



Hello Stargate Community,

The Board has had multiple discussions over the past couple of months via special business meetings to review the current operations structure as well to promote academic growth and ensure instruction towards mastery. In response to indicators related to test scores, as well as ongoing adjustments to our growth with the addition of a high school, the Board has tasked the administrative team to do an extensive review of our curriculum and instructional practices to proactively develop a clear plan for a guaranteed viable curriculum that meets the best needs of our community. Director of Professional Development, Stephanie Blamires, who has a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction will lead this Board initiative. During the next few months, they will be evaluating the current model and may be recommending changes. The Board will keep the community up to date as more information is available.

## 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, is posted on the school's Google calendar, and is posted in advance on the official Stargate School Facebook page and the new electronic sign in front of the school.

## DECEMBER 20, 2017 - BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

The Board met on December 20<sup>th</sup> for their regular business meeting. The formal minutes from the December meeting will be approved at the January 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:

- Received the operations update from the Executive Director and the Chief Financial Officer
- Received an update on construction activities related to the Bond allocation
  - Construction on the addition will begin to be noticeable over the winter break
- Reviewed the mid-year report with the Community Relations Committee with updates on the activities completed to date as well as preliminary plans for the rest of the school year
- Reviewed the Fundraising Allocation Committee report on expenditure allocation
  - 9 applications approved for total of \$14,750
  - Currently accepting applications for the next round of allocation approvals
- Allocated funds from the fundraising account
  - \$10,000 to the Executive Director discretionary fund for teacher requests
  - \$5,500 for the after-prom events
- Reviewed and approved the 2017-2018 Strategic Plan
- Reviewed and approved the first reading of two new policies: Board Communication and Complaint Policy & Board Definitions (adds clarity to the admissions policy). Both policies require a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading before approval.
- Reviewed and approved the formation of the ad-hoc Salary Policy Committee
- Discussed recording secretary support for the Finance Committee
- Discussed follow up items from annual Board training session
- Discussed the items related to resolutions of current complaints
  - 5 of the 6 OCR (Office of Civil Rights) complaints have reached the resolution phase
  - Delegated Calley Herzog and Jan Kulmann to coordinate with an external consultant to review internal policies for recommendations for continued improvement in preparation of upcoming charter renewal
  - Delegated Taylor Johnson and Brad Schoenfeld to coordinate an external investigation to provide a report to the Board on recent concerns
  - Discussed current changes to processes related to resolution of OCR complaints, some of which are listed below:
    - The school will identify a Title IX coordinator and will develop a formal policy and form for tracking
    - The school will provide training to staff and students related to Title IX
    - The school has identified 504/IEP coordinators to provide additional focus to the process
    - The school has updated the admissions policy, website, and staff handbook to meet requirements by OCR on proper documentation requirements
  - Continued Personnel discussions in executive session

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2017 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