

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

**Minutes of SABIS Board of Trustees Meeting – June 24, 2020  
via conference call**

In Attendance: Ellen, Derryl Gibbs, Atu White Anne-Marie Nicolai, Paula Meara, Luis Aponte, Daryl Johnson, Sonja Shaw, Patrick White, Freddy Lopez

Guests: Vanessa Pileggi, Atty. Raipher Pellegrino, Atty. Paul Nicolai

Not Present: James Hollins, Dena Facchini

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I. Meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m. Sonja Shaw confirmed that all attendees consent to recording meeting on WebEx for notes.

II. **Contract**

Summary of discussion at 6/23/2020 contract committee provided by Atu White. Sonja Shaw noted that Amy Wesley emailed board members today. Had a version of contract from Friday 6/19. Held meeting last night where the Board is on points so message can be disregarded as it wasn't up to date. Atu White received communication from Commissioner Riley through school director that date they would review conditions was extended to one year to December, 2023. The only difference between last contract is that accepted SEM language regarding our ability to do due diligence. Committee decided to hold firm on the 16%\$ holdback and adopt language from 2015 contract that says 16% holdback will accrue until December 2023 and if conditions lifted before or on, SEM would get entire holdback. After that date funds were accrued would go into operations. Holding firm on accountability plan using 2019 results as a baseline. Holding firm to termination right. Committee has agreed we should update DESE to let them know where we are and send best version to DESE for review. Get consensus from board ok to send to DESE. for next meeting would like to have some decision makers at the meeting. Atty. Nicolai prepared letter to SEM with position. Atty. Pellegrino said that Amy Wesley is able to make the decisions. Is mediation possible once a contract expires? Would work under older contract. Atty Nicolai said no legal requirement/both parties would have to agree. If contract expires would continue to operate under old agreement. How to complete negotiations, leave it to committee? Full board? Atu White would prefer full board or at least contract and a rep from education committee.

Sending update to DESE on contract status. **Ellen McDonald moved to submit the current version of contract to DESE and an update on where the board is ; seconded by Luis Aponte and approved by voice vote, YES: Ellen Mcdonald, Derryl Gibbs, Atu White, Anne-Marie Nicolai, Paula Meara, Patrick White, Freddy Lopez, Luis Aponte, Daryl Johnson, Sonja Shaw.**

III. **Summer Enrichment Program**

Sent out to the Board for review. Ellen McDonald said that she and Freddy Lopez had a good conversation with Ms. Martinez, Asst. Superintendent of SPS about their enrichment program called “summer exploration” and project-based curriculum specific to cohort. They are incentivizing and entering students into raffles. Program begins July 6. Offered SICS access to curriculum. Luis Aponte asked if there are teachers to assist kids or are they on their own as they work on enrichment packages? Freddy Lopez noted the positivity of working with SPS and sharing information as many think SPS and charters do not collaborate. Ellen McDonald did say the accountability plan mentions partnering with another school. Atty. Pellegrino said the SABIS model is very interested in collaboration. Very strong about its methodology and curriculum and add to it.

Decide whether or not to collect Chromebooks from students that are not attending summer school. Hold another meeting to vote with more information, or give educ committee the authority? Ellen McDonald suggested educ committee plus Paula Meara and Derryl Gibbs? Motion to decide on Chromebooks pending summer enrichment program review. Communicate to families once education committee has chance to discuss summer enrichment program. **Ellen McDonald moved that the board vote to approve the non-summer school students keeping Chromebooks over summer contingent on review of summer enrichment program by education committee and that SEM look at SPS summer enrichment program. Seconded by Paula Meara. Approved by voice vote, YES: Ellen McDonald, Derryl Gibbs, Anne-Marie Nicolai, Paula Meara, Patrick White, Freddy Lopez, Daryl Johnson, Luis Aponte (if teachers available). Abstained: Sonja Shaw.**

IV. **Student Handbook**

At last meeting Amy Wesley indicated some updates to the Student Handbook for 2020-2021 school year. On main web page the 2018-2019 Student Handbook appears. Located the 2019-2020 handbook which is “buried” in the COVID-19 updates section of the website. Sonja Shaw will resend her suggested updates and has some additional questions for them. Table to July 15 board meeting, so that everyone can review.

V. **Chair Report**

**Daryl Johnson moved to approve up to \$100 to purchase a meal to deliver to Joyce Gondek and her family as she recovers. Seconded by Anne-Marie Nicolai. Approved**

**by voice vote, YES: Derryl Gibbs, Anne-Marie Nicolai, Paula Meara, Patrick White, Freddy Lopez, Luis Aponte, Daryl Johnson, Sonja Shaw, Ellen McDonald.**

Anne-Marie Nicolai moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Luis Aponte. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne-Marie Nicolai, Secretary  
SICS Board of Trustees

Attachments

draft of contract