

University Prep Board Meeting - 8/31/20

Minutes

7:00 – 8:30 AM

Call to Order: David Scanavino calls Meeting to order

Board Attendance (virtual): Cuneyt Akay, Bev Sloan, David Scanavino, Emily Eikelberner, Kimberlee Sia, Renae Bellew, Nicholas Martinez, Brenna Copeland and Tracey Lovett, Juan Pena

Staff Attendance: David Singer (Executive Director), Alastair Dawe (COO), and Liz Suarez (CAO)

Remote Schooling Update

Liz Suarez (CAO), Alastair Dawe (COO) and David Singer (ED) all combined to share an update on remote schooling through the first three weeks of the school year. The first section of the presentation focused on enrollment and attendance. The board posed questions focused on what attendance looks like from the start to the end of the day and what the enrollment breakdown looks like between children living within and outside of our direct neighborhoods. Overall, it was shared that attendance has increased by 10% over the first couple of weeks with an average of 90%+ in the second week of remote schooling.

A second area of focus in the presentation centered around the school day and the student experience. Questions were posed in reference to what enrichment programming looks like as well as support services for students with IEP's. Beyond the student experience, the board had questions around staff morale as the schools continue to operate remote schools as well as how the district is considering a potential return to school. Alastair walked the board through the three health-metrics being used to determine whether or not we're in a sufficiently healthy state for a safe return. Along the lines of health and safety, Al also shared the process for teacher testing tied to the support being provided by Gary Community Investments. All staff will have access to ten dollar COVID tests on a bi-weekly basis with U Prep covering all costs.

As a final component to the presentation, Liz reviewed the Lead and Lag measures that are driving goal setting for the year ahead.

Governance

The board discussed officer positions and committee chairs before presenting a slate for each and voting.

Board Officer breakdown was as follows:

- David Scanavino (Board Chair)
- Emily Eikelberner (Vice Chair)
- Kimberlee Sia (Treasurer)
- Nicholas (Secretary)

Committee Chair breakdown was as follows:

- Brenna Copeland (Academic Achievement)
- Kimberlee Sia (Finance)
- Emily Eikelberner (Fund Development)
- Nicholas Martinez (Governance)

A motion was made and approved with 100% of the board voting in favor of the slate.

Following the approval of board officers and committee chairs, each chair had an opportunity to share the core responsibilities within their committee. Each board member then had a chance to share committees they were interested in being a part of either as a continuing member or new member. David Scanavino and David Singer proposed taking everyone's input and presenting an updated roster for each committee that ensures folks' interests are taken into consideration.

Prior to concluding the governance section of the meeting a new board member was presented for discussion and a vote. Recardo Brooks, a U Prep alumni parent was presented by several board members who spent time meeting with him and learning about his personal and professional background and experiences.

Tracey Lovett made the motion to bring Mr. Books onto the U Prep board, which was seconded by Emily Eikelberner. 100% of the board voted in favor of Recardo joining the Board of Trustees as its newest, and eleventh member.

Updates:

In the updates section of the meeting David Singer and David Scanavino discussed the upcoming board retreat. The group decided that the retreat would run on October 26th from 12 – 6 PM and include any business from the regularly scheduled board meeting for October. In addition, Mr. Singer shared details tied to the CSP grant, a new corporate partner (Engrain), and an update on the SBA loan forgiveness process.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 AM