



Executive Director Update

November 29, 2021

Attendance:

Present:

**Chris Hamilton
Victor Evans
Charley Foster
Josh Gettys**

Greg Thompson, GT3 Group

Absent:

**Laquindra Killingsworth
Oscar Romero**

2021-2022 School Year

- Enrollment: stable at 751
 - Backfill at semester break—goal of 6 9th, 3 10th (1 already enrolled)
- ESSER grant spending update— 4 assistant teachers/interventionists as well as full-time mental health counselor have come on after board approved budget; while this has created more significant spending in salaries, grant reimbursement offsets these costs and the addition of these positions has produced significant benefit to academic program, especially from increased ratio
- COVID Update— Currently, zero students are out on COVID quarantine across our network; we are cautiously phasing into a scaled re-systematization of our pre-COVID school model. These changes include desk distance, restroom and water fountain usage, and quarantine protocols
- 22-23 enrollment season has begun, healthy ratios in all enrolling grades; lottery is 12/7 at 6pm
 - Lottery for 6th seats and remaining waiting lists
 - 6: 144
 - 7: 62
 - 8: 43
 - 9: 49
 - 10: 35
- HS Principal search, internally conducted at least to start, has at least two candidates internally on the current high school leadership team
 - Board requested information on internal candidates, discussed the possibility to developing a process for interviewing or otherwise meeting the candidates who elevate furthest in process
- Winter Arts Festival (12/11) and The Lion King Jr (12/9-12/10)!
- US News and World Report ranking and SCS announcement
 - What are we doing to re-establish our bar for excellence?



- What have been the challenges?



Finance

SCS BEP True Up: as in previous years, SCS has been paying MRA off of its assumed BEP numbers due to a student information system “true up” that is slated to occur in February; all students are loaded into SIS, but some have scheduling errors; this is causing a cash-on-hand difference that GT will explain

ESSER Reimbursement Spending: in summary, MRA has spent ESSER funding in ways that have, at least in our estimation, stayed firmly within the boundaries of allowable spending under each grant; this has included, among many other things, technology resources, classroom resources, staffing additions, our library renovation project, and more. As spending has occurred, it has created an operating cash difference that, on our balance sheet, looks like a significant deficit. However, as reimbursements occur, these spending overages will, in large part, be eliminated.

Supplies and Materials Spending: While the above is true, it is also true that our school’s instructional supplies and materials, as well as office supplies, spending has increased again this year. While some of this spending will be ESSER reimbursable, much of it is also just spending that needs to be monitored, as it has been in previous years.

GT3 Group reported that a large amount of ESSER reimbursable spending will be submitted in the next 30 days. Board discussed that the true up process has led to a cash deficit of \$800k-\$1mm. Victor spoke about the momentum at the State level regarding the possibility of legislation to support this item.

Greg report added detail to challenges of predicting SCS’ review of ESSER funding. Board engaged in discussion about ESSER funding, including plans for staffing and/or other planned spending beyond 21-22.

Next board meeting confirmed for Tuesday, December 14.

Board Actions



Meeting Start: 6:03
Meeting End: 6:47