

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

SVN Charter School Virtual Board Meeting

November 21,2022

Call to Order

The Board of Directors of Scuola Vita Nuova convened for the regular meeting on November 21, 2022 at 5:32 p.m. via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Edgar Palacios.

Roll Call

The roll was called. The response was by voice

Present – In person	Present - Virtually	Absent	Administration Present
	Scott Heffner Greg Jones - Tardy Ann Clockau Edgar Palacios Calvin Ricks - Tardy Kanyetta Wansley	Selena Smith	Nicole Goodman Mary Pittala Jessica DiGiovanni Dana Cutler, Legal Counsel

Quorum

It was determined that a quorum was present.

Public Comment

The next order of business was the public comment session as provided by Board Policy 0412.

No one was present.

Greg Jones moved to amend the agenda to include the adoption of the corporate resolution for Edgar Palacios to open a brokerage account. Kanyetta Wansley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Kanyetta Wansley asked if the stocks associated with the brokerage account would keep their value at two-hundred thousand dollars. Mary Pittala answered that the stocks should hold the same value, but it will depend on the stock value at the time of reception.

Kanyetta Wansley moved to accept the Ann Klockau seconded the motion. The motion carried.

President's Report

➤ Committee Reports

➤ Finance

Ann Klockau shared the following:

- Actual enrollment is at 406 which is ahead of the budget 400
- There was an increase in the reserves because of an increase in Basic Formula State Aid; reimbursement for ESSR II; and ESSR III funds.
- SVN is required to open an escrow account in the amount of \$75,000.00 for SVN's Closure Reserve Fund which is required by
- Information regarding Clockwork and construction costs.

Kanyetta Wansley moved for approval of SVN's escrow account for the sponsor required Closure Reserve Fund. Scott Hefner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calvin Ricks moved to approve the use of Clockwork for anticipated construction in the new acquisition. Greg Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried.

➤ Strategic Plan:

Kanyetta Wansley shared highlights from the Strategic Planning Committee who met on November 16th with Strategic Planning Consultant, Kent Peterson. Kanyetta Wansely asked for suggestions from the board. Edgar shared that there will be another meeting in December, where the proposed strategic plan will be given to the administration for their input. With the goal that a Board vote to approve will occur at the Board's January 2023 Meeting.

➤ **Facility Update**

It has been confirmed that we will not close on the new property in April; it will more than likely be in July.

School Report

➤ **Enrollment**

Jessica DiGiovanni shared the Open Enrollment Period will begin on January 1st and continue until March 1st. Currently, there are 402 students enrolled; enrollment will increase to 407 with new students starting soon. Families who complete applications will need proof of residency and birth certificates for students. Kindergarten students must be 5 years of age by September 1st in order to enroll. Preference is given to siblings of current students, newly accepted students, and students that live within a two mile radius of the school. After March 1st, all other kindergarten students will enter the lottery. The school will promote with ads on Facebook and Northeast News, messaging to families, at early childhood centers, and at community agencies. Jessica DiGiovanni answered there were 46 kindergarten students this year which is a little under the cap, and the eighth grade is also under the cap. There is also a waitlist of 20 students.

➤ **Attendance**

Jessica DiGiovanni indicated that post-COVID, SVN is returning back to its pre-Pandemic focus on strong attendance .Attendance was reviewed with families at Parent/Teacher conferences; severe cases of absence were personally addressed with families by the administration. Students with the lowest attendance rates met with the Deans and success plans were developed for those students and their families.

➤ **Family Engagement**

There have been three kindergarten Family Literacy Workshops that were led by Beatrice Henry. Thirty-six people total attended the three nights. Our goal of 100% face to face parent/teacher conferences have been completed. SVN will continue to provide family learning nights. A middle school family connection event was held the week of November 14. The topic was Safely Navigating Social Media and Technology. There are additional plans to have a high school family connect event and school-wide family fun nights.

