



The Community School of Excellence District # 4181
Board of Directors' Meeting
August 21, 2024 4:30 p.m. – Board Room
270 Larpenteur Avenue West, St. Paul MN 55113

Mission

Community School of Excellence, a parent community partnership, provides a world-class education through a caring and innovative environment that fosters inquiring, knowledgeable, and compassionate students who embrace the Hmong culture and celebrate intercultural understanding and respect.

Vision

Community School of Excellence parents, staff, students, and community are committed, as a team, to provide a quality education for all students to achieve high academic expectations and connect globally to Hmong students around the world.

Board of Directors' Purpose

To provide leadership, set policy, and develop accountability practices that will ensure high student achievement.

Name	8/21										
Terence G. Jones	P										
Christie Keefer	P										
TC Young	P										
Xeng Xiong	P										
Faith Thao	P										
Say Vang	P										

1. Meeting: Call to order by Board Chair Mr. Jones at 4:38PM.
 - a. Roll Call-Attendance:
 1. Board members: Mr. Terence Jones, Ms. Christie Keefer, Ms. Say Vang, Ms. Faith Thao, Mr. Xeng Xiong, Mr. TC Young
 2. Ex Officio: Ms. Bao Vang, Ms. Kazoua Kong-Thao
 3. Guest: Ms. Julie Thao, Ms. Jaime Goulet, Ms. Lousee Young, Ms. Caitlin Troyer
2. Public Comments - No public comment
3. Conflict of Interest-
 - a. Keefer- No
 - b. Thao- No
 - c. Vang No
 - d. Xiong-No
 - e. Young-No
 - f. Jones-No

4. August 21, 2024 Agenda -Board Chair calls for any additional questions or comments on the agenda.
 - a. The June Financial and July Supplemental report will be presented by Ms. Vang.
 - b. New High School Principal, Ms. Jaime Goulet, was introduced to the Board of Directors. CSE is pleased to have her onboard. She comes to CSE with many years of experience.
 - c. Ms. Keefer motioned to accept the agenda as adjusted; Ms. Thao seconded the motion
 1. All voted in favor
5. Meeting Minutes for June 19, 2024-Board Chair calls for any additional questions or comments on the June minutes.
 - a. Ms. Keefer motioned to accept the minutes as presented; Ms. Thao seconded the motion.
 1. All voted in favor
6. June Financial and July supplemental report-Ms. Vang presented the July Financials and supplemental report to the Board of Directors.
 - a. Ms. Keefer approved the financial report as presented; Ms. Thao seconded the motion.
 1. Roll Call:
 1. Keefer- Aye
 2. Thao-Aye
 3. Vang-Aye
 4. Xiong-Aye
 5. Young-Aye
 6. Jones-Aye
7. Contracts- The following contracts were shared and presented to the Board of Directors for review and approval.
 - a. Indigo Special Education Director and Coordinator
 - b. Multilingual Futures Consultant
 - c. BMS Sign and Printing
 - d. Speedpro Imaging
 - e. A-Sign Screening and Printing

After thorough review and discussion on all contracts, Mr. Young made a recommendation for CSE to look at digital signs as alternative options for the future.

1. Mr. Young motioned to approve all contracts as presented and approve option two for A-Sign contract with illumination; Mr. Xiong seconded the motion.
 - a. Roll Call
 1. Keefer-Aye
 2. Thao-Aye
 3. Vang-Aye
 4. Xiong-Aye
 5. Young-Aye
 6. Jones-Aye
8. High school required credit- Currently, CSE requires more credits to graduate than what is required by Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). Dr. Bobbi presented a proposal to reduce the High School graduation credits from 94 to 88 for CSE students. This proposal is still 2 more credits than what is required by Saint Paul Public School. Reducing the graduation credits will allow more flexibility for students to fit in required classes.
 - a. After a robust discussion, Ms. Keefer motioned to accept the proposal as represented by reducing the required graduation credits from 94 credits to 88. Ms. Thao seconded the motion.

b. All in favor

9. Policy to be reviewed and or adopted - Board Chair calls for any additional questions or comments on the policies.

a. Procurement Policy (*Action*)

1. Mr. Jones motioned to table the Procurement policy to the next board meeting; Ms. Thao seconded the motion.

1. All voted in favor

b. Family and staff handbooks

c. Employee Handbook

d. Staff Process and Procedure Handbook

e. Emergency Operational Manual

f. 515F Record Retention Policy

g. 515R Record Retention

h. 612 Parent and Family Engagement Policy

i. 612A Parent and Family Engagement Dates

j. Ms. Keefer motioned to accept the handbooks and policies as presented with minor updates in the handbooks; Ms. Thao seconded the motion.

1. all voted in favor

10. CEO/CAO Update- Ms. Vang and Ms. Kong-Thao shared the following updates with the Board of Directors.

a. The Board Comprehensive Meeting calendar for the entire school year was shared with the Board of Directors. This will give the Board of Directors advance notice of monthly meeting topics.

b. Lease Aid-

1. Ms. Vang is working with the City to obtain the necessary documents so that the revised letter can be sent to MDE for the lease aid expansion application.

c. Open House is set for August 29, 2024 from 5:00-7:30 pm.

d. There has been a slight delay on the International staff's VISA but we hope to have all staff in the U.S. by no later than the end of September.

e. The Board meeting will remain on the 3rd Wednesday of the Month.

f. CSE will have a table on September 2, 2024 at Hmong MN Day at the State Fair this year. CSE Dancers will also be performing. This year's theme is a Tribute to Touger Xiong and his legacy.

g. The Hmong Resource Fair will be on September 28, 2024 at CSE from 10am to 2pm.

11. Others -None

12. Adjourn- Board Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:43PM.