

Special Meeting of The Odyssey School
Board of Directors

Wednesday, March 9, 2016
7:00 pm

Board members in attendance:

Christina Carlson, Marg Collins, Ami Desai, Brenda Bautsch Dickhoner, Jason Fritz, Corey Goodrich, Chad Harman, Jon Liu, Andrew Mohraz, Brian Moore, Illana Poley and Justin Silverstein and Jen Stefanacci. Christine DeLeon and Heather Lamm on the phone.

Welcome

Public Comment

The following people provided public comment.

Karen Adkins

Alex Ooms

Jen Wood

Kerby Meyers

Peter Sherman

Bret Wilhoite

Shane O'Boyle

Ann Cisneros

Review of CORA Request

- We have engaged an attorney, Michelle Ferguson, to assist us in responding to a Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) request sent by an attorney. Our understanding is that the request was from a handful of parents who served it to the board. We have worked to respond and comply with that request in as timely a manner as we can.
- Question - when is the deadline?
- We have three working days to comply with the option of an extension. The parent group attorney and our attorney have worked to negotiate and facilitate and provide that information in as timely a manner as we can.

Mediation from the League of Charter Schools

- Nora Flood is the President of the League of Charter Schools. She has been there for eight years, first as Vice President, and before that was the head of a charter school in California.
- The League is the membership organization for charter schools in the state.

- She is here tonight basically on the school support side, also with her background as an educator and school principal for many years.
- The League can provide capacity building to make sure that schools are healthy. Leadership of a school most positively impacts the life of the school. She will be in Executive Session to help facilitate those conversations. She is committed to work with the board, but again, our boards are volunteers. They aren't in it for the money or to pad their resumes. We are working boards and it is a really hard job.
- Fortunately or unfortunately, this isn't the first time that Nora has seen this situation and it won't be the last time. In the lifecycle of schools, Odyssey will get through this and will be stronger. This school has great bones – consider this as a speed-bump, not a road block. We can help the school look at its board process. We also do strategic planning with schools and conduct a SWOT analysis to get buy in and determine how to move forward. Our organization and Nora personally have a commitment that Odyssey will be stronger for this.

Executive Session

- The board will take phone numbers from anyone interested in receiving a text message when the board moves out of Executive Session.
 - The board will now move into Executive Session in the following areas:
 - Legal Advice (See C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b))
 - Personnel Matters (See C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f)(I) (Executive Director)
 - Negotiations (See C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e)(I))
- Andrew made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Jason seconded. All approved.

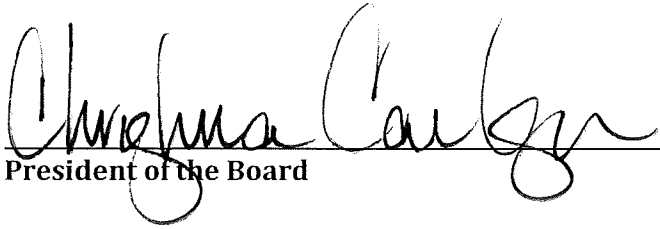
Action Item

- Christina Carlson read a statement:
Wes has stated that he doesn't see a future at the Odyssey School. Wes and the board are currently working on the terms of an amicable separation and hope to have this resolved within a week. Wes will be out of the building beginning Thursday, March 10th.

Upon final resolution, the board is prepared to implement the succession plan adopted in the Spring of 2014. A copy of the succession plan is attached.

The board will provide additional details about the implementation of the plan at our next regular board meeting on March 16th.

- Brenda made a motion to ratify the law firm Ireland Stapleton as legal counsel beginning March 4th, 2016. Justin seconded. All approved.
- Justin made a motion to appoint Brian and Andrew to work with counsel to negotiate the terms of the amicable separation that will then be brought back to this board on March 16th. Ami seconded. All approved.
- Brian made a motion to adjourn. Ami seconded. All approved.


President of the Board

3/18/16
Date



Illana Poley <illanapoley@gmail.com>

Motions

2 messages

Michelle B. Ferguson <MFerguson@irelandstapleton.com>

Thu, Mar 10, 2016 at 4:35 PM

To: "illanapoley@gmail.com" <illanapoley@gmail.com>

Ilana,

Thanks for the reminder on the motions language. Here they are:

1) Motion to ratify the engagement of the law firm Ireland Stapleton as legal counsel to the School as of March 4, 2016, and to ratify all actions taken by Brian Moore and Andrew Mohraz in working with counsel to respond to the CORA request since that time.

2) Motion to appoint Brian Moore and Andrew Mohraz to work with counsel on negotiations relating to the terms of separation, which will be brought back to the Board for approval at the next Board meeting.

Many thanks!

Sincerely,

Michelle

Michelle B. Ferguson
Attorney at Law

Ireland Stapleton Pryor & Pascoe, PC
717 17th Street, Suite 2800
Denver, CO 80202
Direct: (303) 628-3658 | Fax: 303-623-2062
www.irelandstapleton.com