



Sela PCS Board Meeting Minutes

Date: November 10, 2022, 6:45 pm

Location: Sela PCS

Attendance:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
Deena Fox	Board member and chair	Present
Aster Allen-Patel	Board member	Present
Rose Benson	Board member	Absent
Heather Capell Bramble	Board member	Present
Liz Cohen	Board member	Present
Rebecca Rubin Damari	Board member	Present
Yair Inspektor	Board member	Present
Bryce Jacobs	Board member	Present
Steve Messner	Board member	Present
Smruti Radkar	Board member	Absent
Ashley Stoney	Board member	Present
Michael Walker	Board member	Absent
Andrew Whiting	Board member	Present
Josh Bork	Head of school (non-voting)	Present
Ryan Benjamin	Director of operations (non-voting)	Present

Minutes: Rebecca Rubin Damari

Timekeeper: Liz Cohen

Agenda (Attached as Appendix A)

The meeting started at 6:51 pm

Mission moments

At the bus stop today, parents were expressing their happiness and satisfaction with Sela. No complaints!

Students are reporting on what they learned about the local elections.

The Blue Ribbon School celebration was a great opportunity to meet educators from excellent schools around the country.

A staff member cheerfully volunteered to cover costs of book fair books for students who did not have funds.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Bryce moved to ratify the meeting minutes from October. Yair seconded.

In favor: Deena, Andrew, Heather, Rebecca, Steve

Opposed: None

Abstained: Liz

Ratification of Online Votes

Yair moved to ratify the online vote about the resolution for lease purchase and financing, and about the bond reimbursement intention resolution (voted 11/8/22). Andrew seconded.

In favor: Bryce, Liz, Deena, Heather, Rebecca, Steve

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Head of School (HOS) report (Full report attached as Appendix B)

Goal 1: Student enrollment and retention

- Official enrollment: 280. Changes since count day: recognition of additional SPED, at-risk, and ELL students
- 8 students on the wait list
- 33% FARMS-eligible students, which makes us a Title I school

Goal 2: School mission and culture

- All classes are having a field trip before winter break. Field trips expose students to new experiences and are important for meeting our diversity and equity goals, especially when they are free to families.
- Two veteran Hebrew teachers asked for the opportunity to attend the ACTFL conference in Boston, and a PreK teacher asked to attend the NAEYC conference in DC. All are being accommodated. Teachers are encouraged to find their own PD opportunities, in addition to those presented by school leadership. Teachers who attend external PD are expected to share what they've learned with their peers.

Goal 3: Staffing retention and development

- Sela will be hiring 2 new Special Education educators to meet the needs of our growing population of Special Ed students.
- Working with EmpowerEd and Lead Teachers to conduct monthly staff pulse survey to stay on top of any issues or concerns.

- Josh and Ryan will take advantage of free coaching available through the Charter Alliance
- There was discussion of whether to broaden the eligibility statement for the teacher education scholarship.

Liz moved to modify the language of the scholarship program to make courses toward a professional certificate eligible for the scholarship. Bryce seconded.

In favor: Deena, Andrew, Yair, Heather, Rebecca

Opposed: None

Abstained: Ashley, Steve

Goal 4: Academic achievement

- Hebrew oral proficiency BOY benchmark data is now available to the board

Goal 5: Finance and facilities

- Sela has notified our landlord, Douglas Development, that we intend to purchase the building. Financing terms will be available for the board to vote on in December. Inspection report will be available shortly.
- The board is asked to reach out to their networks to help fundraise for the cost of field trips for the year (\$15K). This can be the end of year appeal, just starting early. Heather will send both templates to the board (the field trip ask, and the general end of year ask from last year).

Goal 6: Family engagement

- Attendance at Hebrew night was lighter than expected, as was math night. There will be questions in the midyear family survey to better understand families' preferences around in-school events.

Board discussion: Academic data follow-up

- MKS Consulting will be visiting the school next week to do classroom observations, meet with the school leadership team, and doing focus groups with students, teachers, and parents. They have already reviewed recent academic data.
- Classroom support for reading instruction, individual and small group supports. Teachers are being strongly encouraged to make referrals to RTI.

Board discussion: Board recruitment

Smruti has resigned from the board. The academic committee could use a new member. We also now have only 2 parent board members, which is the minimum required. We will recruit from the general parent population and reach out to individuals (school parents or others) the board believes would be good candidates.

The meeting ended at 8:34 pm