



*Nuestra Mundo Public Charter School*

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

**June 6, 2022**

Meeting at 17-21 Gordon Ave

Present: Dr. Heather Allcock, Steffy Molina, Seth Zeren, Lydia Perez, Dave Moscarelli, Chris Sanford, Ray Watson

Also Present: Katie Cardamone, Joe Maruszczak

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm

The agenda for the meeting was approved unanimously (motion by L. Perez, seconded by S. Zeren)

The minutes of the meeting of April 11th, 2022 were approved unanimously (motion by D. Moscarelli, seconded by S. Molina)

### *Superintendent/Executive Director's Report*

#### **Safety Drills**

In light of the recent tragedy in Uvalde, there is an increased sense of urgency to proceed with various safety drills. By the end of this week, we will implement our first lockdown drill in conjunction with the Providence Police Department. We will start with something that is relatively short and simple, with appropriate pre-drill communication with our students and their families. Ultimately we will seek to transition to an active shooter drill protocol such as [ALICE](#); however considerable training will be needed.

#### **NMPCS Summer Academy**

Using ESER II funding, we will be implementing a summer academy starting on Monday, June 27 for 32 students that we have invited. In addition to special education students who have extended school year (ESY) services, our grade level teachers have identified students who are still below grade level in English language arts, mathematics or both. The summer program will run for four weeks, four days a week from 9 am to 12 noon. Daily it will feature an hour block of ELA, an hour of math, and an hour of project-based learning.

#### **Feasibility/Conceptual Design of Expansion of Gordon Avenue**

Since the last Board meeting, Seth, Katie, and I have had the opportunity to meet with the principals of two architectural firms, Frank Karpowicz Architects, Inc. and Saccoccio & Associates, Inc. Both have submitted initial proposals to develop conceptual drawings of a possible expansion of our current facility. As a Board we should discuss the pros and cons of each proposal and the results of each meeting.

Lease to purchase was discussed. S. Zeren brought up having an owner's project manager.

R. Watson mentioned that charters can often be scrutinized and it is always best to do due diligence to show we have explored all options.

D. Moscarelli brought up the Herf Jones building. Katie, Seth, and Joe shared that we have met with DEM and Sage Environmental on a quote for starting the environmental investigation.

The Facility committee will meet to continue the conversation with the owner, both architects, and Herf Jones reps as well (the quote was \$8,000 for the initial environmental studies).

C. Sanford asked about the lockdown drills and if they were necessary, considering that they can be traumatic for kids. He said his daughter was already upset about the fire drills. Dr. M explained that all staff and students are aware and prepared and the situation is presented to students as any special circumstances that cause them to have to stay in the classroom for safety reasons.

We want people to be empowered, but not disturbed for no reason. C. Sanford clarified that this training should be directed to staff but not students.

#### *Program Director's Report*

#### **End of Year Activities**

K. Cardamone shared some of the activities that have occurred and are planned for the end of this school year, including:

- The 1st grade portfolio review/parent conferences
- The K and 1st grade trip to Roger Williams Park Zoo
- Culture Night ~ June 16th
- Gardening
- The school-wide Field Day

#### **Update- Principal Search**

As of this writing, we have had five applicants for the Principal/Head of School position. Initial interviews of three candidates will occur this week, with recommendations for finalists to be brought forward to the Board by the end of the week. A committee of staff members has been put together to do the initial screening.

Two of the candidates look very promising and we have reached out for interviews. We are also pursuing two candidates that were recommended. We hope to soon report on progress from the interviews.

## **New Business**

### **Approval of FY2023 NMPCS Operational Budget**

Dr. M shared and reviewed the following documents:

- FY22 Balance Sheet
- FY22 P & L Budget vs. Actual
- FY23 NM Payroll Projection- June 2022
- FY23 Draft Budget
- FY23 Budget Presentation

The good news is that we will finish FY22 very strong financially. Once we have encumbered all salaries and benefits for the summer months, we will still have approximately \$250K in reserve. This is important as it will set up the school for sustained growth moving forward.

Please see the draft budget spreadsheet and the Slides presentation for detail on what is being proposed for a \$4,081,321 spending plan for next school year. I will discuss the rationale behind the expenditures and projected revenue.

The FY2023 NMPCS Operational Budget was approved unanimously (motion by S. Zeren, seconded by L. Perez)

### **Consideration/Approval of New Board Members**

Please see the attached resumes of Anna Alvarado Perez and Jerome Hayes, who are being brought forward as new Board members. Anna is a NM parent who works in the field of medical coding. A native of Boston, she is a caring and engaged parent. Jerome is coming forward as a community representative, as he has solid experience in advertising within the Providence community, strong relationships with many diverse community organizations, and a financial background. Katie and I feel that both Anna and Jerome will make outstanding contributions to the Board.

Anna Alvarado Perez was approved unanimously to join the Board (motion by D. Moscarelli, seconded by C. Sandford)

Jerome Hayes was approved unanimously to join the Board (motion by D. Moscarelli, seconded by C. Sandford)

### **Board Meetings for the 2022-23 School Year**

Mondays were discussed as a good day to continue with Board meetings. Dr. M

### **Future agenda items:**

- Budget
- Hiring the new leadership
- Welcoming new board members
- Policy binder
- Facility update
- Additional Board Members for approval including Dr. M
- Voting on Board Executive Positions/ReOrg in June

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 pm. (Motion by S. Zeren, seconded by S. Molina)

Respectfully submitted,  
Katie Cardamone

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Also, the timeframe for each topic is a general guideline and may not be strictly adhered to. <http://nuestromundopcs.org>