

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

**Minutes of SABIS Board of Trustees Meeting – February 25, 2020**  
**Contract Committee**

In Attendance: Sonja Shaw, Atu White, Freddy Lopez, Luis Aponte, Ellen McDonald, Paula Meara, Patrick White

Guests: Amy Wesley, Vanessa Pileggi

Not Present: Daryl Johnson, Joyce Gondek

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I. **Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m.**

II. **Management Contract**

Committee has questions for SEM. Amy Wesley requested to take the questions and then return with the answers to the committee.

- How is the Director classified as employee?
- What is classification of the business manager?
- What is the plan for dissemination of information going forward? (Per Commissioner's commentary in the charter renewal document about the quantity of information required).
- Incorporate requirements of the two conditions listed in the charter renewal document.
- Receive regular updates with realistic plan and progress reports toward meeting conditions. Consider setting up clear communication plan; how to improve communication with all sides of conversation. As example, is two days a reasonable expectation, to receive information prior to committee meetings for review?
- Terms & conditions sections/ consider penalty if benchmarks are not reached? Get feedback from SEM.

- Consider, is five-year contract with renegotiation possibility in year two or three? Board members reviewed with DESE. Board would commit with SEM for five years but terms may contain language for changes in year three, for example.

*Patrick White entered meeting, 6:26pm*

- What communication would SEM like to see from the Board? Create plan of action to address/ identify common goals and work as a team. Example, would it be possible to use the SEM RFP response for information? Would be useful to view approach. Amy Wesley /need to establish that both parties want to be at the table and are interested in working together. Identify Board expectations and compromise. Sonja Shaw noted that the previous work of the disbanded ad hoc committee was misunderstood by some and that, yes the committee wants to be at the table and all parties want best for students.
- May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for submission
- Utilize SEM version and Board version to cross-reference and review.

Amy Wesley said she doesn't see how the RFP is relevant to development of the management agreement. Sonja Shaw said that the proposal might be useful for the student outcomes. Identify what items are still valid per state of MA requirements. Board to establish benchmarks and consequences. Ellen McDonald asked Amy Wesley /what do you think about going into other charter schools and seeing what they are doing to succeed. Amy Wesley said SEM would not be doing that and they are already informed of what other schools are doing.

Consider changing date of SEM evaluation from December to September? Amy Wesley noted that data sometimes isn't released until after January.

Paula Meara would like to meet with Steve Bissonnette to understand budget process.

Get response from SEM by this Friday and committee will then schedule another meeting.

Luis Aponte moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Freddy Lopez. The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne-Marie Nicolai, Secretary  
SICS Board of Trustees

Attachments  
n/a