



Sela PCS Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 13, 2019, 6:45 pm

Location: Sela Public Charter School

In attendance: Heather Capell, Vaun Cleveland, Ki'ara Cross, Rebecca Damari, Nancy Goodman, Bryce Jacobs, Jessica Lieberman, Steve Messner, Aster Patel, Josh Bork*, Camerra Taliaferro*, Jenifer Shapiro*, Tiffney Laing*

*non-voting attendee

The meeting started at 6:50 pm

Minutes: Rebecca Damari

Timekeeper: Ki'ara Cross

Agenda (Attached as Appendix A)

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes: Heather moved to approve the March meeting minutes. Jessica seconded. All present voted in favor.

Mission Moments: Third-graders gave a performance at the Israeli embassy; the embassy staff (about 20 people) was thrilled with the performance. Fifth-graders at Selabration gave a performance in Hebrew and in English; students demonstrated what they've learned in both languages. Parents loved it! Josh's proudest accomplishment for this year is the way the leadership team has gelled over the course of the year.

HOS report (Attached as Appendix B)

Goal 1: Improve student recruitment and retention

- Enrollment outlook: 228 fully enrolled; 16 partially enrolled or potential (14 of the 16 are current students who are in the process of collecting residency documentation). Also planning outreach to daycare centers and camps to recruit PreK3 and potentially PreK4 students.

Goal 2: Stabilize and Grow Staff

- Citywide Insight survey
 - ~75% of teachers completed the citywide Insight survey in the fall

- High ratings for Sela (compared to other DC charter schools) on teacher compensation, evaluation, observation and feedback, career progression, diversity and inclusion, and workload.
- Areas for improvement: peer culture and professional development
- Josh and Camerra will analyze the spring data and update the board
- Glows and Grows (informal survey of teachers at most recent PD)
 - Highlights: Allowing teacher input on curriculum decisions, excellent feedback on lessons, teacher freedom, warm culture
 - Room for growth: peer learning opportunity, communication, more individualized PD

Goal 3: Improve student achievement

- MAP testing was positive; more detail at the next meeting
- New ELA curriculum (ReadyGEN from Pearson) coming next year for K-5— can tie closely to science and social studies. Good PD package available.

Goal 4: Increase financial stability

- Partnership with Community Purchasing Alliance (CPA) to put out a bid for a new janitorial contract to include handyman services. Contracted with a local, minority, woman-owned business. Also contracted with a local recycling company.
- Working with CPA to get access to a better (school) rate on PEPCO.
- Working on a sublease with a local church.

Goal 5: Strengthen family engagement

- Encouraging all families to take the family survey. 45 responses so far.

Topics for board discussion and action

Host families for shinshinot

- They arrive August 5
- Looking for hosting after January

Installing a new door, new cameras, and a new camera system, new keypads, PA system. Items have been ordered; installation in July.

Committee Updates

Finance

- Heather moved to ratify the electronic vote on the budget. Aster seconded. All present voted in favor.

External relations

- ~\$7500 left to raise on our \$30K goal
- \$1000 match on the table from Hebrew Public

- “We are close to our goal” “Anything helps” Get us to the finish line—only 2 weeks left.

Governance

- Have been working on board member retention and recruitment
- 2 potential board members at the meeting; looking for 2 more
- The charter requires 2 parent members; we don’t have a maximum

Board Discussions

Retreat

- Vaun is working on the retreat; will send a calendar invite for Wednesday August 7, 4-9pm
- The governance committee will identify an outside speaker/facilitator to suggest to the board
- We will decide whether to hold a July meeting based on the draft agenda for the August retreat

CLASS data

- PreK quality evaluation system (used across DC, informs PMF): emotional support, classroom organization, instructional support
- Observations done over a week in April. Each classroom observed twice, all by the same observer.
- Higher than last year on Instructional Support, comparable to last year on Emotional Support and Classroom Organization
- Some disparities between individual classes on the report
- We don’t yet have sectorwide data to compare to
- Instructional support: looking for higher order thinking questions
- When PMF comes out we will be able to compare ourselves with other language immersion schools
- Samantha has been evaluating teachers on the CLASS framework throughout the year, and she will be receiving more training in order to better align her observation and feedback with the CLASS framework

Review strategic plan for next year and beyond

- Committees to review the goals they are responsible for in advance of the next meeting. Review for accuracy and how realistic they are based on baseline data from this year. Committee heads should send revisions to Governance by July 10.

Full Board Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm and moved into Executive Session