

GO BIG

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Present:

- Sharrell Howe
- Erin Howe
- Crystal Howe
- Dr. Jeff Rhodes
- Diamond Howell-Shields
- Shauntay Cloud

Absent:

- Geri Taylor-Brown
- LaDeidre Matthews

Meeting Minutes

- The meeting was called to order by Sharrell at 6:28 PM.
- The mission was recited by Erin Howe.
- The ethics statement was recited by Diamond Howell-Shields.
- Crystal Howe moved to approve the agenda. Diamond Howell-Shields seconded the motion. All were in favor. The agenda was approved.
- No public comments were presented.
- Board Chair, Sharrell Howard, passed the floor to board member, Erin Howe, to discuss agenda items 2a - 2d.
- Erin encouraged the board to think about professionals and community members that would potentially like to serve on the GO BIG board. Erin advised that we look for local candidates as well as at-large members. Erin let the board know that they can recommend that interested parties go to our website, which will field them to the CSP website with the board member application for them to complete. Right now the application does not allow applicants to indicate what school's board they would like to serve on. Erin will make that recommendation to Cory/CSP. Erin will also add a "donate" button.
- Erin reiterated that the website will contain buttons on which interested parties can click to contact us. Please refer interested staff members and families with potential students to the website. If parties are confused about which avenue to take through the website for a particular inquiry, concern, or interest, encourage them to complete the contact form. (The contact form goes directly to

Crystal Howe.) Families that fill out the interest form will be directed to School Mint.

- Erin encouraged board members to take risks and invite people to apply for/express interest in holding various support positions.
- Erin talked about Performance Builders. She restated that we decided as a board not to move forward with working with ACD. We are seriously considering working with Performance Charter Development instead. Cory/CSP will meet to discuss potential. Cory will update us within the week. CSP and Performance have a good working relationship.
- Regarding agenda item 2e, Sharrell noted that we received our first request for an interview with the Charlotte Observer. She reminded board members to field all media inquiries to her as the board chair. She will then present those requests to the board for discussion/completion.
- Regarding agenda item 2f, Sharrell reminded the board that the RTO process is about to begin. It is a rigorous process.
- Sharrell introduced Cecilia Armour, the school leader of Telra Institute. Sharrell noted that Cecilia went through the RTO process last year. Sharrell invited Cecilia to speak about her experiences. Some of Cecilia's recommendations included the following:
 - MTSS process - ensure that core instruction is a strong and central aspect of the MTSS process.
 - Healthy Start (school nutrition program) and EC policies/programming should be a significant focus during the RTO process.
 - Apply for the NC Access grant. (Telra used it to support bus purchases.)
 - Develop operational support and vision around safety protocols, dismissal/arrival procedures, transitions, etc.
 - Board members should be shared partners. Members should support the school leader. Board members should be prepared to support with the RTO process.
 - Seek a diversely gifted board. (Telra's board has benefitted from having an EC specialist, entrepreneur, accountant, IT, gifted education specialist, legal expert, etc...)
 - The board should know the curriculum inside and out to support the school and teachers beyond what the professional development support person(s) will present.

- Devote time to building the school culture. It is the most crucial thing that will help unify the school around the mission.
- Bring athletics into the school as soon as possible. Athletics can positively influence a student's social and academic trajectory, and many skills learned can translate to the classroom.
- Sharrell encouraged the board to unpack the RTO requirements as educators unpack the standards. (*What do we need to know to be successful with this requirement? What do we need to do to be successful with this requirement?*)
- Sharrell encouraged the board to review all RTO materials. She noted that we will meet to organize materials and tasks in the near future.
- Cecilia's email is in the email communication that was sent tonight.
- Diamond Howell-Shield motioned to adjourn. Erin seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved.

Adjournment at 7:47 PM.