ELsie Whitlow Stokes Community Freedom Public Charter
School Board of Trustees Meeting
November 9, 2019

Attending: Tracey Friedlander, Heather Harding, Valeria King-Jones, Hoyt King, Rodney Rice

Attending by telephone: Carlos Bonner, Robert Disney

Staff Attending: Erika Bryant, Bobby Caballero, Karim Ewing-Boyd, Bill Moczydlowski

Auditors Attending: Monique Booker (Founding Partner) and Tiana Wynn, SB&Company

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Heather Harding at 9:48am.

Minutes of the September meeting were reviewed approved unanimously. Motion to approve was made by Hoyt King and seconded by Robert Disney.

Report on Financial Audit for the year ending June 30, 2019

Monique Booker and Tiana Wynn of SB&Company presented a draft of the audit report. Auditors plan to issue an unmodified opinion of the school’s financial status and did not discover any instances of fraud and discovered no material weakness in internal controls. Net assessed decreased by $60,335 from the previous year. The assessment of the control environment and the evaluation of key processes were primarily positive.

The 990 and 990T have been completed.

The audit report will be submitted to the DC Public Charter School by December 1, 2019. And the complete and the final, detailed audit report will be available for review.

Action Required: Completion of edits to the draft audit report; submission of final audit report to DC Public Charter School Board; submission of 990 and 990T to the United States Government.
**Governance Committee:**

Tracey Friedlander presented the conflict of interest form for the 2019-2020 school year. Trustees attending the meeting submitted the conflict of interest forms.

Ms. Friedlander also reported that two current parents have expressed an interest in serving on the board. Robert Disney volunteered to Chair the Development Committee and invite one of the parents to serve on the Development Committee and another to serve on the Academic Excellence Committee.

**Required Action:**

Tracey Friedlander will contact the two parents, formally inviting them to serve on the board committees. Mr. Disney will follow up with the Chairs of both committees to advise them of the new committee members.

**Financial Report:**

Bill Moczydlowski reported that at the end of the first quarter, the revenue was over budget by $123K. The cash balance was $2,243K; accounts receivable balance was $331K; accounts payable balance was $76K. Bill indicated an anticipated increase of $279K in per pupil income and 150K from Stokes Kitchen this school year.

Hoyt King reported that the finance committee has received two proposals for refinancing of the Brookland campus mortgage—from BB&T and EFF. The EFF proposal allows for a 30-year mortgage but has less favorable ancillary non-finance related covenant requirements. He also reported that the Development Committee’s recommendation is to pursue the BB&T proposal.

**Action Required**

The finance committee and leadership staff will meet with BB&T in an attempt to secure more favorable terms.

**Campus Director Reports:**

Bobby Caballero, Campus Director, presented highlights of activities at the Brookland campus during the current school year.

- The campus has experienced no student suspensions this year.
Two self-contained classrooms for students with autism and with behavioral problems were added at the Brookland campus, which has proven to be beneficial to the participating students.

Important events this quarter have included the First Day Celebration, a shoe distribution for students organized in partnership with Samaritan’s Feet, Hispanic Heritage Month, a visit to the school’s garden by Hanseul Kang, DC’s State Superintendent of Education, and Student Government elections.

Exciting school outings have included: 5th grade snorkeling in the Shenandoah Mountains, 3rd & 4th grade canoeing trips on the Anacostia River, 5th grade overnight to Hard Bargain Farm and the All-Campus Annual Fall Outing.

The campus has partnered with Kindred for the purpose of resolving issues and enhancing the school’s responses related to race, racial bias and racial equity and equality.

Among Mr. Caballero’s hopes is enhancing the school’s emphasis on social justice.

Karim Ewing-Boyd presented an overview of the East End campus this quarter:

Two first grade classes have been added. With the addition of these two classes, the East End campus has adopted the language immersion instructional model used at the Brookland campus.

Renovations to the second floor, adding an administrative suite and health suite should be completed by December 2019.

The campus has formed partnerships with the Maya Angelou Public Charter School, Girl Scouts of America, First Tee of Greater Washington and the Urban Adventure Squad.

The PTA is active.

Following discussions of the reports of both campus directors, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20pm.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is January 11, 2020.