

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, December 8th, 2017, from 2:01 PM –3: 04 PM

Location of Meeting: Metro Schools, Room 105

I. Call to order: The Board Chair, Abdulkadir Abdalla, called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM on Friday, December 8th, 2017

II. Board Members Present or Absent:

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

III. Guests and Community Members Present:

Name	Position/Role
Ahmed Elmi	School Director of Metro Schools
Abdiweli	High School dean
Kellein curt	School legal counsel
David Greenberg	Audubon-Director of center school authorizing

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 conflict of interest was declared.

V. Public Comments: There was no any public comments

VI. Approval of Consent Agenda:

- **November Board Meeting Minutes**

The board approved the November Board Meeting Minutes by a unanimous consent after Aila moved it and Warsame seconded it.

- **December Board meeting agenda**

Elmi stated that he would add a board training session before January 15th for the December agenda. Megan moved the motion for approval and was seconded by Abdulkadir. The board then unanimously approved the agenda for December board meeting.

VII. Action Items

- **November Financials:** Robert presented the financial dashboard for Metro Schools. He discussed the actual revenue and the change in fund balance that shows an uptick in the expenditure due to many technology purchases the school has made over the last few weeks. He wondered why the lease aid had not been received from the department of education. Elmi alluded to the possibilities the person in charge of the lease aid might be new. They have always had repetitive questions about the lease term, and the length of the lease term, Elmi adds. Robert tells the board that despite the high expenditures, a lot of money is owed to the school and the cash flow is still strong and which is based on only at 350 students and there is a holdback of 10% or \$207,457 up to the year. After a lot back and forth discussions about the financials, a motion was moved to approve November financials. Abdalla moved it and Aila seconded it after which the board approved it unanimously.
- **Student Issues:** Elmi discussed an incident in which a student allegedly threatened a teacher. The student was immediately suspended. Elmi said he had initially wanted the board to expel the student from the school, but changed his mind after the teacher accepted the student's written apology. The board discussed the student's behavior and asked Elmi to make sure the student signs a written contract that spells out the terms in a complete and unambiguous manner about the consequences he will face should something of that magnitude happens again. Warsame contended that the incident should serve as a teaching moment for the staff and the students alike. Elmi said that the school had concluded to let the student come back and allow him as he requested to make an apology in front of the students who had witnessed the incident. Aila added that the student as she knows him is very rational and could not believe the story she has heard. She made it clear she had reservations about the whole story. Abdulkadir added that the board is supportive of the school, and suggested there must be a Witten procedure to follow for this type of misbehavior.

VIII. Reports, Discussion Items and Updates

Academic/EE/Curriculum and Technology:

Academic Goals/EE goals: Elmi talked about the school's environmental education goals for this year. Elmi said that two teachers continue to coordinate environmental education in the school and the person whom he had assigned to talk about the academic goals did not show up.

As far as technology goes, most classes have smartboards and more will be installed in the very near future. The school has around 400 chrome books as well as 99 I-pads. Elmi discussed the lack of computer use for many of our students due to financial strains. He floated an idea which will see some of the students who don't have computers get one from the school. Warsame acknowledged the challenges all schools facing in reaching all of their students including the English language learners. He reminded the board the need to talk about academic issues in our school every time we have a meeting. We already have weekly PLC and we share ideas as to how we can coordinate and differentiate instructions to ensure we are meeting our goals of giving our students the best education possible.

Facility Update: The gym is almost completed. A glass wall between Middle and High School is being considered. New rooms will be needed for art, behavior, and for office use. Elmi said he and the landlord were in discussion regarding these issues.

Staffing Update: Amina got her maternity leave and will be back in January. A new hiring was made due to staff shortage as a result of Amina's leave. The school still needs a sped teacher and two paraprofessionals. Again, finding teachers have been a challenge. Warsame wondered why the job opening were not advertised on the school's website. Aila agreed that the school should post their job openings on their website. Many people check the employer's website to ensure that potential employees are being sought.

IX. **Adjourned:** 3: 04 PM. Next Regular Board Meeting: 2:01 p.m., January 26th, 2018, Room-105