

The Cottonwood School of Civics and Science

Meeting of the Board of Directors

March 9, 2022

Zoom meeting began at 6:36PM. Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM

In attendance

Nels Hesseldahl – President

Emily Sturgess Cleek – Secretary

Nicki Phelps - Treasurer

Sade Rivers

Amy Sample Ward

Staff: Laura, Amanda, Kathy, Susan, Paula, Lisa

Community: Heather, Sol, Marisela, Hilary

Meeting Minutes

1. Community Comment
 - a. Heather very uncomfortable with continuing to mask
 - b. Marisela- surprised at continued outlook of Cottonwood with taking in data and also using outside time and various community members' comfort levels with various masking decisions.
2. February meeting minutes
 - a. Motion to approve as presented by Nels, seconded by Amy; approved unanimously
3. Budget updates
 - a. Little change to year-end projections from last month
 - b. Cash and reserves have little change
 - c. Managing fluctuation with state income between grants
 - d. Financial position of school is strong
4. Equity Action Plan check in
 - a. Considering how to share with broader CSCS community, beyond the equity committee and the board.
 - b. Talking about mixers/events for people to engage with one another. Open to anyone at the school who wants to join.

- c. By April, have clear guidelines for Board communicated on website, etc. to open up potential engagement with diverse community members.
 - d. Sade mentioned the possibility of moving toward board members putting their names on specific tasks
- 5. Fundraising/Auction Discussion / Friends of Cottonwood
 - a. May 14 is the auction
 - i. Still needed: MC and a show manager
 - ii. Theme is Oscars
 - iii. Room for folks to make unique offers for packages
 - iv. Goal for \$31,500, but can make it lower by a few thousand without much detriment to the school.
 - b. Plant sale
 - i. Will start soon
 - ii. Julia Walls has volunteered to run it
 - iii. Still trying to build the PTO back up
- 6. Parking Brainstorming Session
 - a. Paying 30k / year to Spaghetti Factory for parking
 - b. Spaghetti Factory doesn't want parents parking there
 - c. Neighboring buildings don't want to help
 - d. City of Portland met with Amanda
 - e. Asking to use the ODOT space; but it is currently fenced and locked so will need them to unlock it. It doesn't have a turn around though.
 - f. Need to find options for parents for drop off, especially of younger students.
 - g. Amy suggested adding this topic to the Facilities Committee
- 7. School Policy Work - Possible Board Committee
 - a. Amy will add the work and timeline to the Equity Action Plan
 - b. Sol, Emily both volunteered to help with the policy work
 - c. Meet on a monthly basis with support from board organization
- 8. Executive Director update
 - a. School enrollment has gone down
 - b. Masking update (see email)
 - c. Weighted lottery
 - i. 136 applications already in
 - ii. Nels as board president will be present for the lottery drawing

- iii. Will ensure there's a documented validation for the weighting
- d. Black History month celebration
- e. 8th grade math/science vacancy
 - i. Have decided not to hire now- Chris Wyland returning for Mon/Tues afternoons for Science
 - ii. Susan starts the day, math specialist leads math, Chris does science two days, and looking for someone to do special/other studies
- f. Outdoor school is happening for 6th grade and Outward Bound happening for 7/8th
- g. ED priorities include enrollment and looking ahead to next school year
- h. School conferences this week and Spirit Week before Spring Break
- i. Open House is going to be in person, board members will be involved- divided into 3 groups at varied times, touring classrooms and crowd control (overflow will be directed back to great room)