

Stamford Academy
Board of Directors
November 21st, 2019
229 North Street
Stamford, CT 06902

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Attendance: Rick D'Avino, Chris Kolovos, Meredith Kennedy, Marty Brennan, Tina Mathias, Marc Bennett, Beth Gosk, Colleen Cary Katz, Mike McGuire, Craig Baker, Andrea Weller, Denise Thomas, Steve Paul

1. Meeting Start 6:04 pm
2. Welcome by Rick D'Avino
3. Approval of October Meeting Minutes
 - a. Motion: Rick D'Avino
 - b. 2nd: Meredith Kennedy
 - c. All in Favor: Chris Kolovos, Tina Mathias, Beth Gosk, Marty Brennan, Colleen Cary Katz, Marc Bennett
4. Principal's Report, Andrea Weller
 - a. Andrea attended a meeting about chronic absenteeism, with board of ed members, state dept of education members, several schools, attendance experts from universities and Attendance Works
 - i. Share out of issues and obstacles
 - ii. Pilot schools will try out some of the strategies from the group
 - iii. Attended workshop about chronic absenteeism
 - iv. Commonalities across the state
 - b. Received a grant from Umbrella Club for food for students, staff will make breakfasts and one special lunch a month
 - c. Discussion of recent student-related events and impact on the school community
5. Updates from Hallways and Classrooms, Meredith Kennedy, Teacher Rep to Board
 - a. Career Day with over 30 volunteers that met and talked with students about their experiences and their career pathways
 - b. Twin Rinks Attendance Field Trip Today for 30 students
 - c. Focal Point Presentation and cumulative celebration
 - d. Student presented on Digging into History Experience
6. Update on Funding from Stamford Public Schools, Rick D'Avino, Board Chair and Craig Baker, Chief Education Officer, Domus (CMO)
 - a. Request by State for us to respond to intent to operate during SY20/21 by Dec. 2
 - b. Review of discussion of funding streams, historic and new developments
 - i. Domus is prepared to continue the historic funding level
 - ii. State and Federal Government funding expected to maintain the historic funding level
 - iii. Private philanthropy
 - iv. City of Stamford

1. Historically amount included block grant, special education, and social worker
 2. SPS funding amount decreased in Spring of 2019 for SY 2018/2019
 3. Fall 2019 SY 2019/2020 reduced further
 4. Meeting with the SPS Superintendent
 - a. Review of success of Stamford Academy and the importance of the school
 - b. Financial Review and changes over time
 - c. Intent to fund Special Education obligation
 - v. Anticipated budget shortfall based on the changes
 - vi. Qualitative change of historic relationship with SPS
- c. Discussion of Draft Resolution parts
- i. Discussion of factors that may impact the operation
 - ii. Discussion of factors that affect determining resolution in light of recent events
 - iii. Discussion of pathways to move forward
7. Meeting Adjourn at 8:20
- a. Motion: Rick D'Avino
 - b. 2nd: Meredith Kennedy
 - c. All in Favor: Chris Kolovos, Tina Mathias, Beth Gosk, Marty Brennan, Colleen Cary Katz, Marc Bennett