



Board of Directors Meeting
May 17, 2018

In Attendance

Brock Kidd, Jon Driskell, Patrick Holcomb, Tony Hughes, Daryl Floyd, Kim Mallory, Charles Webb, Shaka Mitchell, Ryan Balch, Amy Liz Riddick, Marsha Edwards, Elizabeth Clay

1 – Call to Order

- Brock Kidd called the meeting to Order at 7:48 am

2 – Approval of the minutes for April 2018 board meeting was the first item of business. Charles Webb motioned that the minutes be approved; Tony Hughes seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

Principal Report

- Enrollment for the coming school year has been steady in all grades.
- 10 more kindergarten students have enrolled and 20 more are needed for next year.
- The "Gimme a Break" event held on Saturday, May 12 was a success and the organizers felt this can be a useful tool again. Two enrollments and three strong leads came as a result of this community effort to encourage enrollment. A monthly repeat of this outreach will be planned. Jon Driskell is looking into hosting other activities in June in the Napier-Sudekum neighborhood to boost school sign-ups. Marsha Edwards suggested that Jon work with the Play-and-Learn group as it is growing quite large and could potentially offer a number of leads for the new kindergarten program.
- We are seeing a few students from the 2nd and 3rd grades leave Explore, primarily due to parents moving out of East Nashville.
- In personnel matters, Academic Dean Jessica Talbot has requested a change in title to Assistant Principal.
- A task force will be formed which would include two representatives from East End Prep, Explore, and MOBC which will examine policies, procedures, cost-saving efforts, as well as homogenizing the personnel manuals at East End Prep, Explore and Martha O'Bryan Center. A report from the committee should be available mid-year.
- Discussion was held in regard to making teaching careers at Explore more attractive and sustainable. We'll continue to consider paying off student loans.

4 – Transition Update

- Shaka Mitchell introduced Ryan Balch who may soon join the Explore board of directors. He has an educator background, and joined the panel of parents who were a part of the interview process for all three of the principal semi-finalists. He reported that Stephanie Jarrett-Thorpe was the strongest, most viable candidate. She presented herself as someone who would encourage making collaborative decisions with staff and leadership; she possessed true leadership skills; she demonstrated a real understanding and belief in our mission and our core values.

5 – The board moved into Executive Session at 8:15 am in which personnel decisions including an update on the Principal interview process.

6 – Report from Marsha Edwards



- Consideration has been given to the internal candidates for the open Director of Operations position and they are not the strongest in comparison to the six outside candidates. Ideally, we would like the new principal to make this decision. This is an important hire and this staff member would serve in a dual role working with Kyle Campey and the principal.
 - Marsha went on to share that she had reviewed all of the teacher's notes who were a part of the new principal interview process.
 - She reported on Metro Schools moving into 'testing years', project-based learning which measures the total success of a child will soon come to an end.
 - Marsha updated the board on the current legal work between MOBC and MDHA, explaining that the MOU is moving forward and is with the attorneys at this point.
 - Lastly, Marsha outlined the Capital Campaign.
- 7 – There was no Financial Report as the current big issue at MOBS concerned the lending process and our involvement pursuing New Market Tax Credits.
- 8 – Facilities Update
- We hope to "move dirt" on July 1.
 - The RAD agreement was fully approved.
 - SHIPPO was not filed on time but is being processed and should not pose a major threat to the building timeline.
 - Anderson, the building contractor is primarily focused on opening K-4 and is working on a classroom shortage.
- 9 Review Action Items and Upcoming Events
- Amy Liz Reddick and Brock Kidd discussed the possibility of creating a major fundraising event, such as a gala.
 - New board members to both MOBC and Explore were discussed and Marsha was happy to report that Toni Fitzgerald and Derek Young were joining soon; board president informed everyone at this meeting that a board vote would not be necessary to bring new members on to Explore.
- 8 – The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 am.