

BlueSky Charter School
Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 30th, 2017
10:00 AM

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the board of director meeting of the BlueSky Charter School, 4082, was held on August 30, 2017 at 10:00 AM. Roll call was taken with these members present: Forbes, Johnson, Kelbel, McDonough, Pekarek, Schempp, Stocco.

Others present were: Amy Larsen, Ben Haensel, Dan Ondich, Scott Brown, Megan Hollenkamp, Sara Neu, Renee Parcheta, Bill Blossom

Collaborate Ultra Board Meeting Room - <https://goo.gl/6zhVz0>

Approval of Agenda

Forbes/Schempp moved to approve agenda as is
7-0 Motion passes

Approval of Previous Board Minutes

Schempp/Kelbel moved to approve board minutes from July 26, 2017
7-0 Motion passes

Filing of Finance Claim

Percent of fiscal year is 8% with YTD expenses as a percent of the budget at 3%. Our first state hold back will be deposited today. BlueSky financials show 36% fund balance however there are still FY17 invoices to be paid so this number will decrease slightly. There are no cash flow concerns at this time. We ended FY17 with an ADM of 484.3 which is not yet an official number.

Pekarek/Schempp moved to approve monthly financial statement
7-0 Motion passes

Reports

6.1 Finance Committee

Pekarek asked if there were any additions to the committee following the retreat and Larsen stated there is no change to the committee membership.

6.2 Curriculum Committee

No meeting held

6.3 HR Committee

No meeting held

6.4 Director's Report

Enrollment is about 427 with about 68 potential applications in process. Last year we started the school year with 451 and the year before for 382. There are 14 students enrolled in the supplemental program. Larsen is looking into applying for grants for Title I and II funds. There is a meeting with IQS set for October 22 at 9:30 am at the BlueSky office where the goals and scorecard will be reviewed. Bill Blossom updated the board on the Centurylink progress with the new phone system. They missed their deadline by two weeks to bring the fiberline into the building. That has pushed back all other

integrations so we are pushing it back further so we don't have the new phone system during the first week of a new school year. There are also a few technical requirements that they added and Blossom will be working with them to make sure we have what is needed. Pekarek asked if we can terminate contracts with our existing phone systems and Blossom answered we just need to give a 30 day notice (which hasn't been given yet). Ben Haensel gave an update on the rollout of PowerSchool and linked vendors. Training is ongoing and seems to be going smoothly. The board was sent updates from the last legislative session pertaining to education. Larsen outlined that she shared plans with staff at the retreat about what the board discussed at their planning meeting in June - researching adding 6th grade, researching adding a satellite location in St. Cloud, using more grassroots marketing, etc.

6.5 Student Activity/Updates

No updates

6.6 Assessment Update related to IQS contract goals & NWEA

MCA reading took a slight dip from our previous data. We outperformed how we thought we would do, but didn't meet our goal. Our FRL (Free and Reduced Lunch) group also took a dip in their scores. MCA math scores outperformed our predictions but also did not meet our goal. Math is the focus of Q-Comp this year, so we hope to see a greater improvement this year. Looking at retention statistics, you can see that when 15-day drops go down, our graduation rate goes up. We do still have almost 4% of students who leave BlueSky and we don't know what happens to them. By decreasing that number, we can hopefully improve our other statistics. Course passing rates continue to improve year after year but we do want to make sure this trend stays strong. 28% of students last year were 15-day drops which came up from 22% the year before. The reason for that increase could be due to the intervention techniques the Dean of Students implemented last year. Kelbel pointed out that that increase in 15-day drops could have impacted the increase in our course passing rates as well. The new intake assessment will help to set initial data for our goals moving forward. The IQS contract is a 5 year contract and we will be reviewed every fall based on the previous year to help guide us through the upcoming year. They will average the scores from each year during the contract evaluation.

6.7 Student Services Report

We have a 3 year goal to become a trauma-sensitive school. This year we are focusing on staff training. There is a plan to work with people from Hope Study and have staff partake in the Hope Study at the beginning and end of the school year. We have a new SPED director and we will be tackling some challenges with working with students who are level 4 SPED students and working more with students in the office.

Kelbel/Johnson motion to approve all reports

7-0 motion passes

Consent Items

7.1 Action - Approve Charlotte Morgan resignation (SPED clerical 0.5 FTE)

7.2 Action - Approve Andrea Michels resignation (PE/Health teacher/Q-Comp coord)

7.3 Action - Approve Brittany Berres hire (Education Assistant, 0.5 FTE+)

7.4 Action - Approve Laura Welciek hire (Q-Comp coordinator, 0.5 FTE)

7.5 Action - Approve FY18 licensed staff (returning)

Schempp/Pekarek motion to approve consent items as is

7-0 motion passes

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

9.1 Action - Approve Jennifer McDonough board member resignation

Schempp/Kelbel motion to approve Jennifer McDonough board member resignation

6-0 motion passes (McDonough abstained)

9.2 Action - Approve MSHSL 17-18 Resolution

This needs to be signed each year to keep the option open for agreements with other schools

Pekarek/Forbes motion to approve MSHSL 17-18 Resolution

7-0 motion passes

9.3 Action - Approve Superintendent/ED Evaluation Summary

Pekarek/Kelbel motion to approve Superintendent/ED Evaluation Summary

7-0 motion passes

9.4 Action - Approve 17-18 Student Handbook

There is an update to the testing section due to an MDE requirement to including the opt out form. Other updates included policy updates throughout the last school year. We will make sure there is a link to the policies page when there is a reference to a specific policy. Kelbel suggested edits to the Middle School Expectations section and moving the paragraph about parent involvement to the top of the section.

Forbes/Schempp motion to approve 17-18 Student Handbook with addition to Mandated Testing (including opt out form) and changes to the Middle School Expectations

7-0 motion passes

9.5 Action - Discuss Board Governance Award application; assign committee if needed

Larsen recommends that we apply for the award before one of the three deadlines for the upcoming school year. Schempp asked how we would promote and leverage the award if we do get it. Larsen stated we would include in the newsletter, on the website, include in IQS review, and the WBWF report. Forbes suggested applying for one of the later deadlines and thinks it would be a good accountability piece for the board.

Kelbel/Johnson motion to go ahead with the application during this school year, to be determined at a later meeting

7-0 motion passes

10.0 Public Input

The board are invited to select a piece of apparel for an appreciation gift.

11.0 Adjourn

Pekarek/Kelbel motion to adjourn meeting at 11:13 am

7-0 motion passes

Future Meetings/Events Below:

Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 10:00 am

Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 10:00 am

Wednesday, November 29, 2017 at 10:00 am

Other: Next Board Election – May 2018