**MOVEMENT SCHOOL BOARD | MEETING MINUTES**

*4.10.19*

**Board Members: Casey Crawford, Frank Martin, Garrett McNeill, Brett McDonough, Cheryl Turner**

**Ex Officio Members: Tim Hurley, Jamie Sumter, Barbara Robinson, Alisha Carr, Gabrielle McCall Riley**

**Members Present:** Frank Martin, Brett McDonough, Casey Crawford (via phone),

Jamie Sumter, Tim Hurley, Alisha Carr, Gabrielle Riley, Barbara Robinson, Kimberlee Bielan (parent representative)

Meeting agenda passed out at 8:57.

Meeting was called to order at 9:02 by TH.

BM motioned to approve last meeting’s minutes. FM seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

**Debrief Visit to NYC**

TH, AC, JS, and BR shared about their recent trip to NYC to visit high performing charter schools there. The team commented on some of the key things they learned and took away from the trip. The demographics of the schools visited are similar to Movement School West. Having the opportunity to see schools who have very clear systems and routines in place was very beneficial.

There was focused attention to cultural and social emotional learning observed at the schools, which was great for us to see and learn from. AC mentioned that she looks forward to continuing to “digest” all that she saw and learned so that she can apply elements to Movement School West. One of the things she would like to bring to Movement School West-especially to our third graders this year is the use of college themes.

AC also commented on how effective the behavior systems are at the schools we visited, Classes were full-at every grade level, but there were clear behavior systems that focus on building relationships in place. AC and JS continue to bounce ideas off of each other for implementation this year and next year. AC is grateful for the opportunity to go.

TH concluded that we have a lot of work to do, but we are on the right track.TH would like for us to take another trip to include members from board, select teachers, and community partners.

CC asked to see the financials of the schools that we visited. He would like to see these so that we better understand how high performing charter schools in other states operate. He asked if there is a national database or law firm that researches how different states fund education. He is often asked questions about charter funding in other states and would like to be able to better answer them and share it with law makers. TH will pull this information for CC.

**Movement West Business**

**Academics**

JS shared the team has been having around the clock meeting with third grade math and reading teachers. She is optimistic the team will be able to move students. Stamina continues to be an issue, so the team continues to work on this area as well. We have about a month (after spring break) to push. The team is working strategically to make sure students do not feel so much pressure that they dislike coming to school, however, making sure students take preparations for the upcoming testing seriously is important.

KB asked if there has been any effort to get tutoring for third graders. She asked JS to get with her afterwards to discuss this further.

JS shared a memo she received from SherCo regarding the family engagement initiatives Movement School West has participated in. To date, 62% of families have attended at least one family night this school year. The feedback is overwhelmingly positive. JS has noticed a shift in motivation for families to participate-shift from food to opportunities to connect with teachers and other parents.

JS shared that she had to release two staff members due to conduct. It is unfortunate but circumstances made it necessary. JS asked if anyone has any questions, she is happy to speak with them about it at another time.

**Culture**

AC shared that there has been a great effort to help students get excited about end of year testing. There is a success plan in the works to improve attendance, behavior, and academic performance.

Upon returning from spring break,third grade students will be separated into college groups that are based on where teachers went to school. As an initial incentive, students will create a chant that represents their new college groups. This model will be a test that will be used to determine

BM asked about attendance at the schools visited in NYC. The schools visited did not have attendance issues. Many of them had data to show students were about 99%. They have expectations meetings, which are very important-right up front-“here is what we expect and what we are holding you accountable for with us” meetings.

Movement School West is moving towards this model for having expectation meetings, and have started this information

Teacher Appreciation Week is coming up in May. We are looking to do a t-shirt for teachers. We will have a massage and aroma therapy day, jeans day, lunches and breakfasts, etc.TH asked AC to send the board a list of days/times for Teacher Appreciation Week so that those in the area can stop by and participate if they would like.

**Financial Update**

GR shared her report with the highlights below:

* There are $372K state fund remaining to be pulled for the year
* $509K in the bank account
* $20K donation from Elevation Church
* We are projecting to be about $156K in the positive at the end of the year

**Facilities**

GM shared that Rally Charlotte has secured more money for the space for middle school. He is working with Rally Charlotte on plans, and things are in process.

GM shared he would like to connect TH and GM with an attorney he has met who could help with the middle school for West (to explore more about Opportunity Zones). CC would also like to be involved in this meeting.

KB asked about the construction happening in front of the school. She has fielded a lot of questions from parents about this construction, and shared that the board or administration should share this with parents.

AC asked GM and BM about the property line because she is trying to figure out what to do for our students as they get older because the playground is becoming too small for them. GM shared the extent of our property lines, and the concerns about the back area of the school.

AC would like to use the public park behind the school, and possibly build a path to the park from the school. BM shared that he is pretty sure he and GM could work to build a path between the school and the park for use for older students (i.e. a staircase and/or ramp). The team also discussed beautifying the area or partnering with community or

**Movement East Business**

**Proposed Charter Application Amendments**

BR shared a chart of proposed changes to the Movement School East charter application. The chart included changes to launch grades, projected enrollment, inclusion of a weighted lottery, and projected staff. BR explained the rationale for each of the proposed changes. The board is concerned about the possible expenses of reducing launch grades and enrollment numbers, as there would be a $300K deficit. BR shared that she and TH have applied for the NC ACCESS grant (with a $400K award), which would cover the deficit. We will know whether we have been awarded the grant in June. The board would like to table a decision about launch grades, enrollment numbers, and projected staff until we know whether we have been awarded the grant.

FM moved to approve the request to amend the charter application for a weighted lottery. BM seconded it. The request was approved unanimously. GM would like more information about the weighted lottery process. BR and JS will share process information with him.

**Facilities**

We had a big kick off meeting with architects and engineers and making sure the due diligence done. We had a big meeting with the city this week, and we feel good about moving forward. We are working creatively to get things started. GM was really encouraged by the city’s willingness to be collaborative. We have interior and exterior scans done, and things are in process. We are working to get permits together to start moving dirt by late July or August.

**Network Business**

**Admissions and Enrollment**

TH shared that he continues to love School Mint, as it has made the registration process much easier. To date, we have 150 applications for kindergarten, which is on par with where we were last year. We have actual registration documents from about 70 families (immunizations, birth certificates, etc.).

Movement School West is looking for teachers for 4th grade. We estimate a need of 1-3 teachers.

TH is working with the advertising team at Movement Mortgage to build out the Movement East website as well as a network website for Movement Schools. The Movement School West website will also get revised.

BM shared that he has an incredible, less expensive outsource for web design that he highly recommends. The team has discussed naming conventions as well. TH is working with the team and CC to make sure they are aligned. We are looking for a convention that will scale.

FM moved to adjourn. BM seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:24am.

Closed Session(s): None.