➤ **Social Emotional and Behavior Support**

Social, emotional and behavior support will continue to be the focus for the year. The school has supports in place for emotional and behavioral needs. The Deans of Student Culture were added to help with culture, electives, small groups, triage, and student success plans. The Deans are Mr. Mansfield, Mrs. Hardin, Mr. Muhammad, and Mr. Wells (support). The Behavior Support Continuum was developed by the SVN Team, and supports that it lists are redirect/rethink, think/calm spot, buddy room, and Dean/Admin support. Behavior data is reviewed with staff, and the numbers are trending down 6%. Data can be used to track which teachers are having the most behavioral issues and to document what happens after interventions. Staff have regular meetings to review the data to see what is working and to identify other opportunities for improvement.

➤ **Special Education**

There are three teachers, one paraprofessional, and one speech language pathologist that work with 28 students. There are also contracted occupational, speech language, and applied behavior analysis therapists on site. There are a variety of needs, and the needs are high.

➤ **Academics**

Nicole Goodman shared the PRiME Report (Statewide Student Growth Report) with the Board. SVN was one out of 20 schools that made the list, and was on many top lists such as *Beating the Odds*. SVN was listed in the EleMid (elementary-middle school) grouping. SVN is showing significant growth.

➤ **Literacy Senate Bill 681**

Nicole Goodman shared the reference guide to the Bill with the Board, and will share the complete Bill with the team. The teachers and staff are already doing the work so it is a matter of documentation and reporting. Nicole Goodman is on the advisory council for this Bill, and will share expectations and requirements with the group. Literacy must focus on the fourth and fifth grade instruction. Need to make sure the school is aligned with the Bill, and focused on the goals and priorities. A question was asked about when the commission will review the Bill. Nicole Goodman answered there is a meeting next Tuesday where she will find out more information.

➤ **SVN Visioning Study for the New Facility (SSA Building)**

Nicole Goodman and the administration team met with students, did walkthroughs with teachers, and sent out a survey. There is a plan to meet with parents.

➤ **Alternative Method of Instruction (AMI)**

AMI packets will be sent home with students, and teachers will be available on those days. Activities will be on the website, however, on snow days there will be no work.

➤ **EdFuel Talent Calendar and Employee Value Proposition**

Staff will complete the EdFuel survey. Nicole Goodman shared the four areas of the Employee Value Proposition:

1. Student-focused;
2. Collaboration;
3. Opportunities for growth (PD & coaching); and
4. Valuing expertise.

➤ **Discipline**

Nicole was asked about the data regarding ISS (in-school suspension) and OSS (out-of-school suspension) and whether there was additional support needed from the Board regarding discipline. Edgar Palacios recommended a Discipline Policies and Behavior/Restorative Practices Report for December.

Closed Session

Edgar Palacios moved to adjourn the open session and enter into closed session to discuss real estate matters. Ann Clockau seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Scott Heffner - Yes

Greg Jones - Yes

Ann Clockau - Yes

Edgar Palacios - Yes

Calvin Ricks – Yes

Selena Smith - Absent

Kanyetta Wansley - Yes

Closed Session began at 7:02 p.m.

Closed Session ended at 7:06 p.m.

No vote was taken in closed session.

Open Session (cont.)

➤ **Real Estate**

The RFQ Proposals are due on December 9th. The board can conduct interviews or review proposals and then select a general contractor. The visioning presentation will be at the December 19th board meeting. Edgar Palacios asked if the general contractor would have provisions for POC businesses. Mary Pittala answered that she will make sure it is in there. Kanyetta Wansley asked about the process for newspapers and how one is chosen. There was discussion about newspapers and costs. It was suggested The Call Paper and Dos Mundos be included for advertising the RFQ.

Calvin Ricks moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 PM. Greg Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Date: December 19th, 2022



BOARD SECRETARY

Minutes approved by the Board on December 19, 2022

Minutes prepared by Jene Counts, Administrative Assistant