



TWO RIVERS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 10, 2023

Call to Order

Trustee Smith called the April 10th Meeting of the Two Rivers Board of Trustees to order at 6:07 PM at Two Rivers Middle School. Trustee Smith 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	Present
Eli Schlam, Secretary	Present
Gregg Treml, Treasurer	Present
Jenny Bradbury, Trustee	Present
Kimberly Eddings, Trustee	Present
Lauren Hamilton-Edward, Trustee	Present
Alvincent Hutson, Trustee	Present
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
Khizer Husain, Senior Director of External Relations
Anya Stockburger, Two Rivers 4th Street PSA President
Cara Williams, Two Rivers 4th Street PSA Secretary

Approval of Meeting Agenda

The Board voted unanimously to approve the April 10, 2023 agenda.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Board voted unanimously to approve the March 13, 2023 minutes.

Interim Executive Director Report

Interim Executive Director Steinle started her report by sharing that Two Rivers has brought back the traditions of Latin Dance Competition, DAS Loop, and 8th grade passage portfolio.

She shared that the Young ES principal hiring is near completion and that Principal Inman-McCraw is stepping down at the end of the week and Assistant Principal Stone will act as Interim Principal for the remainder of the year. Additionally, Two Rivers families are in the re-enrollment period.

On the note of budgets, Steinle shared that in the mayor's budget all teachers were given a 12.5% raise, however DCPS was given raise percentages beyond lead teachers. Charter schools are seeking an equitable amount that respects autonomy and were instead given a one size fits all funding formula. More information was forthcoming to staff in advance of offer letters being sent. A discussion was held around the need for equity in funding.

Steinle proceeded to share an update on Two Rivers' organizational priorities for the current year. She noted that a lot of progress was being made on the goals of financial sustainability, stronger staff orientation, and multi-tiered systems of support. The goals of onboarding in the TR Way has been an unmet need. A discussion was held on coaching for teachers, teacher morale, and staffing of middle school classes.

Steinle also shared an update on Two Rivers Race and Equity Work. While the plan has been implemented, staff reported not feeling engaged with the work. There is already a plan in place to relaunch the work in crews next year. A discussion was held on full staff training in Race and Equity work, as well as 8th grade high school acceptance.

Board Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Treasurer Treml presented the following memos which were shared with the board in advance:

- **FY23 Copier Service Contract Likely Exceeding \$25,000** - The copier service contract is likely to exceed \$25,000 this fiscal year. The FY23 budgeted for the copier service contract was \$22, 117. Based on the December financials, the anticipated copier service contract will be less than \$26,000 for FY23. Two Rivers issued a notice of intent to enter a contract on February 24, 2023, and placed advertisements in the DC Register, Washington Post, and Washington Informer.
- **Recommendation** - Two Rivers recommends continuing to work with Copier Workshop for the remainder of FY23, and for the remaining useful life of the existing fleet.
- **Disclosure of Conflict-of-Interest Contract: Tres Creole Catering** - Two Rivers engaged Tres Creole Catering to provide food for an alumni event held on January 5, 2023, at a cost of \$785.40. The owner of the business is related to a former Two Rivers board trustee, Reem Labib Tyson, who held office from SY17-18 through

SY19-20. The Two Rivers employee who engaged this vendor did not know that the PCSB policy requires board notification of contracts between a school and the relative of a former board member; and the Two Rivers employees with the responsibility of overseeing compliance with the PCSB policy did not know that the vendor was related to a former board member.

- Recommendation - Two Rivers requests approval to contract with Tres Creole Catering for \$785.40 in FY23.

After a discussion around disclosure of conflict. Following the discussion, the board unanimously approved the contracts mentioned above.

Governance Committee

Secretary Schlam shared that board recruitment is ongoing with two applications having been received thus far. The committee has had robust discussions with the school around safety and security.

Development Committee

Senior Director of External Relations Husain, shared that 300 tickets had been sold for the gala on April 14th and the fundraising goal is half-way there. There will be student performances, a live auction, and cash appeal.

Search Committee

Trustee Eddings shared that the Executive Director position was posted on February 15th with semi-finalists interviews the week of April 24th. The in-person finalists visit Two Rivers on May 3rd and 4th with the opportunity to meet with teachers, parents, and staff. A discussion was held on the in-person visits around the format for staff and parent conversations.

Closed Session

The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to move to Closed Session under Open Meetings Act OMA (b) (10) Personnel Matter.

The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to return to Open Session.

The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to move to Adjourn the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Prepared by:
Michelle Kimso /s/
Executive Assistant

Submitted by:
Eli Schlam /s/
Secretary

