

VOYAGER PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2020 VPCS – Virtual Meeting

Parent Feedback – 4:45 pm

A. Guests: Cindy Cortez, Mandy Bohnet, Lisa Solomon, Laurie Ann Takeno

B. Parent Comments:

- a. A middle school parent shared that although their child was excited to begin the school year with distance learning, at this time, they are really missing their friends and the social interactions.
- b. Parent shared that their child enjoys waking up later, but the child feels that they learn better at school. Parent also shared that as distance learning continues through October, this becomes increasingly challenging with out the support of A plus /Kaima’aina Kids (before and after school care) due to work schedule. The parent likes how things are going with distance learning because the focus is for the kids.
- c. A first grade parent shared that their child is struggling a lot. The child is becoming bored from some of the online programs, and the parent does not feel like her child is getting much out of school currently. The parent noted seeing a difference in learning versus just completing work. Both parents are working throughout closures, and the added cost of childcare at this time is a hurdle while distance learning.
- d. A new Voyager parent said her kindergarten child is having a difficult time with the amount of time they are expected to be online. The parent understands the challenges and respects the plan to be at distance learning, but hopes there is a way to lessen the amount of time the child is in front of a computer for synchronous learning.
- e. Mr. Anderson stated that part of our Voyager School is to receive feedback and try to use it to guide our instruction and decision making. He invited parents to share ideas with teachers and to complete any surveys that are sent by teachers or staff. Additionally, the parent feedback at the start of Governing Board meetings will become a regular part of the monthly meetings, and he invites parents to attend as well.

Call to Order – 5:07p

1. Roll call/Determination of quorum
 - a. Members Present: Steve Sullivan, Natalie Dotseth, Michelle Richardson, Matt Choy, Evan Anderson, Mandy Phan and Melissa Young, Susan Dacoscos
 - b. Members Not Present Sandra Bollozos-Fraticelli
 - c. Guests: Cindy Cortez, Mandy Bohnet, Lisa Solomon, Laurie Ann Takeno

Consent Agenda

1. Meeting minutes for August 2020
 - a. Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Goals for the Meeting – Key Issues facing the Board and VPCS

2. COVID-19 and Continuity of Services – Current happenings
 - a. Response Committee – The Response committee oversees discussing reopening decisions, distance learning and support. At the last Committee meeting, they revised the school’s reopening plan and refined the draft of reopening procedures;
 - b. There is now a dashboard for reopening Voyager school, with specific metrics that will be used.
3. Covid-19 Special Session Re-Opening Plan, Ratify Amendment
 - a. Special Session – There was a Special session of the Voyager PCS Governing board to discuss and vote on a proposed resolution to extend the school’s distance only mode of instruction through October 30th. The outcome was the board approval of the extension.

4. Committee Vacancies
 - a. Dane will remain on School Leader Organization Committee
 - b. In October Steve and Dane will look into matrix to finalize; Filling committee vacancies was not a priority in relation to the current business for the board, so this discussion is tabled until October
5. DOE's Budget/and discussion on Finance Committee and reserves
 - a. Matt Choy shared that the Finance Committee documents are the first set of financials, which reflect the cut in budget - \$235k deficit
 - b. What do we know: Revenue is based on best estimate from commission, but not certain yet; it can change.
 - c. What we do not know yet: Teachers' union decisions that may lead to change in funding or spending.
 - d. Next month budget revision will be done to adjust for lowered budget
 - e. Note about Federal Funding: If anything moves through Congress, high likelihood of money going to schools; but nothing has been done yet.
 - f. State revenue uncertain: GET taxes and other taxes that would normally fund schools.
 - g. Reserves: about \$730K; this money is for these types of situations; As long as this fiscal situation does not continue in subsequent years; the school will be financially okay.
 - h. Reserve Requirements: 60 days of operating expenses (\$400K for Voyager) and as long as we have this amount in reserve, there should be no issues with the charter commission (no penalty for using the reserve this year)
 - i. Future finance committee actions will include discussion of contingencies once more information is available about budget and if there is a longer term need to use reserves.
6. New Business/ Additional Items to Discuss
 - a. Steve made the motion to approve the resolution to extend distance learning only mode of instruction through October 30th, at the Special Session Governing Board meeting on September 11, 2020. Motion was seconded by Natalie. Discussion was had and the motion was called to a vote. The motion was approved.
 - b. Evan shared that there is currently increased security to continually monitor the campus even when sparsely staffed.

Comments on Reports

1. Finance
 - a. Committee Report Submitted
 - b. Discussion was had during #5 this meeting agenda, "DOE's Budget/and discussion on Finance Committee and Reserves"
2. Governance
 - a. No Committee Report Submitted
3. Excellence in Education
 - a. No Committee Report Submitted
4. School Leader
 - a. No Committee Report Submitted
5. Facilities/Safety/COVID Response
 - a. No Committee Report Submitted

Executive Session

1. None

Adjournment – 5:29 pm