

MINUTES

Wyatt Academy Board Meeting

Wednesday, Nov 16, 2022

5:00pm-7:00pm

Wyatt Academy (PD Room Upstairs #326)

Attendees:

(note: "v" after a name means virtual attendee)

Board Members: Katie Brown, Brandon DeBenedet, Tyler Lane (v), Harsha Sekar (v), Mallory Sussman, Terry Usry, Amy Younggren (v)

Guests: Kate Silverman (v), Melody Means, Kami Osborne, Nicole Servino (v), Sara Grant, Brandon Chrisp (v), Brooke Parsons (DPS), Sandra Carrillo (Community Hub Mgr), Mira Nina Sr. (Mgr Focus Point Center)

5:00 p.m. Katie Brown called the meeting to order

Welcome (Katie Brown, Board Chair)

1. Introductions
2. Public Comment - none
3. Approve Minutes from September meeting

Brandon moved to approve Sept Minutes

Katie seconded

Motion carried

4. New member votes (Nicole Servino)

Amy moved to approve Nicole as board member

Terry seconded

Motion carried

5:10 p.m. Budget and Audit Presentation (Brandon Chrisp)

Brandon reviewed Budget Summary, Balance Sheet, P&L vs. actual, Budget

Will vote to approve revised budget in January

Audit came back positive with no concerns, and the financial outlook is positive for the school.

5:30 p.m. DPS Community Hub & Focus Points Presentation, Sandra Carrillo (Community Hub Mgr), Mira Nina Sr. (Mgr Focus Point Center)

There are 6 community hubs, of which Wyatt, with its partner Focus Point, is one. Services are offered across hubs (not all svcs at every hub) - workforce dev, needs assessment, social emotional, food, energy assistance, English class, financial, citizenship, computer, and more. Childcare is free during classes and workshops.

Amy asked how Wyatt's Family Empowerment Center and DPS Hub and Focus Point work together.

- DPS can add on to the services Wyatt offers through FEC, ex. more food services, as we've found that there's still a great need beyond what FEC can offer.
- Melody added that Wyatt was chosen as a hub because we were already supporting our community, but there is a need for more services in this zone and DPS with Focus Point can help.

Open house at Wyatt is December 13 - for teachers, staff, and families

5:40 p.m. Board Business

1. Board members: [Sign-up](#) for PD Days to feed the staff
2. FAMLI Option: Discussion and Vote

Kami reviewed details of the state's FAMLI program. Wyatt already offers comparable disability insurance. Jeffco and DPS have opted out. Our lawyer also recommends opting out. Employees will still have the option to enroll in FAMLI as individuals if they want to.

Terry made a motion to opt out of the FAMLI program

Katie seconded

Motion carried

3. DPS Board Meeting for charter renewal voting. Katie discussed who should attend which meetings. It's important that Wyatt board members, teachers/staff, and parents attend to show support for our renewal.

The two most important meetings are on Jan 10 at 5:00 p.m. (public comment) and Jan 12 (actual DPS board meeting when the board votes)

Katie will send out location and times.

4. Background checks (Albus, Tyler, Harsha, Mallory, Rob still need to complete this)

This is a requirement for board compliance, and you only need to do it once. For those still needing to get fingerprints taken, there's an on-line registration process. Kami will help guide you if needed. During that process you make an appointment at one of the fingerprint centers. The appointment only takes 10 minutes.

The cost to the school is \$59.50 per background check, and the board has committed to paying the school back for this. We ask that board members donate this amount through the website when Kami lets us know that the bill has arrived.

5. Headshots for the website - new members, please email your head shots to Kami. If you don't have one, we may be able to arrange to have one taken for you. Contact Katie if you need help with this.

6:10 p.m. Fundraising (Kate Silverman)

1. Fundraising Update

There are several ways to look at the money raised to date from grants, events, and gifts/contributions.

\$137,954 raised to date is considered "unrestricted," that is, not covering budgeted expenses.

If we include \$45,000 from the technology grant (which is the amount of the grant that is above our technology budget), the overall amount raised is \$182,954.

TOTAL fundraising is \$218,704.

2. 2023 Gala

Kate discussed date and venue options for next year's event. We're narrowing in on Sept 30 or Oct. 21. For location, we're strongly considering hosting at Wyatt

on a Saturday night to minimize cost and also to showcase the school to donors. Kate asked if there were any concerns with this idea, and there were none.

3. Colorado Gives Day is Tuesday, December 6. The school submitted info to the program so that we'd be included as a participating non-profit. Kate will send us links to share with our contacts. Mallory shared the reason it's important to give to Wyatt through this program: there's a \$1.6M incentive fund associated with the program. Based on what we raise, we'll get a portion of the incentive fund on top of the donations.
4. There are passive programs that exist like King Soopers, AmazonSmiles, etc. Maria will info on them to DOJO (and please share with board)
5. Growing our donor pool and cultivating major donors: Kate asked that each board member brainstorm and provide 1-3 potential donors for her to reach out to. Sending her contact info is fine, but a warm handoff through an email introduction is even better.

6:20 p.m. Update from School Leader (Melody Means)

1. Celebrations

K, 1, & 2 students recently went skating

Bike donations to 2nd graders (K&1 learning to ride on donated Strider bikes in PE)

Trunk or treat and haunted house were a huge success; Family nights have gotten very popular; there was a costume contest and staff dressed as zombies

Dentist field trip - cleanings, fillings, fixing chipped teeth - all free

1st qtr awards were given out for attendance & achievement

2. Enrollment: October Count Data

Today - enrollment is 193 (DPS projected us at 171, and we budgeted for 185)

October count - officially 190

3. Recruitment Plan (Round One)

Recruitment goal round 1: 40 kindergarteners

We'll measure progress based on family tours

In our zone, we're the only green school.

Recruitment plan - bi-monthly emails, more social media, work with Tyler on Google SEO

Branding Wyatt - we have done a good job sharing info on community services; we could bump up our communication about our academics success

Proposed improvements to website - need to focus more on what prospective families are looking for in a charter school:

- Social Emotional awareness
- How we're supporting girls of color in school
- Spotlight Lisa Grant and our growth in math
- Spotlight talent show

On the ground -

- Open house is December 5
- Maria Estrada is visiting preschools
- The team is visiting rec centers and attending community events to share info
- Harrington school may close; we'll know tomorrow. If so, we'll provide info to that neighborhood

4. Renewal Update

Site visit was Nov 10. Wyatt received glows for:

- Strong positive culture
- MLL practices exceeded expectations
- Effective differentiation practices, academic feedback
- Strong evidence of content and design

Next step - provide rigor through questioning

5. Mid-Year Evaluations

Observations and conversations will start Dec 1 and go through the end of January.

This will allow plenty of time for contract renewals in March.

Follow-ups: Katie will send out a list of follow-up items for the board.

6:57 p.m. Meeting adjourned