Horizon Science Academy – Board Minutes

4801 Franklin Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310

December 6, 2023, 10am

10am roll call – Board members present, Christine Hensley, San Wong, Rod Clark, Carrie Bening, Jess Breed. Others present, Laura Cannon, Serdar Kartel, Kenna Rasmussen Zoom, Kittie Weston-Knauer, Halil Dulgeroglu

Approval of Agenda – Approved

Approval of December 6 Agenda – Approved

New Business

Serdar – Teacher and Staff Holiday Bonuses – a holiday surprise submitted through paychecks of $150 will be given to the teachers and staff. This Holiday bonus was approved by the board.

Old Business – None

Reports

Laura –

1. Thank you to the Board for helping with the Thanksgiving lunch before the break. It was a good way to see families once again.
2. Coming up on Dec. 22nd, families will be welcomed again for classroom songs, hot chocolate and cookies before being dismissed for the Holiday Break.
3. Trio – HAS looking into Trio serving breakfast and lunch next school year. Jessica from Trio, will be documenting who is eating food today.
4. Emily Reiman – Is looking into having the Scouts here at recess and will be recruiting members. Girl Scouts is also looking to start a group too. A Coding group would like to start an after-school club too.

   Enrollment is open for next year for K-4 grade and tours are available to parents and potential students. Once a child is enrolled, HSA will follow up with phone calls.

   Reenrollment begins tomorrow for current students.

5. STAR assessments – Laura is meeting with teachers to make goals from the results per each classroom. STAR is 4X's a year. Fast Bridge testing is Jan. 2nd and is a test DMPS uses also.
6. Laura will draft a calendar year for next year's school year. She will align it with the DMPS schools.
7. Laura Palmer – is an artist working on coloring pages that can be printed by the school and handed to students to color. These can be used during tours, promotional materials, and home visits.

A motion was made to allow Laura to spend $1050 for the design to be made and purchased. It was Approved.

8. PTO – Provided coffee and morning treats following Thanksgiving Break to teachers and staff. The staff and teachers appreciated the welcome back to school surprise.
9. DoJo – New program for students to earn DoJo bucks for a trip to the DoJo closet. The positive points are earned by students by engaging in positive behaviors.

Serdar –

1. Visited Florida Charter Schools. This created opportunities for Concept Schools to see and communicate with charter school administrators from other parts of the country. One of the schools was not only rated the top charter school but rated as a top school in the state of Florida.
2. Science Fair – will be open all.
3. Friday – Professional Development will be coming to DSM. Best practices will be shared with the teaching staff.
4. Mit Colms will be here Wednesday.
5. Preschool update – Preschool will be added to our application. Some of the things to be updated to meet preschoolers' needs, like play equipment.

Halil –

1. A motion was made to pay Cassandra Klein $10,897 for ELS. It was approved.
2. There will be final adjustments made to the budget before the end of the calendar year.
3. $250,000 from the CSP Grant will be available in Feb and reimburse our account.
4. There is a cash flow issue of $200,000 for operating expenses and payroll. Another cash flow stream will be needed to improve this line item. Our current expense for these items is $150,000 per month.
5. Our per pupil revenue stream is $76,931 but Nov. was $57,539.
6. The target enrollment for the 2024-25 school year is 210 students.
7. We are looking for an independent auditor for our financial accounts. The independent audit will take about two months and are looking into this happening in April or May.

Fundraising –

1. Fareway is interested in learning more about HAS.
2. Terry Branstad has contacted the school and would like to tour and learn more about the school.
3. PTO - There is a collection of food being collected and distributed for holidays. If there is enough interest a permanent Food Closet may be considered. Please see the Lights of Love display by the office for donations to specific families in need.

Seeing nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Bening – HSA Board Secretary

Calendar –

January 10th, 10am HSA Board Meeting

February 7th, 10am HSA Board Meeting