

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AGENDA

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DATE: 02/14/24 **TIME:** 4:10

LOCATION: Cottonwood School

Mission Statement: To provide a creative learning environment where students develop a sense of place and become stewards of the natural world and active citizens within our community.

Meeting began at 4:10

Meeting adjourned at ###.

In Attendance

- Nancy Davis
- Cinzia (+ partner), Lisa Colombo
- Jonathan Moore, Mari Van Sickle, Jill Charno, → Alicia Moody
- Amanda McAdoo

Meeting Minutes

1. Nov / Dec Financials
 - a. Up compared to
 - b. State and Grey family support
2. Consent agenda
 - a. Jonathan motions, Mari seconds, unanimous vote
3. Board Retreat // Facilitation and plan
 - a. Nancy Davis introduction
 - b. Rose / Thorn / Bud exercise
 - c. Process:
 - i. Work with a design team (it's up to us who is represented. What's important is that there's max diversity – hierarchical difference, gender, board / parent)
 - ii. Start with basic premises: what do we want to be different after the retreat? What indicators will show us that's happened? Nancy then creates a plan, design team approves, and then we have the retreat.
 - d. Questions:
 - i. This is a newer board, with first time board members. Can you help with trust building?
 - ii. How does the retreat interface with the larger strategic plan development process?
 - iii. How can we plan to make the process more effective + equitable?

4. New Board members
 - a. Alicia Moody → Board. Matthew motions, Jill seconds, unanimous vote
 - b. Julia Jarret
 - c. 2 more seats to fill, ideally
5. Director's report
 - a. Can we highlight key things that have been presented to the board, and make it easier to find?
 - b. 2022 - 2023 Student Investment Account (SIA) is presented to the board
 - i. Several roles are fully or partially funded through SIA
 - ii. Board will discuss during March session
 - c. Weighted lottery
 - i. We've reached our goal
 - ii. At what point will that change?
 1. Lawyers suggest we should stop, but we decided to keep going with it.
 - iii. Jonathan suggests a method of revising weights annually
 - iv. Questions:
 1. Does our board insurance cover a potential lawsuit?
 2. What is our objective?
 3. How can we adapt our tool (weighting) to achieve that objective?
 4. Are there other tools we can use to achieve it?
 5. Review variables
 - d. Special Ed
 - i. Cottonwood isn't getting the support we need from PPS
 - ii. We are out of compliance
 - iii. Some parents believe it's CSCS' fault that services aren't being provided
 - iv. What actions can we take to change the situation? Notice of legal action sent to PPS
 1. Julia Jarrett is an attorney
 - v. Amanda will meet with ODE representative and strategize next steps
 - e. 4-5 teacher will be taking medical leave
 - i. Aviva is filling in
 - ii. Hiring has been tough (no applicants)
 - f. Social Media
 - i. Paid internship program at Reed. Students can help run campaigns.
 - ii. Parents may volunteer to support us.
 - g. Open House in March
 - i. Board members attend
 - ii. Help set up and take down
6. Fundraising + Marketing
 - a. Fundraisers
 - i. Spring
 1. Plant sale partner backed out : (

- 2. Bundle of different activities all contributing to a thermometer, culminating in an event
 - 3. Benevity = platform for matching
 - ii. Fall native plant sale
 - iii. Veggie starts from middle school
 - b. Granny Grantwriter is willing to support us with private and fed funding
 - i. What are our priorities?
 - ii. What is the low-hanging fruit?
 - 1. Indigenous Studies
 - 2. Becoming a “lab school” and producing materials for other schools
 - 3. Grad-level course on place-based education
 - iii. Mari to organize a brainstorming session
 - iv. Support with Willamette Give Guide
 - c. Spring Fundraiser
 - i. Thermometer for Spring Funding
 - 1. Will look at budget for funding goal
 - ii. How to get outside families to participate in fundraising
7. Strategic Planning
 - a. Strategic visioning. What is CSCS becoming?
 - i. Not just board. Maybe a couple board members and stakeholders in CSCS including previous ED, past staff and Indigenous Educators
 - b. Strategic planning. How do we materialize the vision?
 - i. Second session
 - ii.
 - c. Board retreat = Tara O’Neill
 - i. How to be a board (mechanics of process, responsibilities, etc.)
 - ii. Get to know each other (fun!)
 - iii. What is the role of a board? How does it relate to the director? What are each stakeholder group’s “lanes”
 - d. Actions
 - i. Develop a clear sense of responsibilities and complementarities (e.g. DARCI)
 - ii. Create criteria for the strategic planning committee composition
 - iii. Share the RFP with Nancy for the strategy piece
 - iv. Send a message to Tara
 - e. Process
 - i. Collect proposals by the 28th
 - ii. Board votes by the 1st
 - iii. If there isn’t a clear consensus, we have a phone call to discuss