

Henderson Inclusion School
Governance Board Meeting
March 22, 2023

The Meeting was called to order by Principal Sibley at 6:05 PM

Attendance:

Administrators: Stephanie Sibley (Head of School), Sheneal Parker (DOI Lower Campus)

Parents: Bethany Moffi (K0-1st)* late, Michelle Carmell (6-8)

Community Partners: Nicole Daly, Eva Clarke, Vilma Silva

Teachers: Brett Nadan-Buresh (9-12), Mary O'Brien (2-5), Elisha McField (6-8)

Students: Jordan Nguyen (12)

Not present: 9-12 Parent rep, Kathleen Power (K0-1st teacher), Allison Mulkerins (K0-1st teacher), Bamari Davis (11th grade student)

Welcome & Introductions

Principal Sibley opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and inviting each person to introduce themselves and their role.

Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Mary O. motioned to approve and Eva C. seconded.

Officer Positions

Sheneal P. nominated Eva Clarke to take the position of Co-chair of the governing board. During discussion, Nicole D. stated she did not want to be in the position and Eva was unopposed and accepted the position. Vilma S. motioned to fill the co-chair seat for the academic year and extend through next year. Mary O. seconded the motion.

SPC Report/discussion

Michelle C. gave an update around discussions the parent council has been having. The parent council is concerned about the state of inclusion and the school's commitment to the practice. They are also concerned about the number of teachers under emergency license, specifically special education teachers. Parents wanted to know more about the edibles incident that occurred on campus the day before the meeting (3/21/23). Principal Sibley stated student privacy is an extremely important matter and the school needs to balance transparency to the larger community with student and family rights. She clarified that the three students involved were secondary

students (6-12).

To address the licensure and hiring concerns, parents want to play an active role in the hiring process. Principal Sibley clarified the hiring process - a parent representative will be present for initial interviews and the candidates will have an initial zoom interview followed by a demo lesson either at their current school or at the Henderson. The number of applicants is fewer than in previous years which makes hiring more difficult in general.

Timekeeper

Elisha M. volunteered to be a timekeeper. The board agreed to her filling the position for the meeting. No formal vote was taken.

Student Report

Jordan N. gave a short report about events in the High School at the Henderson. During the past month, all classes have held community meetings and received core value awards. We have a new interim Assistant Leader of the High School, T'Sheba Martin and students are responding very positively to her presence. Students feel she is a great contribution to the community and holds students accountable. In the next few months a number of field trips will happen, including senior trips and Junior/Senior prom is scheduled at the end of May.

Community Partner Report

Eva C. gave a short report about what the community partners have worked on since the last governing board meeting. They have identified the key people that will help bring Urbanity Dance into the school. They have identified more sources for fundraising and have determined that the funds should be prioritized for Arts and Technology. Principal Sibley added that the school is finally receiving some materials we've been waiting for since September, including chromebooks and calculators. OIIT is giving new chromebooks to all students in the future.

Vilma S. gave an update on developing a partnership between the Possible Zone and the school. The Possible Zone will be bringing students over to the innovation center starting in April. They are looking forward to a summer term and the target students right now are Juniors.

Head of School Report ([slide deck](#))

Sheneal P. gave a brief report on NAYCE accreditation at the Lower Campus. The school is in the final stretch of the process. Over the next 15 days we will have an accreditation and do a final visit. During the sharing of the process, a parent asked a

question about how the Lower Campus assesses child progress. Dr. Parker said the Foundations curriculum is one method they use.

Principal Sibley gave hiring updates for the schools. All job listings that are posted include expected internal hires that get posted automatically if a teacher is under emergency licensure. There are a variety of reasons a teacher can hold an emergency license - they may be coming in from out of state, be a paraprofessional that has recently moved into the classroom as a teacher. Teachers that have an emergency license are each evaluated as to whether they are making a positive impact to the school and extensions are given with this criteria.

Discussion

Parents Michelle C., Courtney F.K., Bethany M. described their concerns around licensure. Seven parents from the parent council testified at a BPS school committee meeting that 20% of lower school teachers only have emergency licensure. They said this is particularly the case amongst SPED teachers. One raised a question asking how we objectively evaluate whether these teachers on emergency licenses are making a positive impact. Dr. Parker responded that each teacher goes through a licensure pathway and there is consistent communication around their progress.

Part of the discussion also centered around Inclusion and the innovation plan. We scheduled the next governing board meeting as a time the board will have an opportunity to discuss in more detail. Bethany M. requested more clarification around where the conversations about inclusion were supposed to take place, if not the governing board. Principal Sibley suggested one place would be the high school's recently-formed inclusion committee that has teachers, administrators, and special education staff. The parent council does not yet play a role, but this could be organized. Sibley also stated that teachers also do consistent PD throughout the year to support development around special education and inclusion. Dr. Parker asked what role parents want to play and what specific outcomes they were looking for. Specific development around how to have this conversation seems to be growing a governing board need.

Budgeting Review

Before the meeting adjourned the board had a brief conversation reviewing the recent budgeting process. There was a question about what the BD-6 form that Mary O. and Brett N. signed off on was. The form attests that the school has budgeted enough money for materials - which is \$55/student at the elementary level, \$65/student in middle school, and \$75/student at the high school level. Brett N. requested the line-by-line budget with itemizations would be shared with the Governing Board. She

expected to see that before the vote to approve the budget was held in January, but only had a chance to see it briefly after the board had the vote. Principal Sibley said she will make the budget with detailed itemizations available to the board.

Action Items for Next Meeting*

Head of School report

Scheduling and curriculum update

Innovation Plan

*Note: Principal Sibley requested individuals let the board know by the Friday before the meeting if they want to add items to the agenda to give the board enough time to prepare.