



The Children's Guild DC Charter School Board

Date: Monday, August 13, 2018
Time: 6 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
Place: The Children's Guild DC Public School, 2146 24th Place
NE Washington, DC 20018

Minutes

Attendees

Melody Giles
Cleopatra Green-Clarke
Chris Zimmerman
Lesley Nesmith
Andrew Ross
John Ferguson

Not in Attendance

Dana Baughns
Imani Samuels
Jawauna Greene

The Children's Guild

Steve Baldwin
Willard Saunders
Duane Arbogast

School

Ashley Posey
Bryan Daniels
Nakia Nicholson

6:00 p.m. – The attendees traveled to view the proposed location for the school expansion

Call to Order

Mr. Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Review of Minutes (see attached) – Mr. Chris Zimmerman

School expansion Proposal – Mr. Steve Baldwin

Steve Baldwin reviews the blueprint for the high school building option. Mr. Baldwin explains the financial aspect of the proposal. He believes that we should be able to purchase the building for \$5,000,000. and complete construction for \$10,000,000. Mr. Baldwin adds that we have a developer willing to fund the cost of the purchase and construction. The alternative option to The Children's Guild purchasing the building would be to pay that developer \$1.5 in rent monthly.

Preschool/AppleTree Contract – Dr. Duane Arbogast

Dr. Arbogast reviews the status of our proposed partnership with AppleTree regarding a pre-k program. He explains that obtaining a pre-k program would attract more students from Ward 5 in which we are a part of. He adds that although AppleTree sees much potential for a pre-k program at The DC Charter, they feel the missions do not align as The Children's Guild caters to a more disabled population. The alternative option to housing an AppleTree here within the school would be to lease the curriculum Dr. Arbogast adds. This would include curriculum, assessments and professional development. He explains that the first step would be to apply for a "grade expansion" through the Charter board which AppleTree will assist with as well. He adds that along with assisting with applying for the charter amendment, AppleTree would also provide the following:

1. Consultation around personnel and space
2. Onboarding for kindergarten staff
3. Summer training with the Every Child Ready curriculum

Dr. Arbogast provides a handout with cost proposal information

The board approved the plan.

Proposed High School Plan – Dr. Duane Arbogast, Chris Zimmerman

(See provided attachment)

The board approved the plan.

Admissions and Marketing Plan – Bishop Willard Saunders

Bishop Saunders informs attendees on the continued success of the admissions team. He adds that the DC Charter’s enrollment is currently at 357 and is swiftly moving toward the target of 450. The admissions team plans to target Ward 5 heavily as many of the families within that sector were simply unaware of The Children’s Guild. It should be noted that enrollment in Ward 5 began to increase closer to the beginning of the school year. The admissions team continues to follow up and is willing to visit the homes of those unable to physically come in to register.

School Report – Mrs. Nakia Nicholson, Mr. Bryan Daniels and Ms. Melody Giles

Mrs. Nicholson gives a brief comparison to the previous year’s enrollment. She informs that the numbers are about the same as last year both General Ed and Special Ed alike so she isn’t too concerned with the budget being affected negatively. She spoke on the Back to School Extravaganza hosted by the school. That event brought in 12 new students. She states that historically, 28-30 families wait until the start of school year to enroll and The DC Charter is anticipating those enrollments within the upcoming weeks.

Mrs. Nicholson reviews the current employment vacancies and states that there is room in the budget to hire 2 additional teachers.

Mrs. Nicholson updates the attendees on the ongoing parent and community campaign. The DC Charter has 1 parent who works as an ambassador for parent/school relations and involvement. She adds that the 2018/19 school year is the pre-year for the charter renewal. The school is current going through the QSR which is a review and the pre-work to the actual renewal. QSR representatives will spend 2 consecutive weeks at the DC Charter observing classrooms.

Ms. Giles spoke on recent and future recruitment efforts. She informed the team on where the admissions teams has been targeting and the progress made from those efforts. She added that we were able to distribute 91 book bags to needy families. She gives a brief introduction of the parent ambassador and their history of acquaintance. Ms. Giles plans to train the ambassador on our style of recruitment and is confident in what lies ahead.

Mr. Daniels informs attendees on the DC Charter’s new collaboration with a company called Playworks. Playworks assists with the structure of physical education and works directly with our staff and students.

Adjourn

Mr. Zimmerman adjourned the meeting at approx. 9:15 p.m.

Submitted by Ashley Posey, Recording Secretary