



April 3, 2018

Hello Stargate Community,

## **ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES COMING**

Last night, Mr. Cochran announced to the community that he has been working diligently with the Board to assess and our current and future organization needs and develop a strategy for moving forward. He explained that he has requested that the Board restructure the current Administration Team and adjust his role to allow him to focus more on his passion for growing gifted kids. Preliminary discussions for his role for the next school year include serving as the High School Adroit Teacher, community/student engagement (including recruitment, admissions, community partnerships, post-secondary connections, etc.), support in preparation for the charter renewal, and management of the construction projects and corner parcel development.

The Board will be working with the entire Administration Team to develop an implementation plan for this restructuring and will keep the community up to date as more details are formalized. We plan to share full details on future administration roles, responsibilities, and organizational structure for the 2018-2019 school year by the end of May. The current organizational structure will remain in place through June of this year.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TOWN HALLS**

Over the past several months, the School (our Board, staff, and community) has come a long way in improving our processes to learn as we continue to grow at a rapid pace. The Board hosted a series of Board Community Town Halls focused on Financial transparency and overall communications related process improvements put in place to address Office of Civil Rights complaints as well as explain next steps. Our continued goal is to and engage with families and develop strategies for how we can better partner and work together. Slides from each Town Hall, including questions and answers from each event, will be posted on the governance website and sent to the community soon. There is one last session for the Communication Town Hall scheduled for the morning of April 6 at 8:15 AM in the elementary commons. The Board is looking for feedback on each of these communication events so that we can continue to improve and make sure they are adding value. Please email [governance@stargateschool.org](mailto:governance@stargateschool.org) with your comments on these events.

I appreciate all of the support from every family as we get better and I'm excited that the months of work can finally be more transparently shared as we join together with our community to continue to improve. Change of this type doesn't happen overnight and there have been countless hours of time spent by staff and volunteers to come this far but we also acknowledge that we still have work to do.

## **BOARD TRANSPARENCY**

The Board updated the [Communications Pathway](#) at the October Board meeting. You can find a copy of it on the governance website or by clicking [HERE](#). We encourage all of our community become more familiar with this policy and, when concerns arise, to follow the steps that it outlines in order to ensure the most effective and timely response.

To get the most up-to-date information as it's available, we welcome you to attend a meeting in person. You can also find information on the governance website to help navigate the public Charter School world by clicking the [Charter School 101 tab](#). The schedule of meetings for the 2017-2018 school year is posted on the governance website, on the school's Google calendar, and in advance on the official Stargate School Facebook page and the new electronic sign in front of the school.



## APRIL 2, 2018 - BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

The Board met on April 2<sup>nd</sup> for their regular business meeting. The formal minutes from the April meeting will be approved at the May meeting and will be posted to the Governance Website once approved. Approved minutes from previous meetings can be found [HERE](#) or in the [Forms and Files Tab](#) in section 002. Below are the highlights of the topics covered during the meeting:

- Held an executive session to discuss personnel issues related to operational needs
- Received the operations update from the Executive Director, the Chief Financial Officer, and a project update from Stephanie Blamires and Missy Hishke related to curriculum alignment
  - The Board agreed that the next step is to open the curriculum discussion to the community to solicit feedback from parents and teachers (dates to be determined and communicated to the community as soon as possible)
- Delegated Calley Herzog and Elizabeth Williams to work with Stargate's legal representation and Administration on OCR monitoring requirements outside of scheduled Board meetings as needed to facilitate Board engagement on all communications with OCR and legal counsel and to ensure deliverables meet required timelines
- Completed the annual Board self-assessment and identified areas for continued improvement to be tracked as Board and Administration goals for the upcoming school year
- In preparation for the State of the School, the Board discussed the recommendations for improvement from the School Accountability Committee community based on the recent staff and community survey results. The recommendations and the Board's response to each will be included in the upcoming State of the School presentation (April 11, 2018 from 6-8pm in the Secondary Commons with refreshments beginning at 5 pm)
  - The School Accountability Committee has posted the data from the surveys on the school website (to view them in advance, click [HERE](#)); full details and recommendations for improvement, along with identified action plans, will be shared at the State of the School on April 11, 2018 at 6-8pm in the Secondary Commons.

The Board will have a working session on May 9, 2018 at 5:30 pm at Stargate to continue discussions regarding the organizational restructuring, review the proposed 2018-2019 budget, and review the recommendations for a staff salary policy. This is not a business meeting; no motions or decisions will be made. However, the meeting is open to the public.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2018 at 6:30 pm at Stargate. If you have a question for the Board, please send an email to [governance@stargateschool.org](mailto:governance@stargateschool.org).

Thank you!

Jan Kulmann, President  
Stargate School Governance Board