



TWO RIVERS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

February 13, 2023

Call to Order

Chair Zachariah called the February 13th Meeting of the Two Rivers Board of Trustees to order at 6:00 PM. Chair Zachariah opened the meeting by explaining that the meeting would be held per the Open Meetings Act and recorded.

Roll Call

Board Members

Aswathi Zachariah, Chair	Present
Malik Husser, Vice Chair	Absent
Eli Schlam, Secretary	Present
Gregg Treml, Treasurer	Present
Jenny Bradbury, Trustee	Present
Kimberly Eddings, Trustee	Present
Lauren Hamilton-Edward, Trustee	Present
Alvincent Hutson, Trustee	Absent
John Phillips, Trustee	Present
Derek Pierce, Trustee	Present
Michael Murphy, Trustee	Present
Ben Robins, Trustee	Present
Ahna Smith, Trustee	Present
Aurora Steinle, Interim Executive Director and Ex Officio	Present

Others Present

Michelle Kimso, Executive Assistant
Kenneth McCants-Pearsall, Chief Academic Officer
Amy Vruno, Two Rivers Young ES Parent
Alicia Rowe, Two Rivers Young ES and MS Parent
Anya Stockburger, Two Rivers 4th Street PSA President
Ian Walton, Two Rivers Young ES and MS Parent
Holly Malone, Two Rivers Young ES Parent

Approval of Meeting Agenda

The Board voted unanimously to approve the February 13, 2023 agenda

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Board voted unanimously to approve the January 9, 2023 minutes.

Interim Executive Director Report

Interim Executive Director Steinle started her update by sharing that Two Rivers had an amazing January and February with highlights including 5th graders performing at Ford Theater, Lady Sharks basketball winning the DC charter school league championship, Spring Expedition Launches, and Charles Young portrait dedication at Young Elementary School. Two Rivers is currently hiring for 2 vacancies. Steinle noted that Principal Jones is transitioned to a position at DCPS central office. Chief Academic Officer McCants-Pearsall added that internal and external resumes have been received for the vacant principal position.

Steinle shared that the enrollment and recruitment process has begun and that numbers are looking healthy. Additionally One Crew, One Continuous Journey is continuing at the Middle School to address culture issues. This has resulted in strong collaboration and referrals and incidents going down.

Steinle also discussed the recent contract between the District and the DCPS teacher's union which increased teacher salaries and the expectation that the District will provide funds to charter schools to provide similar salary increases for charter school teachers. It was suggested that parent advocacy is key in the Mayor's budget process.

Board Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Treasurer Treml shared that the budget reforecast happened with Two Rivers remaining in a strong position. The school is sunsetting pandemic funding, has good cash on hand, and is working on an investment strategy for generating money with extra cash on hand. He also presented the following Memo, which was shared with the Board in advance:

- **FY23 Contract for Framing the Future Gala Catering-** Two Rivers is seeking to enter into a contract for a caterer for the Framing the Future Gala. The Gala will be the school's 19th such event. It is the school's largest fundraiser and typically brings in over \$100,000 to support the arts program. Of the seven proposals received, three had menus that were fitting for our event (neat and casual enough for an unseated event and meeting a variety of dietary restrictions). Of those remaining three, one proposal did not include in their price all of the services we requested and adding those services would have made the cost untenable. While we have worked well in the past with both of the two remaining vendors, Ridgewells and B.Lin, B.Lin's price was the lowest of the two.
- **Recommendation -** Two Rivers Two Rivers recommends contracting with B.Lin Catering. This contract is estimated to cost \$22,700-\$28,000, depending on the number of Gala participants.

The board unanimously approved the contract.

Governance Committee

Secretary Schlam shared that Trustee Penelope Thornton-Talley resigned due to other commitments, which will leave at least 3 open seats to fill during the upcoming board recruitment process.

Recruitment will begin in March. Secretary Schlam identified operational, development, academic and real estate experience as potential areas for recruitment and invited Board members to share any other areas they felt should be targeted during board recruitment.

Schlam also shared a three part proposal from governance committee: 1) set expectation with school leadership to bring student voice to the board 4 times/year 2) have one designated PSA/FSA member who sits at the table with Board members and is able to speak freely during the Board conversation, but is not a voting member 3) have a public comment period at several meetings during the year. After discussion, a vote was held and unanimously approved to adopt the proposal.

Development Committee

Director of External Relations Husain shared that the Beyond the Basics Campaign raised more than \$52,000. The development team is focusing on the gala with 49 ticket sales over 4 days. They are anticipating around 300 guests with a student focused experience. In addition to the silent auction, there will be a call for cash donations at the end.

Academic Excellence Committee

Chief Academic Officer McCants-Pearsall shared an overview of the academics at Two Rivers using data from the three dimensions of student achievement. McCants-Pearsall also shared a 3-year academic priorities plan which included leader support and development, teacher support and development, and curriculum and instruction.

Search Committee

Trustee Eddings shared that Edgility has wrapped up the discovery process which included two town halls, focus groups and 1:1's. The next steps include sharing a job description, Edgility leading phone interviews, and semi-finalist interviews with the search committee. Two finalists will have campus visits, and full interviews with the board. The projected announcement date is May 10th with a start date of July 1. A discussion was held around the communication process.

Adjournment

The Board meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Prepared by:
Michelle Kimso/s/
Executive Assistant

Submitted by:
Eli Schlam/s/
Secretary