

GreenMount Board of Trustees Minutes

June 17, 2021

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

Board members present remotely: Angelo Otterbein

Others present: Liz Dover, Amy Langrehr, Jen Seletzky, Doug Lent, Brian Mitchell

Minutes: *Action* - The May minutes were approved without corrections.

Admissions Report: Liz congratulated Laura and the admissions team for all their hard work and success, especially during a pandemic. At the last meeting enrollment was at 106, currently we are at 107. Two families will be coming to drop off contracts Monday and three more contracts have been offered. We continue to get inquiries and typically have admissions over the summer. Liz described the difficulties with the admission process during COVID including how to get a full picture of the child. Laura will be working on welcoming families with the help of class parents over the summer.

Finance Report: John discussed the 2021-2022 budget, which is based on an enrollment of 109 and includes the return of ECHOES as well as a slight increase in the Annual Fund goal. Any additional students beyond 109 will have a positive impact on the budget. There is currently a projected deficit but this is before factoring in any interest or appreciation from the investments, as well as other factors that could increase income. Liz was very conservative in her estimates but anticipates there could be more revenue than currently budgeted.

John discussed the P&L. There will be end of year entries added to the assets which will have a significant impact on any net loss or gain. Based on these entries, it is likely we will not end the year with the projected deficit.

Strategic Plan: Shannon discussed the Strategic Plan 2021-2026. Angelo was instrumental in picking up the work after the pandemic and another parent, Jon Kucskar, is taking over. Specific work on the action plans within the individual categories is starting over the summer. Liz discussed the importance of coordinating the different work groups with each other in our action plans.

Action - The GMS Strategic Plan 2021-2026 was approved.

Facilities: Shannon reported they met with the contractor regarding enclosing the outdoor classroom. We will need to get drawings and a permit, and the project will take longer than we initially thought. Construction likely will not start until the beginning of the school year and is estimated to take 6-7 weeks. We will still be able to use the natural playground during construction. This contractor does a lot of work in schools and has already background checked their employees. There was a question about delaying construction until next summer. We discussed the benefits of completing it in the fall for use throughout the rest of the year, both for current students and faculty as well as from an admissions perspective.

Head of School Report: Liz discussed the COVID task force meeting last night and reviewed our accomplishments from the school year. We swabbed over 1,800 noses, spent \$10,000 on testing and had no in school transmission. The school year ended with only one positive nasal swab in an asymptomatic child who also had a sibling at the school. Two classes

were quarantined and there were no additional cases. We will send one last survey to gauge interest in an on-campus COVID vaccination clinic.

We will be opening in person in the fall. We expect some level of distancing and masking, although recognize things continue to change. Liz is getting more information as we may be able to take advantage of the state run program for surveillance testing in schools.

Liz has two lower school contracts she expects to offer soon; she is just waiting to hear from the candidate's current Head of School. She is doing one last reference check for the music teacher, has a few interviews for the building position and is still looking for a middle school math teacher. She is in the process of negotiating a PT position for an academic coordinator to help work on things such as curriculum consistency, records checking and documenting policies and procedures. Jemicy School will be leading diversity and learning workshops for our faculty. An academic coordinator could help faculty in implementing those skills in the classroom throughout the year.

Liz is getting proposals for a DEIJ audit, especially in light of concerns regarding negative comments about GMS on social media. Liz discussed her response and how she is being careful to ensure the school community is being taken care of. Some (but not all) parents received a survey specifically asking about negative experiences from an anonymous group called OrganizeGreenMount but the school has not been contacted or involved in this process.

Liz's big goal for next year is the renewal and regrowth of the community. She discussed not falling back into old patterns and teachers are excited to continue using many of their new skills throughout the year.

The meeting ended with a planned Executive Session.