



Elm City Montessori School
Board of Trustees Meeting
September 6, 2017

Meeting called to order 5:36 pm. Present: Julia Webb, Eliza Halsey, Kia Levey, Mira Debs, Keith Krolak, Fernando Muniz. Alayna Stone, David Low and Francoise Leger joined by phone.

1. **Principal's report:** Julia Webb shared strengths and challenges. The leadership team has done a lot of planning around Tier 1 support, and has seen results in more students able to remain in the classroom, and fewer students being pulled out into the hallways.

The teacher teams are doing a lot of collaborative work and have set aside time for team planning.

In challenges, the Social Emotional director is leaving, and the Principal is actively working to fill the role.

2. **Executive Director report:** The school has \$400,000 cash on hand. The Graustein Memorial Fund staff, including the Executive Director came to do a school visit and had a positive engaging visit. Eliza Halsey has identified several new potential funders to approach for funding.

The state has increased the student allocation to \$12,698, an increase of \$563 per student. The district has not yet received state money, so it is challenging for us to get this funding. Eliza Halsey is still working on securing a meeting with Superintendent Mayo. The school is operating on a lean budget due to budget challenges.

The district has given the school a nurse 1 day a week. The principal is currently administering asthma medicine and has to send students home when they bump their head, as she is unable to evaluate the concussion risk.

3. **Committee Meetings**

Facilities: The Facilities & Planning committee visited the former Saint Stanislaus school currently used by Booker T. Washington charter school. There are many benefits to the building, but it has limited outdoor space, no elevator and is not ADA accessible. There are no restrooms on the ground or third floor.

Governance: Eliza Halsey and Mira Debs met with Mike Nast who is expressed willingness to join the board. The governance committee is also in conversation with Connecticut Montessori educator Anne-Marie Fenn and Coral Ortiz, a New Haven alumnus and Yale student.

4. Reporting back from last month's next steps:

Kia Levey is checking in with a number of organizations regarding Board training.

The Board clarified that Eliza Halsey will be the main ECMS liaison to the Board and will coordinate the Board agenda.

5. Action Items

1) Kia Levey has stepped down as the Board of Trustees president. The Board thanks Kia Levey for her incredible service.

Mira Debs has been unanimously selected as the Chair of the Board of Trustees.

The position of Secretary is currently open.

2) The Board has voted to add Mike Nast to the Board of Trustees.

Next steps

NHPS Board membership	Julia & Dave	September
Check in with Lisa Defosses at Achievement First regarding further leads on properties	Eliza	October
Finalize annual Board calendar	Mira, Julia & Eliza	October
Board Composition, membership, compliance, including CABA training & annual half-day training for Board	Alayna & Eliza	October
Develop list of suggestions for Board training	Kia	October

The meeting is adjourned at 6:42 pm.