

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

Minutes of SABIS Board of Trustees Meeting – April 14, 2020
Contract Committee
via conference call

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

Guests: Maretta Thomsen

Not Present: N/A

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

II. **Contract Review**

Atu White sent Amy Wesley an email this morning, expect to wrap up conversation by 24th. Received extension from DESE until 6/1 and can present to board at May meeting. This committee has been including other committees into each step of the process.

Director and Business Manager positions: in the draft, left language that's in the contract where it already states that Director should report to the Board and SEM. Speaking with Amy Wesley tomorrow so at the meeting on 15th, he should be able to report back to the board. Question for Governance committee, is language in bylaws modified regarding Director? For current draft, the 2009 language was referenced and added to it with the contract language of 2015. If there are major changes, will check back with Joyce Gondek/Governance on Thursday.

Atu White reviewed the existing Director language. Need specifics/how much more to put into it? How to deal with SEM if make changes here regarding Director? Should bring to Chair who brings to entire board, establish timeframe? Daryl Johnson suggested to add to what is there currently and to put a process in place where Board and SEM inform each other with each step. Former Director was total surprise to Board, especially related to evaluations. Recommended language to add here? Bring suggestions and let contract attorney propose language. How to consider dealing with differences of opinion and getting them resolved, if Director reports to both Board and SEM? Consider a committee?

Five-year contract would run 7/1/20 to 6/30/25 and remove option to extend section.

For the 48-hour reporting period, for SEM to provide information prior to meetings so that committee has time to review.... SEM requesting in some instances would like to explain the

information being given. They would like some language that gives them permission to address the board. At the meeting, SEM does have opportunity to address board about information provided. Can add language similar to, "SEM shall be granted opportunity to provide explanation if requested..."

Student Outcomes / putting back in SEM court, if they want to change, ask what they want to replace it with, rather than having Board come up with a benchmark there.

Renumeration: Freddy Lopez noted he reached out to MCPSA and also spoke with Ellen McDonald. The original 12% was SEM's going rate across the board (need verification), and when it moved to flat fee it was based on that 12%. Waiting to hear back from MCPSA to be able to compare/no figures yet. Do they have fixed rate in mind? Would propose 9% in current contract and tie to new benchmark. That is in their court to discuss tomorrow. Freddy Lopez also said in benchmarks, mention academic conditions placed on charter by DESE has to be met by 2022 to be tied in.

Atu White will provide an update tomorrow at the full board meeting.

Luis Aponte moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Joyce Gondek. The meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne-Marie Nicolaj, Secretary
SICS Board of Trustees