Syringa Mountain School
Board Meeting Minutes – 11/8/2017

Nigel Whittington
Tenaya Kolar
Randy Flood
Kaz Thea
Racheal Arndt
Christi Thompson
Amy Jonas
Angi Hunter
Rob Ditch
Julie Evans
Sandy Vaiu
Amy Schlatter

I.   509pm - AS opening circle
II. Adds:
  1) Finance committee - online pmt system - Item c
  2) Accept the audit as presented - Item d
  3) Swearing in K Thea to BOD - Item e
  4) BOD approve brokerage account - Item f
III. No public comment
IV.

a. Approval of 10/11/17 minutes - motion made by AJ and TK 2nd - no discussion, none opposed AIF
b. Review KG possibilities - NW proposed investigation; TK recommended a group form to discuss; possible to add another half day option; should consider number of 4 year olds (birth rate year impact); NW would like permission to explore committee formation (follow up with A Flood); AJ Waldorf is typical 2 yr kinder -- could we set up and be considered "private" school (not a preschool)
c. Online payment system - finance committee would like to change provider and give NW the access to manage; stripe you only pay 2.9% when you use it (this eliminates a monthly fee currently with paypal); CT says that paypal doesn't work well with our website; approx $200 to get stripe up and runningwith out website. TK makes motion to let NW to transition our online payment system to Stripe; AJ 2nd - no discussion; none opposed, AIF
d. Audit - finance committe recommends that we accept as presented. TK makes motion to accept as presented; SV 2nd the motion, no discussion, none opposed; AIF
e. K Thea sworn in by RF
f. BOD brokerage account - RF recommending approval to open an account to realize gifts from donors that would allow stock gifts to be liquidated for cash; discussion or concerns? RA - is WF only institution / M Schlatter to research as far as low fees; may go out of town to stay neutral; K Thea - what does it entail? RF - yearly fee? transaction fee? another account to manage; not any

other costs; can be used as additional revenue source; provides for another way to accept gifts; TK makes a motion to explore the process of opening a brokerage account to convert stocks to cash and authorize finance committee to search for best option; SV 2nd the motion, none opposed; AIF

V. Old Business
   a. Financial update/finance committee - S Kelly not here but reports distributed; audit, stripe, donating stocks (see above); Sped outsource costs ~$9k owed; PC autonomy; Transportation aka The Bus; Lunch program; Hiring business manager; 2 large expenditures this month - mortgage $7800 paid 11/8 and payroll $75k on 11/20; anticipate $50k for facility funds from ISDE 11/15; ~$14k from medicaid reimbursements on 11/15; will make Nov payroll; detailed reports to follow; where are we expecting ADA to come in -- guessing 80% ish….last year in the 70% range; retention of students has been in and out and probably a wash but the new incoming will be after the ADA upload. Can we move next BOD meeting to Dec 6th (RF has conflict. Finance committee can meet one week before -- need information to come out earlier than BOD meeting going forward.
   b. Parent council update - TK - brought in $8700 for EcoThon and talked about way to improve; more than half of the students participated; yoga retreat this past weekend was about $700 raised; working on a table for the holiday bazaars coming up - would be last fundraiser through the end of the calendar year. Working on fall fundraiser. KT - have you ever done a calendar to fundraise? Not yet….TK - big on ideas, small on people implementing them.
   c. Teacher update - AS - some teachers have asked if BOD would like an educational piece shared at each BOD meeting; AS shared development snipit birth to 21 - three periods of development (early childhood/will forces, middle school/feeling life, then up to 21/thinking and analytical); TK - has there been any movement on the governance transition? NW - every other Wed the team is meeting. First governance meeting is next Wed 11/15. JE - draft of pillars of governance document needs clarified for new teachers/staff coming in -- just reiterated that it is a work in process, not an absolute. TK - not about taking it all on right now; just about reviewing and creating timelines showing movement; point is to create communication between the pillars; defining the structure that we want and a potential timeline. AS - Lee Peskey follow up...plan is for Peskey to provide some self regulating services through a grant; this year they are just getting to know us by 6 visits this year for observation; next year the strategies would be implemented.
   d. Development committee - TK - Sat is the fall festival @ Sawtooth Bot Gardens. Setting up for a beautiful evening. Donor card will be distributed, no paddles or anything else. Student and parent perspective will share. Network committee meeting will regroup soon after the event to continue the outreach. Annual fund drive is next big thing 12/15 - 12/31. (KF arrived to meeting).
   e. Construction update - RF - still completing the punch list and elevator is not fully finished; NW the heating system lines were impacted; internet is impacted as well. Desk can't move to front without a proper electrical outlet. CT can't move out of heart space. CT will check with Brad and Spencer to see if we can test wireless connection outlets. RA - would Cox or Centurylink to a grant for a school to test/repair for us. Need a resolution prior to testing starting.
   f. Legislative committee update - met w/ committee last month. Benefits down the line within 2-3 years. There are a few more options available if we wish take them.

g. Board recruitment - TK - still need additional members; development/PR-Mktg/Legal, etc...making progress but need to keep working on new members. No new updates on potential people in waiting. Keep open for those skill sets. NW - need building and grounds person.

VI. New Business
a. City of Hailey - land/lease renewal May 2018 - RF - we believe it is renewed; under SK umbrella; city of Hailey leases us the playground yearly.

637pm Executive Session IN -- TK RF SV KT RA AH AJ

655pm Executive Session OUT - TK RF SV KT RA AH AJ