



MINUTES for the Meeting of the Gateway Public Schools Board of Trustees
Wednesday, April 28th, 2021, 5:00 - 7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Board Members Present: Therese Arsenault, Beth Berliner, Cynthia Billops, Sapna Boze, Sara Byrne, Dan Carr, Elizabeth Colen, Katie Colley, Mark Felton, Sharon Gillenwater, Susan Masto, Harper Matheson, Sharon Olken, Molly Orner, Mary Plant-Thomas, Kevin Rafter, Laura Spivy, Dina To, Valerie Toler

Board Members Excused: Julie Wise

Board Members Not Present: Allison Bhusri

Also present: Danielle Ciccarelli, Chris Hero, Aaron Watson

Welcome and Announcements

Sharon Gillenwater thanked everyone who is participating in the board match for the Spring Appeal, and asked everyone to please reach out to their networks and friends. She shared upcoming events.

Approval of Minutes from March 24th, 2021

Sharon Gillenwater asked everyone to review the minutes from March 24, 2021. Mark Felton motioned to approve the minutes, and Cynthia Billops seconded the motion. The March 24, 2021 minutes were approved, unanimously, without issue.

Public Forum

Sharon Gillenwater opened the floor for the public forum. No further discussions or motions were introduced.

Mission Moment

For the Mission Moment, Susan Masto shared the thoughts of an acquaintance who attended a Gateway enrollment event. Her acquaintance felt that the GHS team really has its act together. She observed that everything is mission driven and school leaders and teachers model collaboration and respect. Her acquaintance's daughter said that Becca Weider and Stephanie Khaziran, GHS's co-principals, impressed her when they said that you learn best when you are well known. She reported nothing but good things about the enrollment process and GHS.

Executive Director's Report

Susan gave the floor to Sharon Olken for the ED report. Sharon announced that Gateway has hired Jai David Valentine to be GMS principal for 2021/2022. She is coming from a charter organization and has built schools from the ground up. Aaron shared that she has been an administrator at two charter schools, has a strong background in instructional support, is a strong relationship builder and has a commitment to educational equity and anti-racism. She will build on Gateway's strengths and bring a fresh perspective. Sharon gave a shout out to Aaron for shepherding the hiring process.

Sharon shared this week's Monday Morning Video to give trustees an overview of what is going on at Gateway, such as a clothing drive, spring sports, community workouts and yoga throughout the week. The big announcement is that the Class of 2021 is graduating in person.

Development Update

Sharon Olken shared the Development Report, including fundraising to date, news about the Major Donors Initiative, the spring appeal and a request to start brainstorming on possible luncheon speakers.

Committee On Trustees

Susan gave the floor to Kevin Rafter for the Committee on Trustees update. He shared slides reporting the results of the committee's *Diversity and Inclusion Interviews* with Trustees. The objectives for the interviews were to learn about

trustees' personal experiences with inclusivity on the board and to identify ways we can make board service more accessible and inclusive.

The board had the opportunity to see and discuss feedback from the interviews. A few of the takeaways are: engaging the school community and parents is an important priority; relationships and getting to know each other helps us understand each other's perspectives. Trustees discussed ideas for increasing diversity and inclusion. The Committee on Trustees has the responsibility to move these things forward. Kevin invited trustees who are interested in working on this to please express the desire to join the committee.

Kevin reminded trustees that the board survey will be shared in May.

Finance Update

Susan gave the floor to Chris Hero for the Finance Update. He presented the goals, considerations and ultimate recommendation that came from the last Finance Committee meeting. He told trustees that the Finance Committee revisited the topic of a compensation adjustment for this year.

Goals that are reflected in next year's budget include supporting retention of Gateway staff; providing financial support for employees and SFUSD staff, recognizing the vital role they play in supporting our most vulnerable students in this transition, and using one-time funding in accordance with legislative intent.

- The Finance Committee recommends that Gateway provide all employees returning for 21-22 with a \$2,500 transition stipend, the total cost to be \$280,000.

Chris reviewed the FY22 Budget Drivers. He said that Gateway has deficits to solve in the future and we want to monitor how decisions today impact tomorrow. In the short term, the strawman budget for next year is nearly balanced. Longer term, thanks to the sustainability fund and our reserves, we will have a runway with which to implement new revenue streams.

Chris reviewed the proposed budget and compensation line items. The budget proposes a 5% increase for all employees, the launch of a Gateway induction program, dream big staffing/costs, and an anti-racism initiative. He also reviewed budget achievements, which include compensation increases, substantial funds for student supports, investing in sustainability, and capital preservation.

Laura Spivy reported that she had reviewed Gateway's 2020 tax return (990) and recommended that the board vote to approve it.

- Mark Felton motioned to approve Gateway Public Schools' 2020 tax return, and Therese Arsenault seconded the motion. The board voted to approve the 2020 tax return, unanimously, without issue.

Closed Session: Personnel Update

The board held a closed session to vote on FY22 compensation line items and 2020-21 compensation adjustment.

- The FY22 compensation items and 2020-21 compensation adjustment were approved unanimously, without issue.

Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm.

Signed: _____



Sapna Boze, Board Secretary

Date: _____

May 21, 2021