



MINUTES

Date Oct 19 , 2023

6:00 pm

Howard Street Charter School



Board Present: Jenny Hoelter Erik Davis Jill Whitney Kelby Childers Robyn Saunders Wilson Leslie Savage Thompson QUORUM ACHIEVED –	Board Absent:	Guests: Christina Tracy Andreas Whetzel Britt MacNamee
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Meeting Convened: 6:03 pm

Minutes approved:

Guests: Christina Tracy

Introductions:

- **Guest Introductions:** Andreas Wetzel (parent of a former HSCS student) is a local wine maker. Is looking to contribute to the community through education and give back, especially to HSCS.
- **Curriculum Highlight:** Britt MacNamee (7th grade STEM) : Carnegie Learning for math and MATHia. Feedback from older students is that the learning at HSCS is preparing them well for high school. The curriculum moves smoothly through a logical sequence that helps students build from one cocoon to the next. Experiential learning helps students understand the concepts better (rather than just learning formulas). Students are getting 160 of science weekly, minimum. Their main project right now is the taxonomy project, but they will move into the Scientific Method, ecology, Cells/DNA/Genetics, Infectious Diseases
- Public Testimony – limit 3 minutes to agenda items only.

Business:

- **Principal's Report:** The window at the dance studio has been fixed as of 10/18/23. Shawn Bennett, homeless advocate works with the Salem PD, has been out several times helping with issues so that the school doesn't have to call the police--it is an advocacy call for mental health rather than a law enforcement call. The 6th grade group has really settled in and they are doing well. Our number of Hispanic applicants applying has gone from 22% to 45% and Christina credits the location move for that change in diversity. There are 23 students receiving special education services--additionally, there are several students with autism finding success at Howard Street with the structured programs that we have in place. 9 ELLs, 36 TAG students, 34 Free and Reduced Lunch (combined). Our demographics by moving downtown has shifted toward having students that feed into 3 high schools (South, West, and North) rather than just the South Salem High school. Next week is spirit week, the Nightmare at Howard street school dance is coming up next Friday. We are doing student observations through their advisory classroom and they are working on conflict resolution. Teachers are observing to help gain insight to see how students are doing in different settings. This will help give feedback at conferences with a growth mindset as the focus. Pentacle is renting the dance studio space for the month of January.
- **Finance Committee:** the Quarterly OFA has funded. We are about +\$40,000 better off than where we had budgeted for this time of the year, however it is still very early in the year so Erik is wanting us to keep an eye on the budget as the year progresses but it looks like we are in a good position for the school year. Keep in mind our ADMW was increased to 95%. The message that absenteeism costs the school funding needs to be maintained as it directly affects our bottom line.
- **Admissions Committee:** Leslie hasn't received any requests regarding admissions. All empty 6th grade positions have been filled.
- **HR Committee:** The custodial position is still needing to be filled.
- **Facilities Committee:** See principals report regarding window.
- **Old business**
 - Parent Club is Nov 2nd (Leslie and Jenny will attend) 6:00 pm.** There were 12 people that attended that last meeting. The newsletter will be online, Jenny wrote a board blurb to be included. Another board member needs to write a blurb for November (Kelby).

- **Board Recruitment:** Andreas Whetzel, there is a 6th grade parent (Amy Badden-local veterinarian) potential with board input. Leslie has a lead on another potential board member who would like a tour.
- **Communication:** Getting ready with a mailer. Alumni are engaging on Facebook! Some of the tasks will be divided up at the next meeting as Robyn is still working through some of the needs.
- **Annual Report**—due for approval at October meeting
 - Board reviewed contributions so far. Robyn will work on the formatting by next week.
 - Andreas Wetzel was formally invited to join the board 6:58 motion approved.
 - Final approval of Annual report due by end of October

Adjourn 6:59 pm

Next BOG meeting Scheduled: Nov 14 (TUESDAY) IN PERSON 6:00 PM

November in person--admissions Nov 14th to accommodate Leslie's schedule/Jill's Last meeting

Dec over zoom

Jan over zoom

Feb in person

Mar over zoom

April over zoom

May in person