

**The SABIS International Charter School
160 Joan Street
Springfield, MA 01129
Board of Trustees**

Minutes of SABIS Board of Trustees Meeting – May 26, 2020
Contract Committee
via conference call

In Attendance: Atu White, Joyce Gondek, Luis Aponte, Daryl Johnson, Freddy Lopez,
Paula Meara

Guests: Vanessa Pileggi, Amy Wesley, Maretta Thomsen

Not Present: n/a

I. Meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m.

II. **Contract Review**

Atu White updated the committee on the contract work.

Met with DESE over phone with Paula Meara and Ellen McDonald to answer student outcomes questions. They said contracts can be five years or less, just information for committee. Ellen McDonald will work tonight to clean up the language and insert into contract and send to SEM tomorrow. Daryl Johnson asked if the board should consider a different number of years? Also in DESE conversation, committee realized board should be providing direction to management company and obtained better understanding after speaking with DESE, what they called “getting money’s worth and holding accountable”. Confirm have contract reflective of where see school going, as a board. Committee asked if SEM would consider less than a five-year contract? Understanding was that it had to run with the five-year charter renewal and they wouldn’t consider renewing fewer years. But was noted that for example, a shorter contract would require a charter amendment. A shorter contract was not discussed with SEM in the current negotiations.

Atu sent email to the committee with attorney’s review. Question 1/need to review. Question 2/Daryl Johnson asked if edit to “achieve” instead of “strive to” achieve was considered. Question 4/include “at the discretion of the trustees”. Trustees (remove “SEM”) shall have the right ... Question 5/2.3.5 SEM can request to address the Board per OML. Question 6/section 2.4.2, SEM has responded with percentages on the holdback. Should committee consider reducing the 16% holdback, or keep that

percentage? Or agree to 10%? Current holdback is 9%; discussion last week was centered on student outcomes. Committee agreed to 12%. Question 7/consider \$100K. Question 8/section 10.2.2, Daryl Johnson noted once section 2.2 language is updated, can edit language for this section around conditions being lifted. Have to be in compliance with charter.

Committee asked DESE, if cannot reach agreement what options are available? Can exist off current contract which then the triggers in current contract would go into effect. Paula Meara feels that would be a poor message to send to teachers and families.

Atu White will get responses to attorney tonight and will forward updated version to Amy Wesley as soon as received.

Meet again on Tuesday, June 2, 6pm.

Paula Meara moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Freddy Lopez. The meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne-Marie Nicolai, Secretary
SICS Board of Trustees