Democracy Prep Baton Rouge

Minutes

DPBR June Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday June 20, 2018 at 6:00 PM

Location
4055 Prescott Rd. Baton Rouge, LA 70805

Directors Present
A. d'Aquin, C. Lamond, E. Campbell, E. Martin, J. Richie, M. Walters

Directors Absent
D. Grover

Guests Present
Brenna Lamb, C. Manieri, Greg Spreeman, M. Gieg

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order
   E. Martin called a meeting of the board of directors of Democracy Prep Baton Rouge to order on Wednesday Jun 20, 2018 @ 6:16 PM at 4055 Prescott Rd. Baton Rouge, LA 70805.

C. Public Comments

D. Approve Minutes
   E. Martin made a motion to approve minutes from the Board Meeting on 04-16-18.
   C. Lamond seconded the motion.
   The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.
II. School Update

A. School Update
Kelly started and they are doing a fellowship in Denver for principal and principal supervisors through Relay for a year - two week intensive summer part focused on leading data, 400 participants - 70 system level leaders in program with us - focus on data driven instruction practices, weekly data meetings,

NSBR sponsored - Coaches from relay will join throughout the year to coach - molly means is there too

Facilities update - CSRS construction has begun, working on the whole building, no unforeseen challenges, things moving as expected - our scope is also moving forward - waiting on a quote from the contractor and others

Marketa - Is GOHSEP where it needs to be? Congratulated the school and the band for showcase.

Staffing - two teachers away from being fully hired - looking for leader U resident - Ashley Livingston will be a fellow training to be assistant prin
Hannah Twillman on two year track - we need to hire her associate teacher

Hiring climate continues to be tough but we've had a lot of success in the last month - full day interviews that generated results - season was challenging but we're ending in a good place - even in a hard climate, we are not compromising on the quality of people we hire

Prep acad starts July 30

Tracking toward target of 540 and in a good place with the focus on K, 4, 5 - don't have specific numbers today because we are auditing our numbers - registration and intent to return

Overenrolling (budgeted for 510)

Jenny - how are you thinking about high school? interim next steps - we learned that it will take a lot more effort and time to make sure kids are placed in the right high school - an ops team member will focus on 8th grade placement - meeting with families starting in October to review options, apply to high schools, and then by May 1st, every kid has a placement

Expansion - three big must haves - facility, school leader, authorization Facilities - whole thing part of FEMA is a good step, but we'd need to do a lot of work to open HS - what would that strategy be? School leader - leader U is helpful for this - paths to leadership- internal staff would potentially be ready in 3 years Authorization - renew current charter K-8 - waiting on results from current school year - don't doubt that we'll be renewed - we will need to show a few years of academic results before asking for HS authorization

We're still committed to the HS - ambitions and urgent but strategic
III. Network Update

A. Network Update
   Progressing nicely with DP san antonio - we have our Ed and are hiring teachers and getting ready for first year

   San Antonio for DP You this year

   Holding graduations in NY in the next few weeks - exciting times

IV. Finance Committee Update

A. Finance Committee Update
   BVA for this year is about break even before depreciation - don't see any surprises as we close the year

   Budget for next year looks good - any questions?

   Eddrick had a comment - budget looks prevent conservative and includes cushions
   Allyson - increase in bussing

   Michelle and the school are the best at controlling expenses - DPPS appreciates the work and effort

B. Approve FY1819 Operating Budget
   E. Martin made a motion to Approve 18-19 budget.
   E. Campbell seconded the motion.
   The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting
   Discussion of retreat dates and Board on Track
   M. Walters made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
   E. Campbell seconded the motion.
   The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.
   There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.

   Respectfully Submitted,
   E. Martin

VI. Governance and Material Items

A. Reappointment of Michelle Gieg as School Leader
   M. Walters made a motion to Retain and reappoint Michelle Gieg.
   J. Richie seconded the motion.
   The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.
   Note in the record that Michelle has done an excellent job - minutes should reflect our full faith and confidence up to this point and moving forward
B. Renewal of Management Agreement
Thanks for sending the documents via email.

Questions from Allyson:
Prior to this year, if we had a loss, it would be covered by CMO - now it's covered by us - are we within the guidelines of LA and charters and accounting? Are we good with audit?

Greg - this is standard language we put in all agreements - if negative operating basis, CMO will float using the management fee - if a loss, DPPS pulls back and then in better years, they get paid back
This is tracked and shared with auditors
This isn't on the books as per the auditors - we can't be sure that a charter school will be profitable so this process is in place

Marketa - Unsure if this is standard but it seems to work for us - Greg says that other schools may rely more on fundraising, which we don't participate in - we can succeed on govt funds
J. Richie made a motion to accept renewal of management agreement.
C. Lamond seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Approval of 2018-19 Instructional and Board Calendars
Helpful to have instructional calendar in advance!

Update the last date on the board calendar to be June 11, 2019 and set a date for the board retreat

J. Richie made a motion to Approve instructional calendar.
C. Lamond seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Approval of ES & MS Student & Family Handbooks
Emily - when I read from a perspective of people who aren't familiar... the attendance section could be streamlined

Include names of key personnel

Eddrick - didn't seem to be many changes

We are considering updating them into a K-8 draft

M. Walters made a motion to Approve the handbooks "as is" and allow Michelle Gieg and DPPS the authority to make non-material changes.
A. d'Aquin seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Approval of Financial Policies & Procedures Handbook
Didn't appear to have much change from last year
J. Richie made a motion to approve.
C. Lamond seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.