

# MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

SVN Charter School  
February 27, 2023

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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Present – In person	Present - Virtually	Absent	Administration Present
	Scott Hefner Greg Jones Ann Klockau Edgar Palacios Calvin Ricks Selena Smith- 5:54 PM Kanyetta Wansley		Nicole Goodman, Superintendent Mary Pittala, Director of Finance and Operations Jene Counts, Admin Asst Dana Cutler, Legal Counsel-6:15 PM

## CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors at Scuola Vita Nuova convened for the regular board meeting on February 27, 2023 at 5:30 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 Hefner  
Greg Jones  
Ann Klockau  
Edgar Palacios  
Calvin Ricks  
Kanyetta Wansley  
Selena Smith

## QUORUM 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. January 2023 Minutes

b. January 2023 Financials

c. January 2023 Accounts Payable in the amount of \$126,728.72

Kanyetta Wansley moved to adopt the agenda. Greg Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The consent agenda was retroactively adopted due to an error in the amount of Accounts payable. Ann Klockau moved to adopt the agenda. Kanyetta Wansley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### ➤ Committee Reports

#### ○ Finance

Ann Klockau shared that there are \$5.2 million in reserves, the income is \$4.8 million, and the expenses are \$4.2 million. The net income is \$632,376.96. There will be money coming out the reserves to pay for the SSA building and its renovation costs. The Esser II and Esser III payments will be received in this month. The \$200K in stock from the Sherman Foundation was received in December and was sold this month. The check register was approved. The enrollment remains at 401 versus the budgeted 400, and WADA at 543.5 versus the budgeted 526.2. Teacher's salaries will be ready to approve at this meeting. Salaries will receive a 4% increase, with some teachers receiving a higher percentage increase because of additional certifications and responsibility. Salaries are contingent on the budget. The 4% is the status quo at this point; there have been discussions on differentiation based on merit but haven't gotten to that yet. There will be four additional teachers; two in middle school, one in first grade, and one in second grade. These additions are due to student need and additional challenges. The monies will be coming from the Esser III funds, and after that runs out, it will come from equity in funding. Personal Finance disclosures have been sent out and are required for all board members active in the calendar year 2022. They are due on May 1<sup>st</sup>, and there is a hefty penalty for submitting late. Board members who haven't received anything by email or traditional mail should reach out to the Missouri Ethics Commission.

#### ○ Superintendent Evaluation

Calvin Ricks sent a document to the Board President, Edgar Palacios on Superintendent evaluations. Although it is geared toward Superintendents of larger school districts, there are some elements the Board can take from it; it is from the state of Missouri. Calvin Ricks looked at evaluations from multiple states, and he connected with someone from Crossroads but they did not have an evaluation. The one from the state is lengthy, but it is DESE approved. Calvin will send a copy to the Board to help think through things that will benefit the Superintendent and the school as a whole. In order to prevent evaluation paralysis, Calvin Ricks suggests that the evaluation be twice pre year. For roll out and distribution, there may be some things in Microsoft that can aide in that.

#### ○ Strategic Planning

There still hasn't been an agreed upon date to meet. The committee will come up with another date to meet, and will bring more information to the Board.

#### ○ Building and School Report

Mary Pittala shared the new timeline for the SSA building from the architect. The programming and visioning phase is going on right now, and the architect pushed it to give the board more time. The concept design phase will start on March 20<sup>th</sup> and will be for six weeks. The design development phase will be for another four weeks. Nicole Goodman and her staff have spoken with all stakeholders, except for the parent group. There has been some feedback from parents with the survey. The information is still being collected, and will be shared with the Board at the next meeting. The construction documentation phase will be followed by the KCMO permit phase, and they have to approve everything. Construction would start September 1, 2023 and go until March 29, 2024. The school will get the certificate of occupancy on April 1<sup>st</sup>, and then the punch list after. The teachers could potentially move in on April 22<sup>nd</sup> to get a feel for the space. The grand opening would be on August 12, 2024. The SSA Should be out of the building by July 31<sup>st</sup>, but this gives a cushion of another month in case they run into issues with their new building. The concept design phase is elongated due gathering information from all stakeholders and then bringing that information to the Board. All punch list asks must be completed one year from the date the school receives the certificate of occupancy based on the warranty. Nicole Goodman shared that there will be media releases when timeline once the project and timeline is confirmed. In the past, both board members and staff lead that portion. Calvin Ricks suggested to get Dia Wall to come to the grand opening.

