

# MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

SVN Charter School

March 27, 2023

Scott Heffner  
Greg Jones  
Ann Klockau  
Edgar Palacios  
Calvin Ricks  
Selena Smith  
Kanyetta Wansley

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

| Present –<br>In person | Present - Virtually  | Absent              | Administration Present   |
|------------------------|--|---------------------|--|
|                        | Scott Heffner – at 5:38 PM<br>Greg Jones<br>Ann Klockau<br>Edgar Palacios<br>Calvin Ricks<br>Selena Smith – at 5:40 PM | Kanyetta<br>Wansley | Nicole Goodman,<br>Superintendent<br>Jene Counts, Admin<br>Assistant<br>Dana Cutler, Legal Counsel –<br>at 5:52 PM<br>Daniel Umscheid, Guest |

## CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors at Scuola Vita Nuova convened for the regular board meeting on March 27, 2023 at 5:34 P.M. in the SVN Media Center. Edgar Palacios, called the meeting to order.

## ROLL CALL

The roll was called. The response was by voice:

Scott Heffner – late  
Greg Jones – Present  
Ann Klockau – Present  
Edgar Palacios – Present  
Calvin Ricks - Present  
Selena Smith – late  
Kanyetta Wansley – absent

## QUOROM PRESENT

Edgar Palacios, determined 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.

## CONSENT AGENDA

- a. February 2023 Minutes

- b. February 2023 Financials
  - c. February 2023 Accounts Payable in the amount of \$284,785.00
- Calvin Ricks moved to adopt the agenda. Greg Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- Committee Reports
  - Finance
    - Reserves are 5.2 M 318 days of cache at the end of the school year. The costs of the renovation is \$1.5 million-\$2 Million, plus 1 million to close on the building The Year-to-Date income is \$5.7 million, expenses are \$4.8 million, and the net income is \$635,465. The Esser II and Esser III grants were received in February, and the stocks from the Sherman grant were sold in February. Check register was reviewed and approved, and enrollment is at 396. The Weighted Average Daily Attendance (WADA) is 543.5, higher than the budgeted 526. This reflects an increase in English Language Learners and Free/Reduced lunch students.
    - The Personal Financial Declaration for Board members is due May 1<sup>st</sup>, and there is a penalty per day if you're late.
  - Strategic Planning
    - Calvin Ricks and Nicole Goodman shared that the meeting went well, and the conversation allowed for feedback and proposals. Ann Klockau, Kanyetta Wansley, and Kent Peterson were present at the meeting as well. Dates for the next meeting will be sent via email.

## **SCHOOL REPORT**

Presented by Nicole Goodman and Daniel Umscheid

### **Facility Project**

- Daniel Umscheid shared the last few months has been the visioning phase, getting input from all stakeholders. There was a meeting with a student group in October, a site walk tour with the teachers and staff, and an online survey. During the visioning session, students has many creative ideas for the space such as slides and book nooks, but there were other ideas such as peer-to-peer tutoring space, yoga, sports, and sewing. There was a lot of positivity during the staff walkthrough; there were compliments about natural light, large open space, and the space becoming a place for the community. The survey from the parents had similar themes to the teacher comments. They wanted smaller classroom sizes, extracurricular activities, and different ways to engage the family.
- There have been many iterations of the design, and Daniel Umscheid shared four different designs iterations and the most current design. The designs reflect different ways recommended to utilize the current building to address the programmatic and cultural needs of SVN. There are many community centric features in the most current design. Daniel Umscheid read a short backstory about Judge Charles Shangler, "The Judge", that was used as inspiration for the design of the new building, and how it can be utilized.
- Daniel Umscheid shared a diagram that shows areas where there will be little to no money spent and areas that are high dollar areas. There are soft costs (professional

service fees), construction fees, and FFE costs (furniture, fixtures, and equipment) putting the budget range to \$1.5 million to \$2 million. To get the range lower, JE Dunn will be used at the contractor. JE Dunn has been used for previous projects. The next step is a robust design phase to give JE Dunn a design packet to bid a price, and to be responsible with the budget.

