 years.

Greg B: Way innovative school act was funded, if school part of district not one of 4 levy stabilization funded student. Undo stabilization funding formula. Hired Phil Holmer. Significant battle--winnable, but school has to be standing to benefit from the fight.

Greg T: At the end of the day, school gets funding, US constitutional. Plan to survive for 2 years. Belt tightening, not to preclude hope, but not rely on other things. Representative Miller. Boise. Whole charter movement gathering steam nationally.

Phoebe: choice in education.

Christine: Go back through documents: roster of supporters from the start.

- ❑ Communication roster, number of supporters Mary Gervase had from start. Support, energy, programming promise

Phoebe: spend something on strategy,

Randy: expand to 40 kids for KG, burden of expansion. Special needs program can break our back.

Greg T: want people to have demand, create the buzz, more and more outdoor content.

Phoebe: dual track at 15/class

Christine:

- curriculum development: do it well, do it right.
- 7 months to build an outdoor KG curriculum for KG.
- If we want to extend, you have to have the lead time to do it right/well
- Amy: As parent: don't want to see it drop off in 1st grade.

Greg T: Build sustainability and reliability model for enrollment. Before justice from tax base.

Kelly: North valley families key to our philosophy, haven't had access due to transport. Parents pay out of pocket to subsidize transport. If more successful fundraising,

Building Construction Update:

Randy: done with canopy, total for Sun Valley Res. 88K. Change order b/c door hit steel beams.

Levi good to work with. Need some more short term loans to pay remaining amount

Loan approved, \$ sitting there subject to conditions

Fundraising fell short. What are we going to do with fiscal 315K is the conversation.

Formally review Christine: hire 3rd party to do that

Enter Executive Session

Leave Executive Session

Meeting Adjourns 7:26pm