



**Sela PCS Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: September 14, 2023, 6:45 pm

Location: Zoom meeting

**Attendance:**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
Deena Fox	Board member and chair	Present
Aster Allen-Patel	Board member	Present
K.J. Bagchi	Board member	Present
Rose Benson	Board member	Absent
Heather Capell Bramble	Board member	Absent
Chelley Coley	Board member	Present
Rebecca Rubin Damari	Board member	Present
Yair Inspektor	Board member	Present
Bryce Jacobs	Board member	Present
Steve Messner	Board member	Present
Justin Rubin	Board member	Present
Michael Walker	Board member	Present
Josh Bork	Head of school (non-voting)	Present
Ryan Benjamin	Director of operations (non-voting)	Present
Imani Sewell	Development and Comms Mgr. (non-voting)	Present
Hubert Dixon	Teacher (non-voting)	Present
Kia Willis	Teacher (non-voting)	Present

**Minutes:** Rebecca Damari

**Timekeeper:** K.J. Bagchi

**Agenda** (Attached as Appendix A)

The meeting started at 6:50 pm

**Mission moments**

Josh spoke with a representative of the Steinhardt Foundation in Israel, who is helping to plan a possible 5<sup>th</sup> grade trip in the spring.

Deena's 3<sup>rd</sup> grader successfully interacted with a new Israeli classmate in Hebrew, and took pride in her skill development.

Ryan reported on a visit to the school by Hanoach Piven, an Israeli multimedia artist, who inspired students to create self-portraits drawing on thousands of odds and ends. Kudos to Ms. Maya for making it happen!

Josh received preliminary drawings of the renovation from Perkins Eastman. Josh and Ryan will be meeting with them tomorrow to understand them better. It's on schedule. Working with a contractor to schedule playground renovations. Working on leasing the roof space for solar.

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

Enrollment: we are just below 98% of budgeted enrollment (current enrollment: 284). We are still within the contingency built into the budget (6 students). Still reaching out to a couple of prospective students. Count Day is October 5.

Diana Bruce and Associates led a PD for teachers on gender diversity. Diana also spoke on the same topic to the first parent breakfast, which was well attended.

Started the school year fully staffed.

Closing out the last fiscal year in late September.

Imani Sewell is starting a new role in her 6<sup>th</sup> year at Sela, as Development and Communications Manager.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Aster moved to ratify the meeting minutes from June. Michael seconded.

In favor: Bryce, K.J., Yair, Rebecca, Chelley, Deena

Opposed: None

Abstained: Steve

Bryce moved to ratify the retreat minutes from July. Aster seconded.

In favor: K.J., Yair, Michael, Steve, Chelley, Rebecca, Deena

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

### **Vote on changes to the staff handbook**

There was discussion of a few questions regarding the wording of the section on PTO. Ryan will bring the questions to Sela's counsel, and we will do an electronic vote when a response is received.

## **Ratification of vote**

Bryce moved to ratify the online vote in June on the financial procedures change.  
Yair seconded.

In favor: K.J., Rebecca, Steve, Aster, Chelley, Justin, Deena

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

## **Mission Review**

The board identified strengths of how Sela's current work is aligned with the mission, as well as things contributing to those strengths. Additionally, the board discussed opportunities for increased alignment to Sela's mission.

## **Discussion of Dashboard Indicators**

The board discussed an initial list of proposed dashboard indicators, based on indicators that would be relatively easy for school leadership and staff to collect and provide. Dashboards evolve over time, so we can start with a manageable set and then revise the list over time.

One goal of the dashboard for the board is to better inform discussion around academics, attendance, fundraising, etc.

Next steps: The academic committee will send around a revised proposal for academic metrics. School leadership will write out clearly what each indicator will include and how frequently it is available; also which are available now and which may need to wait. Chelley has a resource who may be able to help develop a dashboard.

## **Initial Discussion of 5<sup>th</sup> grade Israel trip**

The school is planning a trip in late February-early March, focusing on the diversity of Israel and on Hebrew. The school is also planning a video pen pal program between Sela 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades and an Arab school in Lod in Israel. The board discussed some concerns associated with the trip before closing discussion.

Steve moved to go to closed session. Aster seconded.

In favor: Justin, Rebecca, K.J., Bryce, Michael, Chelley, Deena

Opposed: none

Abstained: none

**Closed session began at 8:30 pm. The meeting ended at 8:57 pm.**