



MICS Board of Directors Meeting 04-12-2021

Attendees Todd Porter, Kevin Wiley, Kim Leppert, Greg Snelson, Kelly Pledger, Rich Zinno, Brett Rhinehardt, Laura Jung, Eric LaForce, Justin Matthews, Kelly Loving

Quorum Status: Yes

A. Call to Order: 5:33pm

B. Approval of minutes: Kevin motion, Todd 2nd, all in favor- approved.

C. Public Comment: Hanna Simmons

D. Sub-Committee Reports:

a. Academics: Action Item- Ratification of plan to return to Plan A with protocols in place as directed by the state. Motion to approve, Brett, Todd Porter 2nd, all in favor- Approved.

The academic subcommittee met with Justin, Glenn, and Karen. Three main areas of discussion

- Review the NCDHHS public health guidance
 - Committee and Administration agreed on updated guidelines for MICS
 - Full board approval was received on 3/26
 - Updated guidelines were published in the Raptor Call on 3/26
- Reviewed Administrations observations regarding the return to on-site learning and overall, school enthusiasm since return has been very high
- Benchmark 2/Testing Results review Overall impression is the school is performing very well with all the challenges presented by COVID and the mix of onsite and remote students
- Next year and this summer, more intervention is planned for students to help them return to a "normal"

b. Finance/Facilities: Met Tuesday 3/30 at 7:30am - Eric LaForce, Kevin Wiley, Kelly Pledger and Justin Matthews.

→ ACTION: Approval of the early bird budget that allows for hiring of five new hires - subcommittee unanimously recommends. Motion to approve: Eric, Kevin 2nd, all in favor- approved.

→ Based on the February budget vs actuals (BVA), Justin put together an "early-bird" view of the 2021-2022 budget. The intent of this BVA is to get an early view and determine if new hires fit within the budget. The Finance subcommittee met on March 30th to review the early-bird budget

→ The Finance subcommittee will meet again in May to review and update the budget based on April BVA

→ The highlights from the early-bird budget are

- MICS continues to operate at a surplus and maintain strong financials.
- The budget currently assumes that MICS will not need to support remote learning in the 2021-2022 school year and will perform all in-person learning.
- There will be five new hires - three new faculty and two new teaching assistants. The facility hires include two new 3rd grade teachers and an ES interventionist.

- Includes an expense to support part-time registrar help - John would like to move to part-time and will need additional support to cover responsibilities.
- Will include annual staff cost of living increase
- The school is continuing to invest in upgrading its facilities and its supplies including technology replenishment.

→ One item the Board is going to discuss is a COVID-related bonus for MICS staff. It has been a tough year, the Finance Subcommittee is recommending the Board consider this.

c. Governance: N/A

d. HR:

→ Executive Director Search - Two candidate onsite interviews occurred week of 3/29. Stakeholder feedback from those interviews is being processed and decision next steps will be determined by board in closed session at end of today's meeting.

→ Staff Survey - Postponed until new Executive Director is in place. Will still be conducted by HR consulting firm.

→ HR Audit - Report from HR consultants reviewed by and responded to by HR subcommittee. Current adjustments are: 1) Staff Handbook updates, and 2) Setting up ALTHR as a means of outside reporting for any discrimination or harassment claims.

→ Next will be an update of all job descriptions to be handled in-house with assistance by consultants when necessary.

e. SOAR Report: N/A

E. School Operations Report:

→ Enrollment / Lottery Report: 1,650 students onboard next year. The PowerSchool module now include registration documents and should make the process easier. Next fall this may expedite the application/registration process.

→ Summer school- School has applied for and received summer school funding. Planning on two sessions. Plans are being finalized.

→ State applied for federal waiver for testing and we are unsure what will be required. Benchmark testing (iStation and NC Check-in) will still be tracked to track Longitudinal progress.

→ Good transition after Spring break- the Elementary school welcomed 25 additional students and the Middle/High school welcomed 15 additional students returning.

→ Rentals under the new protocols have gone extremely well.

→ Transition to Plan A Update:

- The state passed a law k-5 back to Plan A.
- A Charter advocacy group lobbied to have Charter schools be immune to the law.

→ It is uncertain whether the state will continue to require remote learning in 2021/2022

→ COVID- school deployed a successful vaccine support.

F. Board motion to enter closed session 6:27pm for reason 143-318-.11A6. Kevin motion, Kelly 2nd, all in favor- Approved

G. Board Came out of Closed Session 9:10pm

H. Next Board Meeting: May 10, 2021

Adjournment: 9:10PM