- Calvin Ricks asked if JE Dunn would grant SVN some work since SVN is a 501(c)3 organization. Daniel Umscheid shared that JE Dunn has historically been generous to SVN and other projects. The vote for the project will not be until the April Board Meeting.
- Selena Smith asked about the agreement with JE Dunn, if there were any built-ins in the contract. Mary Pittala shared that there wasn't a contract yet, they have just been awarded the project. Typically, that has been addressed in previous projects and should be the same this time.
- Daniel Umscheid shared that there has been an appropriate amount of time built in and has been shared with JE Dunn. Construction is slated to wrap up at the beginning of next summer.

#### Family Survey

- Nicole Goodman shared the responses and percent breakdown from the family survey. Overall, 23% of families responded the survey. Nicole shared some of the top responses which were stated during the facility presentation by Daniel Umscheid.

#### Summer Enrichment

- Summer Enrichment will be June 5<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 8 AM to 2 PM. There will be small class sizes, field trips, thematic learning, ELA, Math, Martial Arts, and Culinary Arts. Teachers are encouraged to try new things and be creative.

#### Read Across America Month

- There were different activities throughout the month: reading, fun days (crazy sock day and hat day), popcorn party, and reading buddies.

#### Spring Break

- There was Spring Break Fest the Friday before Spring Break. The 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade went roller skating, and the K-4<sup>th</sup> grades stayed at school. They had rotations such as face painting, bouncy house, and park. Mad Science also did a demonstration

#### Open Enrollment

- There were 69 total applications received by the March 1<sup>st</sup> date. The lottery did not have to be conducted. Nicole Goodman shared the enrollment breakdown with the Board. Over fifty percent of kindergarteners were siblings and live within a 2-mile radius.

#### Student Achievement

- Nicole Goodman shared the STAR Data breakdown which is administered three times a year to show where students are and how they will perform on the MAP test.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> grade has been using Hoot for twenty weeks; a School Smart grant was used for this programming. There was a +1.2 increase for 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Calvin Ricks asked if a grant writer has been used. Mary Pittala shared that there has been a grant writer used previously, but there isn't one permanently used.

#### Parent Teacher Conferences

- There has been 100% face-to-face Parent Teacher Conferences for the 13<sup>th</sup> year in a row.

#### DESE Immediate Responsive Services Grant (ISRG)

- This grant was recently submitted, and the award amount would be \$24,840. The fund will be used to provide Open Seat online coaching for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students, and other grade later on.

#### Annual Performance Report/MSIP 6

- The APR can be used by sponsor to inform renewals.
- Nicole Goodman shared the MSIP timeline, and the APR report. LEAs receive points for points for performance and continuous improvement. The percentage of points for continuous improvement is 91.7% There were no points received for attendance; may be due to students being absent due to COVID. Other LEAs also didn't receive points.
- Nicole Goodman and Mary Pittala have been working with DESE, asking questions about the APR. Nicole and Mary are working on the data for school readiness
- Selena Smith asked if students performing to the standards that SVN has rather than comparing to other schools in the area. Nicole Goodman shared that there are multiple ways students are measured, and that SVN meets students where they are. Students are not where SVN would like them to be. However, when you look at individual students, the students are doing well compared to the other charters in Kansas City. Selena Smith asked if there was goal that administration had. Nicole Goodman shared that the goal is to increase the MAP score by 10%. For individual students, the goal is a one-year's growth.
- Calvin Ricks asked if there is a data validation process used for this report. Nicole Goodman shared that they do have their own data department as well as DESE. There is specific person who analyzes the data for SVN.
- There will be climate and culture survey administered to students, parents, and staff. It is provided by DESE and is no cost to SVN, and SVN has until April 14<sup>th</sup> to complete it. This survey helps to compare where SVN to other schools and see if we are aligned.

#### Organization Chart

- The retention rate for next year is 96%, and SVN is still in the process of hiring a K-8 Principal and other positions.

#### Site Review

- Nicole Goodman and team are working on sending those edits back to the sponsor

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Calvin Ricks moved to adjourn the meeting. Ann Klockau seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:54 P.M.

#### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next Board Meeting will be held at 5:30 P.M. on April 17, 2023 at Scuola Vita Nuova Charter School 535 Garfield Ave, Kansas City, Missouri or virtually, it will be provided in the Board's Meeting Notice.

Minutes prepared by Jene Counts, Administrative Assistant.

Minutes approved by the SVN Board of Directors on April 17, 2023.

  
GREG JONES, Board Secretary