



MINUTES

Date May 20, 2021

6:00 pm

Howard Street Charter School

**Board Present:**

Jared Whitney
Jared Whintey
Erik Davis
Kelby Childers
Delia Olmos Garcia
Leslie Savage

Board Absent:**Guests:**

Christina Tracy
Alicea Tresidder
Robert Salberg

QUORUM ACHIEVED –

*phone in

Executive session on administrator evaluation - 17:30. Discussed results with the administrator.

_____Kelby _____ convened meeting at 18:07

Public Testimony- Miss Alicea wanted to advocate for more dance space at HSCS. Space is a problem currently, including issues with passing time and having to stop class.

Minutes from last meeting approved. Motion by Jared Seconded by Leslie passed unanimously.

Principals report- Covid is evolving and changing in terms of school life. Outdoor PE no longer requires masks. 8th grade play June 12th at Keizer Rapids park can be no masks as long as social distancing is followed. Graduation on June 17th at Riverfront Park. Adults in building can have no masks if vaccinated and no kids. Anticipating five days and full students in the fall. Will return to early release Wednesdays next fall.

Oregon process for budgeting is moving forward so the budget has been evolving over the last few weeks. Salem Keizer got summer enrichment grant that some money comes to us. Use for music lessons for incoming 6th graders. The grant will pay for 83 children to have music lessons.

Additional funding from Student Investment Act is going to be more than what we

originally anticipated. CARES act money also is more than was anticipated. Have counseling and therapy that is part of Salem Keizer through "Stronger Oregon". This is something that we no longer need to budget for. Christina proposes to add current IA who is half time to become full time. CARES act has to be used for improvements that effect the health of children. Looking to use some of that money to replace HVAC.

Christina proposes changes to salary schedule. Current schedule based off of three years. New schedule to match biennium schedule to closer match Salem Keizer biennium budget. Christina mentioned that we start out competitive with local districts however we do not keep base beyond the first few steps for teaching staff. Staff has been in a freeze for the last three years. Christane made proposal to bring them up to current level based on points.

General Budget discussion. We are in the positive mostly because of less building expenses due to Covid and extra money and grants associated with Covid. Projected ADMW is expected to be \$8,576 next year probably budget at 190 even though we will have 192 students and probably qualify for closer to 200. Have to submit budget to OFA in June.

Annex building is across the street, Christina would like to look at using it as primarily a dance studio. Had plans for a dance floor kit has been already budget for the storage shed, reality is the storage shed is too small and does not have the logistics to support a dance studio. Currently the owner of the building wants \$1.15 per square foot, we are looking at something closer to \$.85 per square foot on a 5 year lease. Can be used for fitness, and drama. Also there is potential to rent the space for other groups. Christina pointed out that Dance is a required class for 6th graders. Some immediate needs for School use, panic bars, dance floor, frosting lower parts of windows, and a fire inspection. Erik mentioned that is should be a relatively safe bet in terms of budgeting and projected SIA money among other things. Robert spoke to how the facility would meet needs beyond dance to include musicals, fitness, and storage among other things. Kelby wanted to make sure that we focus on HSCS needs in the new space, as well as make sure that we market the building as Howard Street. Miss Alicea brought up that we do not have space for exercise in the current building for a class size that isn't cohorted. Board hoping to schedule a time to see building and take next steps.

Christina talked about updating our math curriculum. Currently we have singapore math for 7th and 8th grade but not 6th grade. Staff has come back with a new curriculum that has 6th, 7th, and 8th grade units. Curriculum includes workbook and an online component. With the purchase of curriculum it includes a new workbook each year for each student. Curriculum is MATHia. Board was shown example of the online component. Not based on grade level but on how students are performing and adjusts accordingly. More concepts based math instead of calculation based math. Will show to kids next week, hoping to ask for approval from board next month.

Financial Committee- Erik spoke to current budget and will be working with Brooke to have financials laid out for our debt to service ratio in the next three to five years. Erik pointed out that we are in a strong position in terms of year to date. Hoping to budget on 3-5 year plan to have a more accurate plan than the previous 35 year plan that was developed when we started the OFA plan.

Christina mentioned that we went back to PayPal for parking and other things instead of US Bank.

Admissions Committee- Zoom meeting with incoming 6th graders. Went well we are full for next year.

HR Committee- 21st of June scheduled for interview of new STEM teacher.

Facilities Committee- 2 HVACs need to be replaced would like to be done over Summer. Have one quote from Salem Heating, will go out for at least one more bid. Christina working on fencing on the north side of the building.

Old Business- Continue to struggle with board recruitment. Reach out and continue to recruit board members.

Employee Handbook- Kelby mentioned we put it on schedule to review every couple years. Jared motions to adopt handbook in concept and that we can edit for grammar as needed, Leslie seconded. Passed unanimously.

Board Positions- Kelby mentioned that he has personal needs that are outweighing his abilities as Board president. Discussion went around to leave things as they are and work on increasing our board membership. Jared mentioned that he is planning on leaving in October but is happy to continue as Secretary. Discussion ensued and everyone agreed we need to increase our number and diversify the board.

Board Contact List- Jared asked that everyone send him contact information to create a Board Contact list.

Christina mentioned that we will be up for a new charter next year.

Kelby talked about hoping to get together for in-person meeting.

Next Meeting Scheduled for June 16th Zoom Meeting. Hoping for July 15th in Person.

Meeting adjourned by Kelby at 20:05

