



Governance Board Newsletter

March 5, 2024

Congratulations to our entire community on our recent **five-year contract renewal** with the district! We appreciate everyone's efforts in making this a successful process.

Thank you to those who completed the **parent and staff surveys**. We will receive reports and feedback from the Social Research Lab (SRL) in coming weeks, and we look forward to sharing results and recommendations for improvement at the State of the School in April.

We have been working with a charter school attorney, Carleen Clark, on **revisions to our bylaws** to promote clarity, ensure legal adherence, and simplify processes. Some sections of the bylaws can be approved by a board vote, while others require a majority vote of stakeholders with 30% participation in an election. We value the involvement and feedback of the community in this process and encourage you to participate by: 1) attending a **work session** with Carleen Clark (March 13th at 6:00 pm in the Secondary Library), where she will explain proposed changes; 2) attending the **State of the School** (April 10th at 6:00pm in the Secondary Commons) to learn of proposed changes; 3) completing your **ballot** in the May election.

Our spring **Board Election** is fast-approaching. We need volunteers to assist the [Election](#) and [Recruiting](#) Committees with this process as we seek to fill two open Parent Director seats on the Board. If you are willing to be involved, please email recruiting@stargateschool.org.

We are forming a committee to begin preparations for our **30th anniversary celebration** this fall. Please look for upcoming communication on how you can be involved!

Please join us for our **next business meeting**, March 20th at 6:00 pm in the Secondary Future Center. We will receive updates from our Executive Directors, consider policy revisions, discuss results received from SRL with potential proposals for updated mission and vision statements, review progress on the Reimagine recommendations, review proposed changes for the bylaws, and discuss ideas for improved volunteerism.

Mark your calendars for our annual **State of the School** presentation on April 10th at 6:00 pm in the Secondary Commons. Join Board members for a Meet and Greet immediately prior at 5:30 pm. We encourage anyone interested in running for a Parent Director position to come during the Meet and Greet to ask any questions you may have.

If you would like more information regarding our decisions beyond what is included in this newsletter, please reach out via governance@stargateschool.org.

Lisa Hosfelt
Stargate Board President
On behalf of the Stargate Governance Board

Recognitions:

- Mrs. Byrne, Mrs. Hanna, Mrs. Vaughan, Mrs. Ware, and Ms. ZC for their work on this year's spelling bee
- Ms. Delevoryas for the recent elementary music concert, the facilities team who quickly helped with set up and staging, and the parents who provided costumes and decorations
- Griffin Schafer and Ashley Wilkinson for planning the Winterfest 5k, ensuring a great course and an on-time start
- Staff and families, including Rebecca Hubbard, who attended and supported Stargate during the charter renewal presentation at the Adams 12 Board of Education meeting
- Mr. Howe for leading successful robotics teams to state and world competitions
- School counselors for their preparation for the upcoming school year
- Dr. Millmore for his exemplary service as a school counselor and for his work at the prospective secondary parents night held in December
- Dr. Greene, Mr. Granger, and the entire leadership team for the work they did on the charter renewal and setting a positive tone for the ongoing relationship with Adams 12

Please [email us](#) if there is someone you would like us to publicly acknowledge.

In this Newsletter:

Operations Report
Academics Report
Committee Report
Policy Updates
Board Approvals
Board Discussions
Board 101
Upcoming Board Events
Helpful Links

Operations Report

- Mr. Granger, Executive Director of Operations and Finance, presented updates:
 - Facilities staff is working on a list of improvements to be included in the potential Adams 12 bond issue
 - A new sound system will be installed in the secondary gym during spring break

- New radio repeaters have been installed, and new higher-performance radios will be added this month to enhance communication and promote safety
- My Kids Lunch is working to offer a second vegetarian menu option in April
- A new network administrator has been hired to replace Dale Briggs, who is retiring
- Draft videos for the Adams County Video Project are complete, with final versions anticipated in a few weeks
- Data migration to the new website is currently underway
- Jennifer Roach, Director of Human Resources, shared plans for 360 review surveys that will be administered in the coming weeks to provide leadership with valuable feedback
- The full operations report will be available with the meeting [minutes](#) after they are approved at our next business meeting

