

**Advocates for Science & Mathematics Education**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**January 18, 2020, 12:45 pm.**  
**5625 Loyola Avenue, Library**

**Present:** Joe Caverly, Jeff Clayman, Joan Coulter, Jennifer Fallon, Shannon Fazande. Cathy Glaser, Liz Landry, Jim Schnieders, Najah Shakir, Mary Zervigon, Kathy Parsons, Amritha Appaswami

**Absent:** Ruby Board, Tamika Duplessis

**Staff:** Monique Cola, Christina Hull

**Foundation:** Julie Bourgeois, April Okpo, Curtis Pellerin, Chair of Foundation

**Guests:** Susan Becker

Notice of the meeting was posted at the school and the agenda was posted on the school website in accordance with the open meetings law.

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Advocates for Science & Mathematics Education was called to order by the chair, Jennifer Fallon, on Saturday January 18, 2020 at 12:56 pm. Our guest introduced herself.

The November 21, 2019 Advocates Board Meeting minutes were presented and approved. (Naj moved and Jeff seconded).

**Financial Report:** (Jim Schneiders)

- **Accounts Receivable:** As of 12/31/19, there was \$130,893 in accounts receivables.
- **Profit & Loss:** As of 12/31/19, the P & L shows a net loss of \$286,048.
- **Finance Dashboard:** Bank reconciliation reflects the register balance at the end of December 2019 was \$1,248,778. The book cash balance value as of Jan. 16, 2020 is \$1,149,670 representing approximately one and half months of cash on hand. Finance forecasts approximately \$706,228 expenses in in the month of December. Jim noted that we have an unused \$80,000 in contingency in money market account.

Jim reported that we missed our audit deadline. An information and deficiency notice was sent by OPSB and Melanie has filed for an extension to file the audit. The Finance Committee is looking into the matter and is working with staff to get the audit filed as soon as possible.

**The Finance Report was received by the Board.**

**Head of School Report for January 2020:** (Dr. Monique Cola)

- **Enrollment:** As of Jan 2020, we have 460 students enrolled.
- Socioeconomic date: 254 Direct Certifications (55%)  
Special Education IEPs-66; 504-s-40 (23.5% total)
- Daily Attendance is at 92.5%  
Suspensions 35(7.5%) to date – last year 14.4% to date so decreasing  
Expulsions 1 (less than 1%)

- **Extracurricular Activities** include Volleyball (17 students), Boys basketball (10 students), Girls Basketball (9 students), Cheerleading (13 students), Drumline/Color Guard (13 students), Dance (ten students) and Majorettes (seven students).
- **Highlights**  
 “Like a Ship Without A Sail” to premier at the New Orleans Museum of Art on date of this meeting, “Empathy” premiered at Luna Fete in December, and Recognition of Sci High at NOPS meeting as School of Distinction and Equity Honoree.

Semester one has 218 students on the honor roll. Mrs. Hull stated that the 4 x4 block has been helpful in student learning.

One app applications are at 561. The deadline is at the end of January to receive applications. Board members noted that school should do some marketing to increase number of applications.

- **Important Dates**  
 MLK Parade on Jan 18<sup>th</sup> –students will be participating  
 January 23 – Second Open House. Recruitment for staff to take place in February. With two teachers leaving (Melanie Boulet early retirement and Josh Overman), we will be looking for teachers. Intent to Return Forms have been sent out to current teachers at Sci High and are due back soon so we can assess our need for staffing for next year.

**The Head of School Report was received by the Board.**

**Report of the Foundation:** (Julie Bourgeois & April Opko)

**FY 19-20:** Total committed funds restricted to educational programming to date is \$321,882, this is 92% of our \$350,000 goal.

**FY20-21:** Currently \$6,666 is committed for educational programming for next fiscal year

Capital Campaign: Total committed funds generated by the capital campaign to date is \$1,155,885 exceeding the goal of \$1,100,000. And there is an additional \$115,000 in proposed funding in pending, awaiting decisions of which \$50,000 is likely to come through.

Jennifer informed us that Julie is leaving for New Schools for New Orleans. The Foundation is in a better place during her tenure, resulting in a bright outlook for the school. Jennifer thanked her for all of her efforts on behalf of Sci High. Julie stated that she is putting together a 90 day plan for the Foundation. The Capital Campaign Committee now will become the Development Committee. Curtis Pellerin is working on putting together a recruitment committee to find the next development director.

**The Foundation Report was received by the Board.**

**Committee Reports:**

There were no committee reports as Committee goals and updates were addressed at the Board retreat preceding the Board meeting. Naj did state that in the future we would enhance our Board agendas with updates and presentations on issues affecting the operations of Sci High.

Other business included a suggestion that signage containing all languages spoken at the school be placed on the restroom doors to show inclusiveness.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Naj and seconded by Joan. The meeting was discussed at 2:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cathy Glaser, Secretary  
Advocates