## **SCHOOL REPORT**

Presented by Nicole Goodman

- The last school tour was las Saturday, and there were about five tours. Open enrolment is January 1<sup>st</sup>- March 1<sup>st</sup>. Nicole Goodman will give an update to board about enrollment numbers at the next meeting. The school is close to filling the forty-six seats in Kindergarten with about fifty percent of them being siblings of current students. The lottery will take place on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, and families will be notified on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- The academic achievement goals are continually revisited with staff. Under each goal, it shares the school's practices and how the school is working to achieve that goal. The MSIP/APR is embargoed, and information will not be publically released until March 7<sup>th</sup>. The school is still reaching out to DESE (Department of Elementary and Secondary Education) with questions about areas where the school received no points.
- Student attendance expectations are communicated with families frequently. The school emphasizes the importance of attendance, and there are attendance action steps when students fall below the ninety percent attendance threshold. Overall, attendance is at ninety-one percent. The ninety percent threshold is the school's policy, however the state speaks of having ninety percent of students having ninety percent attendance. The school has twenty-nine percent of students with less than ninety percent attendance. The school tries to work with families so that truancy court is the last option.
- In January, there were two discipline incidents and two discipline days. In February, there were a total of ten incidents and thirteen days for discipline. Extreme prolonged tantrums can vary. They can be ten to fifteen minutes or several times

throughout the day; they had a problem with self-control. Some student could have repeat offences. The Behavior Support Continuum is used school wide; staff uses Rethink, Think Spots, Buddy Rooms, processing, and triage. The goal is to keep students in class and in school, but every student needs something different. In Kickboard they have surveys that can be given weekly for real-time feedback. The school is activating this, mainly for Middle School, to help respond to student needs and Social-Emotional climate. OpenSeat is an online platform that gives student access to mental wellness coaches, and the school is talking to them to offer this to our sixth through eighth grade. Students and families have been asking for this, but the partnership with Mattie Rhodes wasn't able to be staffed.

- The school had the MCPSA Commission Site Visit with Insignia Partners, and the draft of the report will come out in three to four weeks.
- The Parent/Teacher Conferences were conducted in the last two weeks, with a make-up day due to the Chiefs parade. The school is at ninety-six percent face-to-face conferences so far.
- Summer Enrichment will take place June 5<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, 8 AM to 2 PM. The school is getting more staff to work the summer. There will be field trips, small class sizes, and focus on ELA and Math; more thematic learning.
- A Titan Security officer will be on site for the next two weeks (nine days) for school safety; it will be a SSO or SRO. There is no preference between the two. This will be a resource for the school. This is a proactive measure, and will help with some of the discipline issues. The SSO or SRO can become a mentor in the school. The security officer will be given a tour and there will be a conversation about the culture of the school. There was an option between an armed or unarmed officer, and this officer will be armed. This is so that the officer will be able to defend the school, and Titan Security want their officers to be able to act in case of an emergency.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Scott Hefner moved to adjourn the regular board meeting and enter into executive session pursuant to RSMo. 610.021. to discuss (1) Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys....(2) Leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration therefor....(3) Hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded....(6) Scholastic probation, expulsion, or graduation of identifiable individuals, including records of individual test or examination scores...(7) Testing and examination materials, before the test or examination is given ...(9) Preparation, including any discussions or work product, on behalf of a public governmental body or its representatives for negotiations with employee groups...(13) Individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment...(14) Records which are protected from disclosure by law....

Ann Klockau seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Scott Hefner – Yes  
Greg Jones – Yes  
Ann Klockau – Yes  
Edgar Palacios – Yes  
Calvin Ricks – Yes  
Selena Smith – Yes  
Kanyetta Wansley – Yes

The motion carried.

The regular meeting adjourned at 6:28 P.M.

The regular meeting resumed at 7:23 P.M.

*The Board approved the following actions by unanimous roll call vote in closed session:*  
The Board voted unanimously to approve the Teacher Agreements for certified teachers for the 2023-2023 school year.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Selena Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Kanyetta Wansley seconded. The motion carried.


The meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next Board Meeting will be held at 5:30 P.M. on March 27, 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 March 27, 2023.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GREG JONES, Board Secretary