



Galapagos Rockford Charter School Board Minutes

May 17, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 5:31pm.

Board members present- David Taber, Monica Smith, Rebecca Denzer, Josh Binning, Giye Filipowicz, Michael Lane

Board members absent- Dr. Lippitz.

The February 2021 board meeting minutes were approved.

Glows & Grows-

Puckett- Writing Progress

Carifio- Girls on the Run program

Oliver- 8th grade class

Al-Yousuf- MAP Testing

Board Vote

The board elected Dave Taber as the board president effective immediately. Vote was 5-0 with Mr. Taber abstaining.

Financials

Strong financial position (surplus increasing).

Key changes- IIF debt is maturing, per capita income came in more than budgeted, received a payroll refund, and overall payroll was down

Received the ESSER 1 & 2 grants- expect \$2.4 million total- more details to come in June.

Capital improvements will be done with cash on hand. Smaller projects such as lighting, storefronts. Five year capex plan was shared with the board.

Academics

Spring MAP testing is going on now. Trying to reach 95% of scholars tested, at 80% now. Challenge is that approximately 46% of scholars are remote.

Summer programming- Northwestern Gifted Program, Cadence, and Summer Fellows for intervention.

We have started an 8th grade Algebra program. There will be a summer component to complete the course.

Attendance

Increased since our last meeting, not yet at our goal.

Board requested actual data about the effects of attendance interventions.

Discipline

Question from the board- How is this trending over time?

No suspensions at the UA since last meeting.

After School X

We have increased programming since Q2- but still significantly lower than pre-pandemic

Enrollment

374 scholars- current enrollment has remained strong and above where we were last year.

Parent referrals, Facebook, & radio are a strong source of enrollments

We are providing high school placement support for all 8th graders.

Charter Renewal Extension

Board voted to push renewal to 2023 from 2022 in accordance with RPS offer. Majority 6 yes 0 No.

Reminder- graduation date June 2nd @ 5:30.

Galapagos Rockford Charter School is dedicated to preparing scholars to be responsible, productive, college-educated adults capable of adapting and prospering in the changing global economy. Core Values of Galapagos: Grit, Drive Growth Mindset