APPROVED

Springfield Prep
CHARTER SCHOOL

Springfield Prep

Minutes

Governance Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Monday November 22, 2021 at 1:00 PM

Location
Zoom meeting

This meeting of the Springfield Prep Charter School Governance Committee will be held via Zoom video conference on 11/15/21 at 1:00 pm. Meeting notice was posted on the school's website (www.springfieldprep.org) on 11/10/21 at 12:50 pm.

Committee Members Present
A. Grant (remote), K. Molina (remote), R. Leonard (remote), S. Monson (remote)

Committee Members Absent
None

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

A. Grant called a meeting of the Governance Committee of Springfield Prep to order on Monday Nov 22, 2021 at 1:15 PM.

II. Governance

A.

Executive Director Evaluation

Alex Grant introduced the draft of the ED evaluation and asked for comment. Most of the discussion was directed toward the part of the draft evaluation that involved the Bill's recommendation to begin the 2020-21 school year fully remote and to remain remote for most of that school year. The draft evaluation set forth the background of the recommendation and decision to go full remote and the disappointing scores of SPCS on the statewide MCAS tests for 2020-21. The draft evaluation indicated that Bill's recommendation to go full remote, while made in good faith, was an error in judgment.

Kelvin Molina said the decision to go remote was the Board's decision, not Bill's. He also noted that knowing what he knows now, he would have still voted to go remote.

Robert Leonard said he agreed with Mr. Molina. He said that Bill and the Board evaluated all the information and made a good decision in opting to go fully remote. Mr. Leonard agreed that it was a major decision.

Ms. Monson asked a question about the process of deciding to go full remote and she added that she agreed that Bill should not be faulted for his recommendation.

Mr. Grant noted that students in the suburbs who had the benefit of in-person learning did better on statewide assessment tests. He also noted that SPCS students did worse on a relative basis, with the SPCS year-over-year declines greater than the state average.

Mr. Leonard stated that SPCS should not have gotten out in front of larger school districts. He noted that Springfield and Boston both embraced full remote learning.

Mr. Molina said that SPCS went back to in-person learning earlier than the Springfield Public Schools. He also suggested that the recommendation and decision to go full remote should be omitted from the evaluation.

Mr. Leonard said that the decision-making process surrounding remote learning should remain in the evaluation but that it should be re-written to better reflect the views of the majority of the Governance Committee.

There was agreement that another meeting should be scheduled to consider a re-draft of the evaluation that Mr. Leonard would do. November 26, 2021 at 11 am was chosen as a mutually convenient time.

B. Approve Minutes

R. Leonard made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2021 Governance Committee as presented. Governance Committee Meeting on 09-13-21.
A. Grant seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Leonard Aye
S. Monson Aye
A. Grant Aye
K. Molina Aye

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

R. Leonard made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
A. Grant seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

K. Molina Aye
A. Grant Aye
S. Monson Aye
R. Leonard Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 1:56 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Grant

Documents used during the meeting

None