

## 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. <u>Meeting Minutes for June 19, 2024</u>-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. <u>June Financial and July supplemental report-</u>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. <u>Contracts-</u> 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-Ave
    - 3. Vang-Aye
    - 4. Xiong-Ave
    - 5. Young-Aye
    - 6. Jones-Aye
- 8. <u>High school required credit</u>- 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. <u>Policy to be reviewed and or adopted</u> Board Chair calls for any additional questions or comments on the policies.
  - a. Procurement Policy (Action)
    - 1. Mr. Jones motioned to tabled 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. <u>CEO/CAO Update</u>- 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.