

Sacramento Waldorf School

Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, January 24, 2019

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

“Our highest endeavor must be to develop free human beings who are able of themselves to impart purpose and direction to their lives. The need for imagination, a sense of truth, and a feeling of responsibility—these three forces are the very nerve of education.” – Rudolf Steiner

Present: Andrew Jensen, Marianne Gray, Lawrence Olson, Brian Bertossa, Jason Sigel, Tammy Duncan, Tim Carmichael, Michael Fields, Prashant Goteti, Eric Brickson, Esteri Hinman, Prashant Goteti

Absent: Marcela Iglesias

Guests: Zach Menzer, Kim Winters, Hema Srikant, Adrian Cowham, Wendy Gittleman, Erika Beernink, Melissa Rainsford, Darryl Cragun, Mark Domine, Melissa Brescia, Meg Cheatham, Ioannis Kazanis, Kelly Younger, Colleen Duke, Isaac Joerger, Andrew May, Allison Sokolowsky, Margarita Hawk, Greg Clevenger, James and Maylynn Ortega, Quentin Bacon, Amber Beasley, Anh Nguyen

Topic/Presenter	Discussion	Decision/Action	Owner	Date
President’s Report/Approval of Minutes – Inform/Decision Andrew Jensen	Tim Carmichael - motion to approve December Minutes; Michael Fields - 2nd; Minutes approved.	December Minutes approved	Andrew	Done

<p>Administrator's Report – Inform</p> <p>a) Tuition Letter Update</p> <p>b) Enrollment Update</p> <p>Andrew Jensen</p>	<p>Enrollment - We are at 425 compared to 417 at the beginning of the year. No attrition in the HS. Tuition discussion meetings have been held, including one last night.</p> <p>Discussion of tuition increase – Comments received from parents:</p> <p>Were alternatives to tuition increase considered?</p> <p>Jason Sigel discusses ad hoc tuition setting committee and desire to achieve sustainable model and affordable tuition.</p> <p>“Our family is facing a potential increase of \$615 per month. This will price us out of the school.” Issue taken with the statement that a goal is to make SWS affordable.</p> <p>“SWS has always been pricey, particularly compared with Catholic schools.”</p> <p>Acknowledgement that SWS has a problem regarding sustainability and affordability. Discussion of usefulness of a “community page” and how enrollment was increased through use of a community page at his childrens’ prior school. Governance and finances tanked his prior school and he appreciates what is needed here. He sees red flags here regarding how we generate income and how we work together as a community.</p> <p>Requests for one month extension of enrollment deadline to poll parent body on how many will leave if tuition increase sticks. Lawrence: A delay would increase uncertainty for parents, faculty and others. Lawrence urges parents to participate in TA process to give SWS a chance</p>			
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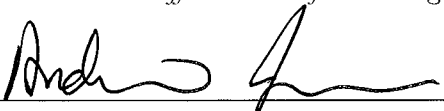
	<p>to meet families where they are.</p> <p>“BOT cannot allow parents to walk out of this meeting feeling they suffered a large tuition increase and that the BOT was inflexible in response to the parents’ response.”</p> <p>Tim - BOT should have done better giving more notice of intention to increase tuition. Discussion of availability of TA to offset tuition increase/reduction in sibling discount.</p> <p>“This group would like to understand better the drivers that pushed the BOT to determine a tuition increase was necessary.”</p> <p>“It is unsettling to be placed in position where the only way we can stay at SWS is by using TA.”</p> <p>“It is interesting BOT has gone to raising tuition and increasing TA rather than keeping tuition affordable.”</p> <p>“We have four kids. Reduction of sibling discount is huge blow to ability to remain at SWS. I do not think we have more to give.”</p> <p>“TA is uncertain and a family cannot plan on receiving TA in future years. You are driving off your best-paying customers i.e. the multi-child families by reducing the sibling discount.”</p> <p>Tim: No other HS in the area offers a sibling discount. We looked at what other schools in the area are doing for tuition, sibling discount, international students, TA.</p> <p>“There must be a way to grandfather in the reduction in sibling discount.”</p>			
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	<p>Andrew closes discussion by stating that BOT will consider whether to make any changes to the tuition increase/sibling discount reduction and will communicate with the community further on the issue.</p>	<p>BOT will consider whether to make any changes to the tuition increase/sibling discount reduction for 2019-20</p>	<p>BOT</p>	<p>February 7 special BOT meeting</p>
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<p>Marketing Proposal – Discussion & Decision</p> <p>Andrew Jensen Marcela Iglesias</p>	<p>Marketing Proposal discussion moved to closed session.</p> <p>Mike Fields report on Linden Hall. Linden Hall has a roof leak that has worsened this year. Scott, the facilities manager, obtained a quote from Zumwalt for a roof replacement. The quote for the upper roof is \$44,300 to replace which assumes no damaged underlayment; if dry rot is discovered that price will go up and we will be charged on a time and materials basis. The lower roof quote was \$18,350. Discussion of whether receiving quotes for upper and lower simultaneously may result in discount. Discussion of inviting other roofers to provide quotes. Andrew requests decision to allow committee to obtain a minimum of two more quotes and then conduct an email vote of BOT to proceed with work.</p> <p>Esteri: motion to get two more quotes for replacement of both upper and lower roof and allocate \$50,000 for Linden Hall upper roof replacement with B&G and Admin to make decision on vendor and proceed. Tim seconds. MOTION WITHDRAWN due to Andrew’s discussion above.</p>	<p>Buildings and Grounds to obtain two more quotes for roof repair/replacement and circulate recommendation for email vote</p>	<p>Mike Fields</p>	<p>Prior to regular February BOT meeting</p>
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<p>Master Plan Update – Inform & Discussion</p> <p>Andrew Jensen</p>	<p>Background given on deterioration of Meristem. Master Planning committee has been meeting for over one year to come up with a priority list for what buildings need work. Also discussed early childhood. BOT invested reserves to hire an architect to do space planning on Meristem replacement - an arts and early childhood building. Finance Committee has been engaged to see how the building may be financed and Development to see what kind of fund-raising can occur to assist in funding the new building. Hope is by next month to develop the financial analysis on how the building can be financed.</p>	<p>Develop analysis of how Meristem replacement might be financed</p>	<p>Andrew/finance committee</p>	<p>Optimistically at regular February BOT meeting</p>
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These Minutes are not an official record of the meeting of the Board of Trustees until signed by an officer of the Board.

Signed: 
 Andrew Jensen, President

Date: 2/28/19