

**Sela October Board Meeting
October 10, 2019
Minutes**

Attendees:

In person:

Vaun
Michael
Camerra
Josh
Deena
Lisa
Bryce
Heather
Astair
Jennifer
Kiara
Rose

On Phone

Steve
Shruti

NOTES

Ratify minutes from previous meeting

Bryce motion, Heather Seconded; Minutes ratified

Mission moment:

Bryce described a breakfast meeting with a family who has been with Sela for number of years and has grown to loves Sela. The mom shared a video of her daughter's birthday and they were singing Happy Borthday in Hebrew – but they did it both the Israeli and American way – they were really happy.

Deena described the Prek4 playdate that included kids from all backgrounds how well attended it was and that the kids really enjoyed it.

Heather described Hispanic History Month program and that her kids were extremely excited about their calss projects and explained everything about it at home. Deena offered that she had a similar experience with her son and being excited about learning about Cuba.

Camera described the first PTSA meeting and Breakfast with Bork. There has been a good family enagement and they have been very excited about Sela including one parent who wants to set up a wellness room for teachers.

Josh explained that Shinshinot are here and so far it has been a great experience. The school has introduced music to all grades except 5th and it has been great for the kids and the Shinshinot

HOS Report:

Goal 1: Enrollment goal

Currently at 236, We missed goal by 4.

Josh reviewed numbers by grade and also reviewed SPED level students.

Official Count day numbers decided on Friday, October 23. (note SPED elvel can be adjusted after this date)

There is an open question of whether we would accept additional students after count day

Currently the Sela waitlist is empty

Thinking about next year – set 4 open house dates and planning what will do for edfest

Last year we did Hebrew playdate day after edfest – it was very beneficial

Bryce notes there are is interest in adams morgan and looking for transportation options – currently we have carpooling but not very applicable

Discussion about transportation - What should we commit to and how would we discuss it.

Can discuss with current families and also discuss external relations if there are grants

We need to identify the data points about how much and how many people would need to commit to bus to have it. We can give everyone the information

Goal 2: Stabilize staff

Arbal fellowship information had provided a sustainable Hebrew teachers for now

Teacher Scholarship – see fundraising discussion below

Goal 3: Achievement

Discussion of MWEA -MAP testing: see handout

Review of at or above grade level by student and percentage and also projected growth by student and percentage

Goal 4:

Below our goal by 4 for tomorrow...

What does this to our budget – this is about 65K under budget

We are going to review the budget to review and trim the budget to account for the current deficit

What about renting the space

How do we operationalize this? Do we really want to do? If so, what resources do we want do we want to spend. External relations to take that on in next meeting

What doe taking on another student in the upper grades- how would that effect our fincaicnes? Should not

Goal 5: Engagement

Breakfast with Bork had 25 families

PTSA meeting had great turnout

Family directory will go out next week

We have lots of events coming up - Next wed is math night

Harvest festival will be part of spirit week and will be a great event. Spirit week includes storybook character dress-up day and Friday is parent conference day

Items for Action/Discussion:

- The Hebrew model in Kg is going great and there is very good feedback and need to figure out what we would do if we expanded to 1st grade we need to talk more about this
- Also teacher scholarship – Josh doesn't want to lose momentum on this because think it will be very important for teacher retention

No discussion on committee reports – External Relations will have time after board activity

Board self-evaluation discussion –lead by Deena and Kiara

Completed activity and evaluation

Went through the 4 goals and discussed whether met exceeded or did not meet the goal

Board Goal 1

Consensus we met or exceeded

Board Goal 2

Not met and met and also – timing of collecting data – We need to revise so we can get accurate date

We did not have good feedback from all board members

We can change the data that we look at it- maybe that would help the timing this year we are going to move up map testing

This year we plan to do a 360 review for use in evaluations

Board Goal 3

Mostly met but there were spotty in terms of the previous people who left the board but also some projects have not gotten done. Definitely room for improvement

Board Goal 4

Great retreat definitely met this goal

Other items discussed:

More risk taking for fundraising

More presence at sela events

Board Social Event: We always try to do a social event around the holidays.

Maybe drunk axe throwing?

Kiara is going to take the lead on seeing if we can get a date we are available

Board Activity- Self review - Input on what we did well

- Providing context on data, goals, etc. for new board embers
- Great board retreat
- Collegiality
- Expertise that is needed is here
- We have increased diversity of the board
- Board members have useful skills
- Meet consistently, provide feedback to HOS, supporting HOS, improved flow of board meetings
- Improved relationship with HOS

- Staying “scholars first”
- Keeping school focused on its mission
- Members attending and committing to board meetings
- Cohesive and good chemistry in place
- Members fully present and engaged in meetings

Board Activity – Self Review - Input on what can be improved:

- Create board pipeline
- Are we making a meaningful impact
- Build strong relationships with outside organizations
- Board social cohesiveness and bonding experiences
- Board fundraising
- Better Fundraising
- Teambuilding activities
- Better fundraising and taking more risks with it
- Board decisiveness
- Share more across committees
- Too many ad hoc committees
- Need better scheduled committee meetings
- Better info regarding school events
- More urgency around tasks
- On time to in person meetings
- Posting board info sooner so we have more time to review before meetings
- More presence at Sela events
- More attendance at Sela events especially while school is in action

External relations report:

Breakfast Meeting Update:

Email invitations for the breakfast meeting sent out – please follow up
 Reminder to cast a wide net not deep
 Get people in the door and get people talking about Sela
 Please add invitees to the google doc and might have to make calls

Fundraising Goal

Discussion of what the Board commitment should be
 Individual board members should make meaningful commitment
 Very important that all members donate something (no matter how little or big)
 for our grant proposals, please do that now and you can give again later.

Last year we had budget shortfall and Board committed to raise \$30K. Board
 ended up raising 22600 which was a \$7400 shortfall.

That was a significant increase in what we had done previously
 We need to set a board goal for this year. This means a joint goal for the entire
 board.

We should evaluate the amount in connection with the Teacher scholarship
 amount as well.

Two questions

- 1) What is our goal
- 2) Does this include or is it extra money scholarship

Board has a discussion of the fundraising goal

At the end of the discussion, Deena moved to have a board goal of 35K that would include 5K for teacher scholarship (note Bryce commented we already raised 5K)

Heather seconded motion

Michael and Lisa abstained. Everyone else supported.

For next meeting:

- Send out and follow-up on Breakfast Invites
- Everyone should review Sela Handbooks before next meeting
 - Do we want to do serious revisions on handbook re: discipline?
 - Let's review and confirm this version and we can discuss further for next version