



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 23, 2023

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

### Members Present

Susan Adams  
James Taylor  
Ashley Acuff  
Chris Cesnik  
Josh Bowling  
Susan Vogt  
Tracy Guerrero  
Ranisha Martin  
Shayna Sangster

### Members Absent

Michael Bowling  
Beth Uselmann  
Marie Mackintosh  
Mariana Lopez-Owens  
Valerie Davis  
Breanca Merritt

### Staff Present

Ross Pippin  
Dana Larson  
Anuja Petruniw  
Brandon House  
Melissa McMickle  
Kyra Bowerman

### Guests

Brian Anderson  
Shareyna Chang

Dr. Susan Adams called the March 23, 2023 Board of Directors meeting to order at 3:34 PM.

Dr. Adams proposed the approval of the January 17, 2023 minutes. Mr. James Taylor made the motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Chris Cesnik seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

### Finance:

Mr. Brian Anderson gave an overview of the February financials. Revenues through February were as projected and we are on budget. While ahead on budget currently, we will end on budget when timing and bills catch up.

Mr. Ross Pippin highlighted the change in budget. Each school will have its own budget, but they will share the same bank account. The schools are funded differently. Washington Irving will be funded by student-based allocation.

According to Mr. Pippin, revenue is up by 2% at TGNS, but that will adjust when the state finalizes the budget. The average teacher salary increased by 2.23%. We can expect an increase for insurance costs. Our retirement match is under what was projected. We increased the budget for additional transportation through Boner Bus. A portion of the teacher retention bonus at WINS will come from what we received from IPS. There is a portion of the budget set aside for hard to fill positions next year. We are expecting additional grants and loans to support Washington Irving Neighborhood School.

Mr. Taylor asked about shared expenses between the two schools. Mr. Pippin explained the shared positions will be around operations and enrollment. They will be funded 65% TGNS and 35% WINS. Mr. Anderson explained how we can expect the financials organized for the two separate schools. Mr. Anderson expressed we need clarity from IPS

about what financial information they will need from each separate school. Mr. Taylor suggested we should be approving the budget for the Near Eastside Innovation School Corporation as an entire entity.

Dr. Adams proposed to approve of the budget. Ms. Cesnik made the motion to approve the budget. Ms. Susan Vogt seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Pippin proposed an investment policy as a means to produce additional funds. We will need to determine the authorized signers for the board resolution. Mr. Pippin proposes this will be the Board Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Executive Director. Mr. Pippin proposes that the group tables the discussion until edits can be made. Dr. Adams made a motion to allow the Executive Board to approve the resolution at the Committee meeting in April. Ms. Cesnik made the motion and Ms. Ashley Acuff seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Mr. Pippin proposed the need for a compensation committee of 3-5 board members to support the development of compensation increases as we account for the change in staff roles and responsibilities. Ms. Acuff, Mr. Taylor, Ms. Cesnik, Ms. Vogt, Ranisha Martin, and Josh Bowling offered to serve on this committee.

### **Academic Update**

Ms. Dana Larson reviewed middle of the year NWEA data as compared to other IPS schools. Of students in the 50th percentile, 47% of these students met their Reading NWEA MOY goal and 60.71% of these students met their Math NWEA MOY goal. This rated well when compared to IPS MOY NWEA data.

Ms. Larson reviewed IREAD scores for students at IPS, as well as how those scores relate across IPS as well as across the state. When considering only third graders, TGNS had 39.5% students pass compared to 32.5% at this time last year. We will look towards the last week of school for students to retake the test which will contribute towards our overall pass rate.

Ms. Larson gave an update on the ELA curriculum adoption. TGNS and WINS will be adopting Wit and Wisdom by Great Minds. Foundations and Heggerty will cover phonemic awareness and phonics. The leadership team will receive specific training this spring, and the entire instructional staff will receive professional development during our Institute this summer. An additional professional development will be provided on September 5th, 2023.

### **Operations**

Ms. Anuja Petruniw gave an enrollment summary as of March 20, 2023. We are currently at 582 students.

Ms. Petruniw gave a personnel report. We have hired a licensed interventionist, two social workers, a SPED Teacher of Service, an operations assistant, and a classroom assistant. There was one resignation.

Ms. Petruniw gave a family and partner engagement update. She highlighted the Valentine's Day Dance which was attended by approximately 600 people. Eight parents helped with setting up, passing out refreshments, and assisting with the craft table. The 2nd grade Black History Month Wax Museum and the 6th grade Blood Drive were highlights for our staff, students, and the community.

Ms. Petuniw reviewed an update to the school calendar.

### **Update on Washington Irving Neighborhood School**

Mr. Pippin gave an overview of the IPS board meeting taking place this evening and the vote on Thursday, March 23, 2023. Mr. Pippin indicated we have a finalized contract that is awaiting approval. We will have some additional clauses and policies related to personnel and practices.

## **Governance**

Dr. Adams reviews current officers along with service terms for board members who are nearing the end of their commitments as they currently stand. Mr. Pippin shared that the board will need to make a change to the bylaws in order to extend terms as needed or desired at the upcoming committee meeting in April. Dr. Adams shared that the Executive Team has discussed making Mr. Taylor the Board Chair. Mr. Pippin will follow up with Beth Uselmann regarding her willingness to continue as Treasurer. Mrs. Acuff willing to serve as Vice Chair. Ms. Vogt willing to continue to serve as Secretary. Dr. Adams shared she's considering stepping off the Board in order to engage at WINS as a neighbor.

## **Revised Organizational Chart**

Mr. Pippin shared revised organizational chart for NEISC, outlining positions for staff as the organization moves into operating two school sites.

## **Resource Development**

No Update

## **Board Committees**

No Update

## **Closing Items:**

Dr. Adams moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:28 pm.

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Dr. Susan Adams, Board Chair

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Recorded by Melissa Rowe