

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, August 25th, 2017, from 2:04PM –3: 20 PM

Location of Meeting: Metro Schools, Conference Room

- I. Call to order:** The Board Chair, Abdulkadir Abdalla, called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM on Friday, August 25th, 2017

II. Board Members Present or Absent:

Name	Present/Absent
Abdulkadir Abdalla (Board Chair & Community Member)	P
Mohamed Mohamud (Vice Chair & Community Member)	P
Aila O'Loughlin (Board Treasury &) Teacher	P
Megan Ormseth (Community Board Member)	A
Osman Salah Samatar (Parent Board Member)	P
Mohamed Warsame (Teacher Member)	P
Mustafa Mohamud	P

III. Guests and Community Members Present:

Name	Position/Role
Ahmed Elmi	School Director of Metro Schools
Robert Procaccini, CPA	Finance Representative (Dieci School Finance, LLC)
Kellein curt	School legal counsel (participated on the phone)
Abdiweli Mohamud	High School Administrator
Mustafa Mohamed	High School math tutor/Transportation/Athletics
Ms. Geach	Teacher
Ms. Laura	Teacher

Metro Schools' Mission

Metro Schools College Prep is committed to academic excellence and closing the achievement gap by establishing rigorous goals for students, parents, teachers and the school. Metro Schools College Prep values cultural, religious, ethnic, and socioeconomic diversity as central elements of a college preparatory education and provides a caring learning community that prepares students and staff to be responsible world citizens.

Metro Schools' Vision

The vision of Metro Schools is for our students to have a steadfast belief in their worth as human beings and that they will be prepared socially and academically to fulfill their aspirations in a changing, challenging world community. We aim to be widely recognized as the most effective model for closing the achievement gap and preparing students for careers in the 21st century.

IV. **Declaration of Conflicts of Interest:** A quorum was established and no conflicts of interest was declared.

v. **Public Comments:** Ms. Laura and Ms. Geach asked the board to be allowed to draft a statement of solidarity with the people of Charlottesville and Darul Faruq regarding the recent violence and hate crimes directed against their respective communities. The Board suggested that they draft the aforementioned statement while making sure they seek advice from Mr. Keillen. We will discuss whether or not this statement is appropriate to be published on our website. Many of the Board members thought the idea was a good one that is worthy of a further discussion.

VI. **Approval of Consent Agenda:**

August 4, Board Meeting Minutes:

Monthly Finances for July:

Elmi presented to the Board the minutes of the August 4th board meeting of the Board for approval, whereupon motion duly made by Mohamud, seconded by Osman and unanimously adopted, the minutes were approved as presented.

VII. **Action Items**

Financials for July: The Board has done its due diligence by carefully examining the monthly financials for July. After discussing it, Aila moved the motion and Mustafa seconded it after which the board unanimously approved it.

Revised Budget: Robert provided a comprehensive update on the school's financials and forecast. He gave the board a summary of July financials and the school's overall fund balance. Discussion ensued which yielded a \$56,236 that needed to be reflected on the next meeting's financial updates upon Robert making adjustment on the budget. During the discussion, Elmi disclosed of the landlord's commitment to contribute \$10,000 toward the move. However, Elmi added that the school's budget will have to be revised as more money was being spent on the building, especially on erecting of new cubicles and purchasing of new technology and curriculum. Osman proposed that we invite the landlord to the Board's next meeting for which Elmi replied, "Yes, I will invite him to the meeting".

VIII. **Reports, Discussion Items and Updates**

I.

- A. **School Board Training Plans and Updates:** Elmi mentioned that Keillen and Robert will talk to Mustafa about the time and location for his Board training. Both of them were open to finding the time and location to hold such training.
- B. **Academic/EE update:** Elmi discussed in great detail the current academic and environmental education in our school. The school will continue to put a heavy emphasis in improving our academic goals. To achieve that goal, Elmi mentioned that the school had been buying more technology, such as Chromebooks and Smartboards. Abdala agrees that the school should invest heavily in technology in order for the students to achieve quality education. Warsame added that some of the family members don't have access to computers or internet at home; since they

are new to the country and don't have the capacity to provide for themselves, can we provide some of these struggling families with Chromebooks or I-pads? Aila mentioned that the recent staff training on technology and the need for more of these trainings continuing until all the staff learns how to use them properly.

- C. **Open House/Enrollment Updates:** Elmi opened in his remarks that many families have been coming to the school trying to enroll their children. But because of the enrollment cap on the school, we have been turning families away, sometimes telling them to put their names on the waiting list. He added that the open house conference had gone well and that the school had decided to extend the open house conference for another two days while the workers continued to finish up some of the works they had been doing at the building. This allowed many families the opportunity to interact with the staff and the building itself.
- D. **Staffing Updates:** The school has almost finished its hiring spree. The middle school staff is doubled and some new positions were created. With the staff we have, including the new ones, we think we are in a great position to deliver a good quality education for our students.

Later, David took over and spoke for about thirty minutes discussing the school's current contractual terms with Audubon. He discussed in great detail the reauthorizing framework of the Audubon center for charter schools. He added that Audubon will do a comprehensive evaluation and that based on several observations, the Board of Audubon will make a determination as to whether to extend the current contract with Metro Schools. David said that they will amend the current contract and increase the enrolment cap to 375 pupils for this year. David reminded the Board that the reauthorization process and how to achieve the goals stated on the forms provided for the Board must be started and the application submitted by November 1. Finally, Aila concluded the need for the board to sit and discuss how we are going to prepare to answer the questions on the application in order to submit on time. Elmi indicated that the process is ongoing and will have completed by November 1 as required.

IX. **Adjourned:** 3: 20 PM. Next Regular Board Meeting: Friday, 2:04 p.m., September 29th, 2017, Conference Room