

GOODWIN COLLEGE MAGNET SCHOOLS, INC.

Special Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 4:15pm
Goodwin College, 6th Floor Board Room

Members present- Jackie Jacoby, Todd Andrews, Eddie Meyer, Megan Mehr, Merilee Dejohn, and Mark Scheinberg

Members absent- N/A

Staff Present- Lynn Guerriero, Gayle Mulligan, Ali Welcome

Guest- none

Representing the public- none

1. Call to Order

- Jackie Jacoby called the meeting to order at 4:16 pm.

2. Public Comment

- None

3. Consent Agenda

- Merilee Dejohn motioned to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2017 GCMS Board Meeting. Eddie Meyer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (6-0)

4. Business Requiring Action

- None

5. Staff reports on status of magnet schools

- Gayle Mulligan spoke about how they have changed the focus of their marketing efforts for our Magnet schools and are tying them in with Goodwin College for better name recognition. They are increasing visibility and outreach through various mediums including; print materials, social media, and in-person communications. The aim is to assure school diversity compliance required by the State. She shared the new print pieces with the group. She explained the lottery process and shared how difficult it is to stay compliant. They feel that the changes in their target marketing efforts have shown some positive impact on their numbers but still a long way to go.
- Lynn Guerriero presented:
 - ***Two Rivers Pathway for Riverside Magnet School***
We have agreed with CREC to establish a prek-12th grade pathway for students going from Riverside Magnet school to CREC Two Rivers Middle School and then back to CT River Academy. This will allow our 5th grade students to stay in the magnet school system without fear of losing their seat and guarantee our former Riverside students are able to return to CTRA for high school. CREC and Goodwin will be establishing an MOU and hammering out the details over the next several months. This would be effective for the 2019-2020 school year, which is the first year we would have 5th graders entering 6th grade.

- **Compliance reporting**
Both CTRA and RMS were non-compliant this year for not meeting the reduced isolation percentage. Compliance plans were sent to the state as required and SDE visited both schools to discuss our plans. SDE has been very positive about what we are doing and complemented us on how well written our plans were.
- **International Chinese students**
Sevis application was submitted in the fall by LEARN on behalf of two of their schools. Site visits were completed to verify it can take up to 12 months for approval. Most likely scenario is to begin recruiting for fall of 2019.
- **MSAP**
CTRA was awarded a 5 year MSAP grant through LEARN. The budget for this is roughly 400K per year and provides for integration of the curriculum for the added advanced manufacturing theme. It also will provide the needed materials for launching the program and provide for extensive PD to help support the goals outlined in the MSAP grant.
- **MOU LEARN**
We are in the process of re-negotiating our contract with LEARN. A draft for discussion purposes is due mid-March. The new contract will be in place before the June 30, 2018 expiration date.
- **Budgets**
 - CTRA's original budget was based on 500 students. Due to diversity compliance requirements, we had to limit the number of new students we could take. Because of this, we ended up with only 486 students and over budget.

Two things have worked in our favor:

1. The state came back recently and indicated our cut to the magnet funding would be 7.5% (max) and we had budgeted 9.5%.
2. The employee benefits numbers came in lower than expected for the year.

The good news is that these two things have put CTRA back on the track to coming in flat for the year. If the state comes in under the projected 7.5% then we would use these funds to pre-purchase the student laptops for the fall.

- RMS was slightly over budget at the beginning of the year because their headcount was down from the projected budgeted amount of 424. They actually took in 419 and like CTRA, had to stop taking students because of compliance. The same two things that helped CTRA out, also helped RMS and they are currently running about 40K under budget for the year. If the state comes in under the projected 7.5% then we would use these funds to pre-purchase the curriculum materials for 5th grade and additional musical instruments for the program being launched in the fall.

6. Adjournment

- Merilee DeJohn motioned to adjourn. Eddie Meyer seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously (6-0).
- Meeting adjourned at 5:32 pm.

Minutes typed by Ali Welcome.

Next meeting: April 18, 2018.