

Trailblazers Academy

Board of Directors

January 25, 2019

8:00am

Community Room

83 Lockwood Avenue

Stamford, CT 06902

Attendees: Craig Baker, Miguel Pickering, Jamie Waggaman, Steve Baker, Edwin Naval, Julia Snowden, Gary Goldberg, Angie Tortorella

Phoned in: Curtis Battles

Not present: Owen Davis

Agenda:

- **Welcome**
- **Stamford Public Schools funding update**
- **Treasures Report, CFO, Edwin Naval**
 - **Year to date budget updates**
 - **Potential donors/grants**
- **Fundraising & Development**
- **Governance/ Data Dashboard**
 - **Bylaws review & update service agreement- Julia Snowden**
 - **Dashboard updates- Craig Baker/Miguel Pickering**
 - **Currently enrolled**
 - **Suspensions**
 - **Attendance**
 - **STAR assessments**
 - **Potential hiring report**
- **School director's report- Miguel Pickering**
 - **State visit**
 - **Monthly updates**

Introduction: Steve Baker, Board Chairman

- Approval of last month's board meeting notes
 - Motioned seconded, and approved unanimously
- SPS funding update (proposal)
 - Circulated PowerPoint prepared by Domus with funding proposal for Stamford Public Schools which provides for per pupil reimbursement based on two populations:
 - Students with Disabilities (SWD)
 - Disengaged and Disconnected Students (DDS)
 - Note current pressures on SPS budget.

- Provides logical substantiation for funding proposal but may vary year over year.
- To be discussed at a meeting between the board, Domus representatives, and SPS for approval in connection with SPS budget in March.

Treasure's Report, CFO Domus Kids, Edwin Naval

- Year to date budget update
- Potential donors/grants
 - Alliance Data grant
 - William Pitt
- Budget vs. actual
 - SIG grant revenues and expenditures to be reflected in next updated budget.
- Audit
 - Not in compliance with two teacher certifications (math positions)
 - Michael McGuire will submit letter to the state to address, due to difficulty recruiting certified teachers, they may begin uncertified and can become certified and compliant after waiting period for long term substitute is completed.
 - The letter shows Trailblazers' efforts to satisfy the auditors recommendations.
 - Common issue throughout other school districts
- Trailblazers has been selected for random audit by the state.

School Director Report (school director, Miguel Pickering)

- Current enrollment
 - 127 maintained consistently throughout the 18-19 (SY), with several incoming/outgoing. Outgoing students due to moving families or returning to mainstream public schools
 - Suspension rate (2%), has been focus on keeping students in school and otherwise addressing any behavior issues.
 - Attendance rate
 - 95% daily attendance
 - 14 students chronically absentee rate (10.5% of the current school days)
 - Students can "attend" out of that rate, school administration continuing interventions including the following.
 - Attendance academy (guiding students to attend)
 - ARB (attendance review board)
 - Educate students/parents on the importance of attending school
- STAR testing (midyear assessments)
 - Math and ELA
 - Goal to complete testing by the end of 2/1, then can provide update on midyear results
- 8th grade students currently applying to Wright Tech and AITE, had presentations by Wright Tech, Stamford public high schools to determine appropriate placements

Governance/ Data Dashboard

- Bylaws review & update service agreement- Julia Snowden
- Review has begun of Trailblazers Academy's documents by outside counsel
 - proposal for updates by next month's meeting

Additions to the board

- Request for new nominations to the board from current board members

Adjourned at 9:00am.