Academics Report

- Dr. Greene, Executive Director of Academics, provided updates on academics:
 - Recent professional development days with Matt Zakresky, PsyD, and Marcia Tate, EdD, were well-received. Professional development for March will focus on differentiation strategies
 - Drs. Rundquist and Greene are working on potential updates to the Instructional Materials Policy
 - The admissions lottery was held in February, and most grades are fully enrolled with waitlists
 - Middle School and High School student Task Forces met with administration to share ideas about the mission and vision statements
- Angela Fundaro, Director of Student Services, shared an update of our learning services
 - We have a fully staffed team able to provide a variety of needed services for students
 - Child Find training is provided to teachers multiple times throughout the year
- The full academics report will be available with the meeting [minutes](#) after they are approved at our next business meeting

Committee Reports

Virginia Pierce was appointed to fill a vacant staff position on the School Accountability Committee.

SAC presented the [December 31, 2023 KPI Report](#) and [2023-2024 Demographic and Enrollment Data Report](#).

Policy Updates

The Board approved a first reading of revised policy [1.10 Board Orientation](#)

Board Approvals

- [2024-2025 school calendar](#)
 - Parent and staff survey results related on the calendar were reviewed by administration prior to submission to the Board
 - Most dates align with the Adams 12 district calendar, with exceptions made for professional development days, parent/teacher conferences, and the last day of school falling before Memorial Day

Board Discussions

- 2023-2024 Board Self-Evaluation
 - Two board members will compile results for a more in-depth review at the next meeting
- Strategic Plan Development
 - Received mission and vision work session feedback report from SRL
 - Two board members will meet with administration to determine the need for any changes and formulate suggested modifications
- Reimagine recommendations
 - Reported progress toward goals and strategies
- Bylaw revisions
 - A work session with Carleen Clark will be held to discuss changes and ask questions
 - A clean version of the bylaws will be created, along with a summary of changes to be presented at the State of the School
 - Changes in sections needing community approval will be included on the ballot after further discussion and presentation at the State of the School
- Colorado League of Charter Schools annual conference follow up
 - Board members Danielle Fox, Lisa Hosfelt, Samantha Howorko and Lindsey Paquette shared takeaways from the 2-day conference
 - Dr. Greene, Mr. Granger, and Ms. Roach also shared highlights from the sessions they attended

Board 101

ANNUAL SELF-EVALUATION

From Colorado League of Charter Schools Board Training Module 11: Board Continuous Improvement

A best practice for charter school boards is to dedicate time to a more formal annual evaluation. We recommend including a couple questions about the board's work on the annual staff and parent/guardian satisfaction survey. With this data in hand, as well as any other feedback gathered over the course of the year, the board should conduct a self-evaluation. Each board member should take the self-evaluation individually; someone should then take the responses and compile them for review by the whole. The self-evaluation questions should focus on both the individual's work and board's collective work.

After the results have been compiled and shared, allow time for a meaningful board discussion about the results. Identify those areas where people's ratings were lowest and keep them at the front of everyone's attention when setting annual board goals and professional development plans for the year.

Upcoming Board Events

Coffee Chat (Board members may be in attendance):

March 7, 5:30 pm

Board Work Session to Discuss Bylaws:

March 13th, 6:00 pm in the Secondary Future Center

Board Executive Sessions (evaluations):

March 13th, 5:00 pm

March 20th, 5:00 pm

Business Meetings:

March 20th, 6:00 pm in the Secondary Future Center

April 10th, 7:00 pm in the Secondary Commons

State of the School, April 10th:

5:30-6:00 pm Meet and Greet with Board Members

6:00 pm Presentation, including staff and volunteer awards

Helpful Links

[Board Dashboard \(includes minutes, agendas, and recent newsletters\)](#)

[Important Board Documents \(includes Reimagine report and Stakeholder Presentation\)](#)

[Meeting Calendar](#)

[Community Compact](#)

[Past Board Communication](#)

[Communication Pathways](#)

[Current Strategic Plan and Data Dashboard](#)

[School Calendar \(for meeting link\)](#)

[Stargate School Social Media Page](#)