

**Charlotte Lab School**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**

Monday, March 3, 2014

5-7pm

Nascar Hall of Fame/Convention Center, Charlotte, NC

**Present:**

Corliss Brown-Thompson, Denise Glaser-Serrano, Mary Moss (non-voting member), Vikki-Rose Tunick, Joel Bonasera (Secretary), Apri Agyapong (Vice-Chair), Tom Murray (Chair)

**Absent:**

Michelle Thornhill (Treasurer), Dee Lanier, Peter Bove

1. Meeting called to order by Mary Moss at 5:13
2. Facilities Update (Apri)
  - a. Recent meeting with Apri, Vikki, Dee, Tom concerning next steps in finding a facility
  - b. Need to finalize a budget and legal requirements
  - c. Jane Ellis, Julie Cowell, Howard Sowell
    - i. Self Help: Services for non-profits, including low interest loans and financing for schools
    - ii. Carolina Can: Policy advocacy, information hub
    - iii. Funding the Gap: Charter fundraising assistance, usually for building funds
  - d. Top Picks for Location: Uptown, Southend (Access to light rail is key)
  - e. Possible loft space built out into a studio/design space. Ideally flexible, multi-use spaces to facilitate the organizational goals
3. School Nutrition (Mary)
  - a. Recent meeting with Johnson and Wales, follow-up meeting after spring break
4. Professional Development (Corliss)
  - a. Corliss, Mary, Vikki, Jennifer Brown (formerly of New Leaders)
  - b. Building Professional Development Strategic Plan to present to Northeastern to build a series of programs/activities around it
  - c. "Summer Institute" Learning what it looks like to be a teacher at CLS
  - d. A timeline of how the PD series will roll out forthcoming
  - e. Pathways for teachers to pursue their strengths laterally, vertically and learn to focus their time and efforts
5. Transportation (Vikki)
  - a. Pursuing some leads and making calls to various local transportation providers
6. Initial Review Recap
  - a. Due to weather the initial review took place completely on-line
  - b. Only 4 of the first 16 were asked for interview after the review
  - c. None of our subsections were deemed "inadequate" from the committee members
  - d. The interview window is April 7th-8th, we've requested Monday the 7th
7. Application Interview Preparations
  - a. Mission Statement Slide
    - i. Feedback: our mission statement is too long, it's being trimmed
    - ii. "Do people know what a lab school is?"
    - iii. "What's the ultimate outcome?"
    - iv. "Innovation is at the core of CLS."

- v. "Using the community to expand the classroom"
  - vi. "Using the techniques we've designed, framed in these 5 concepts that we believe will best prepare students to be creators instead of consumers."
- b. Goals and Assessment Slide
- i. Some confusion related to how CLS measures outcomes in all subjects, also specifically why there is no growth goal for foreign language (as it is called out specifically in the curriculum plan)
  - ii. Is 1 year's worth of growth a minimum goal? Some charters were cited for having 1.5 years of growth as too aggressive
  - iii. "There are other things/thoughts/actions that we intend to expose students to that are not tied directly to standardized testing models."
  - iv. "What the heck are 'Internal rubrics that focus on 21st century skills?'"
  - v. Let's clearly delineate what these skills are, the things we want to try to measure
  - vi. How do we know that our teachers are normed across these rubric approaches?
- c. Instructional Vision Slide
- i. Move this slide to before the Goals and Assessments
  - ii. Treating the academic model as a continuum, students move along as they progress K-8
  - iii. Let's align the PD info later in the presentation to the "Adults" category on the Academic model sheet and refer back to it then
- d. Technology Slide
- i. Technology is a tool, nice
  - ii. "Open" = accessible to students no matter where they are or where they came from
  - iii. No need to be specific, ideology
  - iv. Though, can we address our projected needs for funding
  - v. "Today, it might look like a Chromebook, but we've budgeted for what will be current, accessible, versatile"
  - vi. How are the business aspects of the school tied to the Technology plan?
  - vii. Starting at a 3:1, moving to 2-1:1 in the next few years
  - viii. Differentiation: Technology provides it, students can work more independently with sufficient support
  - ix. Accessibility: How do we provide equality in support for students who do not have prior experience?
  - x. 1:1 does not necessarily mean kids take them home
  - xi. BYOT: Subsidizing or otherwise providing technology for all, parents volunteer to provide for other students who cannot bring their own
- e. School Calendar Slide
- i. Questions arose concerning the length of the school year
  - ii. Is this slide overkill? Let's remove it and hold the info if the question arises
  - iii. Also, we have a longer school day, so the number of hours isn't going to be a problem
8. Extra Meeting
- a. Next Monday, March 10th for final changes and review of the rest of the slides. Perhaps call-in meetings to make final touch ups before 4/7.
  - b. A day in the life of a CLS student document would be great for future meetings with investors, prospective students, etc. but may not be feasible or totally necessary for the interview.
  - c. Are the salaries too high? Top heavy? CMS salary figures reflect the real figures, not the salary schedule.
  - d. The salary slide isn't making the point yet, make sure the CLS \$'s are clearly noted.
  - e. Last month's minutes to be approved on April 10th.
9. Meeting adjourned 7:19

