

Compass Academy Board Meeting

February 19, 2015 | 4:30-7:30 | 789 Sherman Street – Denver, CO 80203

Minutes

The board met in Executive session at the start of this meeting, for purposes of discussing personnel.

Ripples, Joys, and Appreciation:

- Appreciation for Mary for stepping into the ED job
- Learner and Leader plans being piloted at City Year Denver schools – great feedback so far
- Carla has an interview with Catamount tomorrow – good luck!
- School choice returns have been ahead of pace, especially for new schools – great work Kat! 80 first choice, 40 2nd choice. Overall 252.
- Jeff shared a joy around recruitment and the teamwork and leadership by Kat!

Minutes:

- Jim motioned, Dexter seconded, all approved.

Updates:

- Teacher recruitment: On its way. 80+ applicants, 12 in round two, 3 in finalist stage, all with CY experience.

Fundraising update:

- Oak has been submitted, for \$750,000 over three years.
- Morgridge Family Foundation has been submitted.
- Raikes is coming up
- House parties upcoming
- Walton – we've been invited to come back

Operations and budget update:

- Waivers and policies were submitted in early February. We have about 6 that need to get updated and written, and we'll submit them in March.
- No budget update, but in the next month we'll have some CSP funds to access.
- In the pipeline on bus transportation, are on a way to determining pickup times. That will continue as a negotiation.
- We've arranged for food service at Kepner – in class, and everybody gets to eat.

- CSP needs a motion from the board to change the contact person and then communicate that to Gina Shleiman. We need a motion to do that. Ken motioned to select Mary to be the contact for CSP going forward. John seconded, all approved.
- Soccer will be offered afterschool at Kepner for all students two days a week
- The board discussed the school day – length of day, teacher time, and appropriate compensation structures for enrolling and sustaining teachers. It is important to be clear about our hours and to pay attention to teacher needs and growth over time.
- Kepner – the team may move to an office at Kepner some time in the coming months. Mary suggested waiting on the timing for the move until an ED is in place. Sally asked what the expenses would be at Kepner this year. Brian will find out.
- Line of Credit: we are working on approval with First Bank. They are excited we're at Kepner. We'll start using the \$100,000 line of credit – scheduled to close on March 9. It will be a supervised line of credit, so they will be assured that each expenditure line up to CSP and will be reimbursable. Ken noted that we'll be depositing 1.3 million a year and that will increase each year. They work with other charters and they know how charter finance works. Ken and Mary wondered if we might get better terms elsewhere. There are banks that have charitable arms that we might look into as well. Mary noted that the language in the memo did not contain the CA fiscal policies that indicate all finances must align with the board approved budget. Ken suggested reviewing the budget to match that with the line of credit. Mary will work with the staff to bring something for the board to approve at the next meeting. Goal should eventually be to not need a line of credit, beyond the CCSP reimbursement grant.

Board Training/Requirements:

- 2 options: each board member can create an online account and take all 30 modules if they'd like, or they can do all 30 collectively and then share-out information
- Compass Academy Board account has been set up so everyone can go online, sign in as CA Board Member and complete all trainings by June 30th (Brian will email info out to Board by 2/20)
 - John: 2, 3, 14, 17, 23
 - Jim: 7, 8, 13, 28
 - Dex: 6, 15, 12
 - Mary: 4, 18, 5
 - Ken: 9, 10, 11, 27
 - Pami: 22, 21
 - Annie: 26, 30, 1, 25
 - Jeff: 20,
 - Bob: 29, 19
 - Steph: 24, 16
 - Mike:
- ½ day governance training through the League; could potentially hire a consultant to run through the trainings (Charter Board Partners or the High Bar) and do PD

- \$650 is cost for ½ day training with Nora Flood (also due 6/30)

ESL/TNLI Updates:

Mary reported on the current plans for establishing the ESL program for Compass:

- 4 things guiding our program
 - Responding to student needs to accelerate their learning
 - We want students to learn English well, as quickly as possible
 - Develop and maintain bilingualism because it's a huge asset
 - Some recent immigrant students so we need to accelerate English learning while also increasing content knowledge at the same time
- Hiring teachers who are fluent in Spanish is helpful, especially in Science, Math and Social Studies (do not need to have Spanish literacy class everyday)
- Will also have a full-time Spanish teacher and ELL teacher
- We can meet the requirements while also remaining true to our program
- Meeting with Nadia at DPS tomorrow to make sure everyone has a common understanding of staffing requirements and program design
- We are not a TNLI program (however, aspects of our program reflect many TNLI requirements)
 - TNLI - native language instruction (currently at Kepner)
 - ESL - native language supports
- Sally and Mary will follow up with OSRI to make sure all concerns are clarified
- Annie restated that it's imperative that our ESL program is supported by evidence

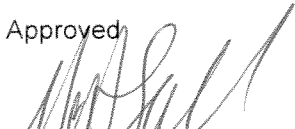
Academic Plan

- Carla presented the Instructional Map, reviewed the Power Standards, school-wide practices and gave examples of what students and teachers will see and do every day
 - Shared example of CA common white board structure
- Will continue this discussion at next meeting

Next Board Meeting: March, 19th, 4:30-7:30pm

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40pm

Approved:



Mary Seawell, President

