



## **Sela PCS Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: November 12, 2020, 6:45 pm

Location: Zoom meeting

### **Attendance:**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
Deena Fox	Board member and chair	Present
Aster Allen-Patel	Board member	Present
Lisa Apple	Board member	Present
Rose Benson	Board member	Absent
Heather Capell Bramble	Board member	Present
Ki'ara Cross	Board member	Present
Rebecca Rubin Damari	Board member	Present
Yair Inspektor	Board member	Present
Bryce Jacobs	Board member	Present
Damone Jones	Board member	Present
Steve Messner	Board member	Present
Smruti Radkar	Board member	Present
Jenifer Shapiro	Board member	Present
Michael Walker	Board member	Present
Josh Bork	Head of school (non-voting)	Present
Camerra Taliaferro	Director of operations (non-voting)	Present

**Minutes:** Rebecca Damari

**Timekeeper:** Lisa Apple

**Agenda** (Attached as Appendix A)

The meeting started at 6:53 pm

## **Approval and ratification of minutes and votes**

Bryce moved to approve the minutes from the October board meeting. Ki'ara seconded. All present voted in favor, except Damone who abstained and Aster who joined the meeting after the vote.

## **Mission Moments**

Parents were grateful for Sela's efforts to resume limited in-person learning this week. Students were excited to come back.

## **Head of School (HOS) report** (Attached as Appendix B)

### Goal 1: Improve student recruitment and retention

- Goal 245. Current enrollment is 262 (official enrollment was established as 260 on count day).
- Enrollment projections for next school year are identical to this year's enrollment at this point.
- Next month: EdFest planning

### Goal 2: Stabilize and grow staff

- Working to hire a new English teacher and new Hebrew teacher for PK4, including looking outside the DC area for a Hebrew teacher.

### Goal 3: Improve student achievement

- Resumed in-person learning: A little over 50% of each elementary class has come in each day.
- Generally, both teachers and families have gotten what they wanted (virtual or in-person learning) so far.
- Next month: assessment data (fall MAP, Hebrew assessments, PK assessments)

### Goal 5: Strengthen family engagement

- Good engagement in PTSA meetings and harvest festival
- Planning something different this year for Hebrew Night and Winter Festival
- Starting family Hebrew lessons

## **Board discussion: COVID-19 trends**

Today was the first day DC reported 15 new cases per 100,000 since the beginning of the pandemic. That is one of the indicators DC Health has given for returning to Phase I, but it's unclear how many days and what other indicators will be taken into account.

No clear guidance from DC Health or DME on indicators for resuming fully remote learning.

We're one of the few schools that has opened. We are confident that we are doing things safely.

If DC re-enters Phase I, we should go back to fully remote instruction. Short of that, what sorts of things would make us re-assess having in-person instruction?

- We should take into account what other schools are doing. We should include private schools and daycares in our assessment, not just DCPS and charter schools.
- An outbreak that affects our staff, students, or parents would cause us to reevaluate.
- If multiple in-person cohorts are forced to quarantine due to cases, that could be reason to cancel in-person instruction.
- If indicators are in place for Phase I but for some reason the city doesn't call a return to Phase I, we could consider returning to fully remote instruction.
- Hard to determine in advance what triggers would return us to fully remote instruction.

### **Board discussion: End of Year Fundraising**

Board members should make their contributions to Sela, and the external relations committee will circulate a new fundraising letter for board members to distribute to their networks. Members of the external relations committee are available to help with big asks to contacts who may be in a position to make larger donations.

Open meeting ended at 8:22 pm and went into closed session