

**GATEWAY HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 15, 2014**

Board Members Present:

Amy Joseph, Mark Felton, Erin Niehaus, Joyce McMinn, Sue Shultes, Laura Spivy, Suzanne Schutte, Beth Berliner, Jennifer Tulley, Sharon Olken, Sapna Boze, Briana Zelaya, Felix, Chinchilla, Adina Safer, Jackie Quella, Aaron White, Greg Grossman, Susan Masto, Cynthia Billops, Valerie Toler, Therese Arsenault.

Board Members Excused:

David Jackson, Katherine Welch, Phil Susser, Julie Wise, Will Parish, Deundra Hundon

Also present:

Chris Hero, Janice Di Natale

1. Call to order, welcome, and approval of minutes from October 23, 2013 and November 20, 2013

Beth Berliner called the meeting to order at 5:07pm. She called for a motion to approve the minutes for October and November 2013. They were approved without issue.

2. Public forum

Beth then opened the floor for public forum. No further discussions or motions were introduced.

3. Executive director report

- a. *Project Week.* Sharon Olken welcomed everyone back to the New Year, then moved onto a discussion about Project Week. She began by showing a video from the Gateway auction featuring teachers and students talking about Project Week. Kids take one class for a week outside of the classroom, ranging from iron chef to graphic story time to sign language. Then Kory O'Rourke, who runs Project Week, talked about how kids really "live" the Gateway mission during Project Week. It's a chance for the kids to see and experience lifelong learning and passion, choose something outside of their comfort zone, and deepen relationships with teachers and students. Then Laura D'Amato and Greg Grossman shared their experiences as teachers during Project Week. Greg talked about his "Extreme SF" project, which gets kids to try new things and challenge themselves through adventures like mountain biking and rock climbing. Several Gateway students shared their experiences during Project Week, and talked about how it helps them deepen relationships with other students, and also grow and overcome challenges and fears. Laura then talked about her art studio project, which helped kids see how art can be used in the "real world". Students talked about learning how to produce art, including screen-printing, and also how Project Week builds school community.

4. Development Update

Sharon introduced Janice Di Natale as interim director of development, who started at Gateway on Monday January 13, 2014. Sharon circulated a cash flow report. Highlights: \$765,000 left to raise this fiscal year, which is about halfway to the full-year goal. The Development committee has a roadmap in place to get us there, which includes primarily: (1) major gifts campaign; (2) analysis of foundations; (3) the board. Susan Masto announced that the Matters of the Mind luncheon will be held on October 16, 2014 with speakers David and Tom Kelly, authors of Creative Confidence.

5. Strategic Initiatives Update.

- a. Suzanne Schutte updated the board on the progress her group has made and its focus on the non-cognitive factors of learning (e.g. mindset).
- b. Chris Hero talked about the other strategic initiatives group, which is focusing on leveraging the power of the public, and how can we engage the public to bring outside expertise in to benefit public school students.
- c. Both groups plan to start with small "pilot" programs this year.

6. Finance Update

Chris Hero gave a recap of the budget process, which begins this month for next fiscal year. Chris also discussed the history of state funding over the past six years, and he shared some optimism about state funding expectations for next year. Chris also reminded everyone that during these tough years we maintained our class size and academic programs at Gateway, did not do any layoffs and opened the middle school.

7. Charter Renewal

Sharon gave an overview of the charter renewal process, which happens every five years. Our charter should be on the Board of Education meeting agenda in February, and then they have 60 days to make a decision.

The board discussed the things Gateway does well that enable the school to fulfill its mission. The board also discussed things we would like to do better in five years.

8. Vote to approve Gateway charter 2014-2019

Erin Niehaus moved to amend the bylaws and Therese Arsenault seconded. Briana Zelaya moved to approve the Gateway High School charter and Erin Niehaus seconded. The board unanimously approved both motions.

9. Adjourn meeting.

With no other business to conduct, Jennifer Tulley adjourned the meeting.

Alin Bhusni 2/12/14