

GreenMount Board of Trustees Minutes

April 15, 2021

Board members present remotely: Shannon Snow, Angelo Otterbein, John Abell, Tracy Pietrzak, Kristen Bright, Suzanne Brockman, Kelley Gludt, Emily Levenson, Jennifer Malloy, Colm O'Comartun, Natalie Pope, Carlos Rodriguez, Megan Roth, Amy Scott, Catherine Stokes

Others present remotely: Liz Dover, Amy Langrehr, Laura Marsico, Jen Seletzky

Minutes: *Action* - The March and April 8th minutes were approved without corrections.

Admissions: Laura reported there are 102 students currently enrolled for the 2021-2022 school year, and there are 5 applications pending with additional inquiries. There was an attrition of 14 students. Laura has been in contact with staff from a local Montessori that closed.

Amy S. reported that the Admissions Committee completed the charter and are reviewing the exit interviews with the Climate Committee. They included a box to check for families to indicate they would be willing to be contacted about the admission process. Laura reported we asked current families to complete a diversity survey. Of the 96 responses, 27% of current families said their child is a student of color and 3% of students identify as nonbinary.

Development: Amy L. reported they are sending a mailing with a GMS magnet to anyone who hasn't made a gift yet. We have about \$5000 to reach our goal for the Annual Fund by June. Amy and Liz went back to three major donors, two of them gave gifts and they are waiting for another donor to respond. Amy is in the process of soliciting items for the online auction and hopes to have about 75 items. We had a take out night at Mod Pizza and the Local Fry, and will have an event with Clavel in May. Liz reported that these nights also ended up attracting alumni. In terms of marketing, Laura is identifying different neighborhoods and Amy is then advertising in those neighborhoods' community newsletters. She is also contacting friends about boosting our posts and following on social media.

Finance: John reported there is no significant change on the balance sheet from last month. Shannon asked John to clarify our reserves - we are just under 10 months of current operating expenses but that does not include any reimbursement from our PPP loan. We are 75% through the year, the income is at 73% of budget and expenses are at 68.7% of budget. Our net operating loss remains significantly less than we budgeted.

DEIJ: Catherine reported they are looking for ways to boost interest and remind the community about the 21 day equity challenge, including advertising again in the newsletter and asking families to share any positive experiences.

Strategic Plan: Based on feedback at the meeting last week, Angelo discussed the addition of campus planning to the strategic plan. The committee will have a Zoom meeting with breakout sessions to discuss specific details of the 5 year plan. The goal is to present the plan at the all family meeting in May, approve it in June and start executing the plan in September.

Governance: Carlos thanked all the committees for completing their charters which will provide a structure and foundation to the committees. During the meeting, he reviewed each

of the charters with the board, solicited feedback and made any necessary revisions to the charters based on the comments.

Shannon reviewed the board slate for the 2021-2022 school year including one new member, the officers, renewing trustees and the returning trustees. Carlos discussed the challenges in recruiting this year as a number of potential candidates declined to join based on their limited availability. Next year a number of trustees' terms are completed and we will need to start thinking about recruitment now. We discussed potential areas of expertise that could be helpful for the school when identifying new board candidates.

Action - The GreenMount School 2021-2022 board slate was approved.

Update: On 4/30/2021, the Board approved (via email) the addition of Brian Mitchell to the 2021-2022 Board Slate.

Brooke Carroll, a local consultant, is developing a program to help small schools assess their boards. She asked us to participate in a survey to help her develop the tool. She will then give us the results and share her expertise with the expectation we would give her feedback at the end of the survey.

COVID Task Force: Jen and Liz discussed the start of surveillance testing for students, faculty and staff with the help of CO-OP volunteers. Since it is required, the school is purchasing the tests as a COVID expense. Results are uploaded to the city every 24 hours. There was one positive result out of all the students tested this week. Parents were notified, close contacts identified and the student will have a PCR test. The class will quarantine while waiting for the results of the PCR test. The positive student and any identified close contacts will remain quarantined for 7-10 days, but other students in the class may return prior to that time depending on the situation.

Jen also reviewed that given the increased rates of COVID in the community, the upcoming family camping trip will be postponed until the fall.

Head of School Report: Liz discussed staff changes for next year including the first grade, math and a facilities position. She has already received some great resumes and is excited to meet the candidates. Liz is working on a new position which is a blend of several responsibilities with the goal to provide staff and student support. We will not be renewing our teaching assistant positions next year but will be bringing our ECHOES program back in the fall.

The meeting ended with a planned Executive Session.