



Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2015 at 7:30am

Board members in attendance:

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| Patrick Donovan - Chair (by phone) | Scott Laband - Vice Chair | Rich Billings - Treasurer | Jessica Johnson* - Secretary (by phone) |
| Pamela Harris | Amy Anderson | April Manzanares - Parent Rep. | |

Board members absent: Nick Waugh

Staff in attendance:

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| James Cryan CEO | Michael Turner Director of Strategy & Operations | Rebecca Kisner Director of Community & Engagement | Amy Zhu Manager of Finance | Jen Heller School Leader RMP1 | Jenni Reese School Leader RMP2 |
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| Agenda Item | Discussion / Resolution | VOTE or Next Step |
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| Call to order | The board meeting was called to order at 7:35am by Scott Laband, Vice Chair. | |
| Approve agenda & minutes | The board unanimously approved the minutes from the last meeting. The next board meeting will be on Friday, April 24 at 7:30am for two hours. As board meetings move quarterly, the expectation is that committees continue to meet with more frequency. | <i>Motioned – Amy Seconded – April Approved 7-0</i> |
| Staff Report | PEAK Values Awards The meeting was joined by five RMP staff members - Daniella Gutierrez, Caitlin Vaughan, Sinjin Jones, Leah Hiendlmayr, and Carolyn Crockett - who were awarded our PEAK Values Awards in December 2014. School leader Jen Heller read the accolades from the nominations by other staff members and board members shared their congratulations. PEAK Awards have been a bi-annual RMP tradition since Year 1. | |

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| | <p><u>Dashboard Review</u></p> <p>James reviewed high level dashboard benchmarks, highlighting enrollment and hiring as two areas that are behind where they should be and which will constitute a deeper dive discussion later in the meeting.</p> <p>Jen and the Education Committee led the review of the academic data, which shows our third graders making solid growth but still behind in proficiency as we face the PARCC assessment in March. James feels we will fare well in comparison to other similar cohorts in DPS. Scott asked how we'll get in front of only having proficiency data and not growth data, to our stakeholders and funders. Pamela suggested sharing our internal assessment data, such as MAPs. Rich noted the importance of explaining our third grade class is over two thirds new scholars since Year 1, and allocating all resources possible to improve academic data even if it comes at the expense of growth, development and other projects.</p> <p>Jen pointed to the summer slide she continues to see even with our condensed six week summer, and the group discussed ways to invest parents and scholars in daily reading and use of our online platforms. Scott suggested tasking the Family Leadership Council with brainstorming ideas to tackle summer slide, which April will take to the February Captains meeting and report back at the next board meeting in April.</p> <p>Mike shared our fundraising goal of \$1.4 million, total cash in-hand of \$700,000+ and current commitments for \$300,000. Mike also spoke to a shift toward requesting multi-year commitments from local foundations, as done with the Charter School Growth Fund; the Gates Family Foundation is taking the lead on supporting us with this project. James thanked the board members for 100% giving in 2014, and recognized Tony Caine who continues to be RMP's largest individual donor.</p> | <p>James: Request data from NYC CMOs assessed on PARCC and correlate to MAPs & STEP.</p> <p>Rich: Ask for Stanford support with analytics.</p> |
| <p>Smart Growth Factors</p> | <p>As Round 1 of SchoolChoice comes to a close, enrollment is steady for the southeast campus but low for the southwest campus. Becca explained the unique challenges the enrollment team is facing in the southwest community, which are proximity to other district schools, lack of transportation options, multi-child families with older siblings we can't serve, a strong desire for bilingual instruction or instruction entirely in Spanish, and a general lack of awareness of the SchoolChoice process and Rocky Mountain Prep.</p> | |

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| | The partnership with Kepner is strong and will serve as a good, functioning short-term facility. James asked for board support to pressure the identification of our long-term facility from DPS. Pat and Rich volunteered to reconvene with Tom and Alyssa, and will send updates to the rest of the board. | |
| Financial Update | Amy gave an overview of financials 50% of the way through the year. Amy asked for board approval to shift 0.9% from contingency budget to general operating at the school level, which requires board approval per CDE policy. The board voted to approve the budget revision. | <i>Motioned – Rich Seconded – Pamela Approved 7-0</i> |
| Strategic Plan | James asked for feedback on revisions to the strategic plan to add a “pause” year in 2016-17 and open the second two schools of the first phase in 2017-18. Board members supported that shift, especially based on how the Denver market will evolve with unforeseeable conditions which may necessitate slower or faster growth. The new proposed plan is less expensive and also builds a larger central office to support growth, which had previously been understaffed compared to other CMOs at this stage of growth. Amy and Scott asked James to reconsider the number of direct reports both to the CEO as well as the Managing Directors. | <i>Motioned – Pamela Seconded – Amy Approved 5-0</i> |
| Meeting Adjourned | Scott adjourned the meeting at 9:04am. | |