

SCS Board of Trustees Retreat | Meeting Minutes
Sunday, October 29, 2023
9:00 AM
55 Main St Suite 311, Newmarket NH

Representatives Present:

Heather Ward, Parent Member, Chair
Shannon Keyes, Community Member, Vice-Chair
Nicole Outsen, Head of School, Ex Officio
Chad Roberge, Parent Member, Treasurer
Kayla Hoffman, Teacher Member, Secretary
Maegan Adams, Teacher Member
Theresa Stachow, Facilities Director
Peter Sweet, Community Member
Kathy Goodell, Parent Member
Hannah Welsh, Parent Member
Kristin Larrabee, Dean of Students

9:08 AM Go over schedule and introductions

9:46 AM BOT Charter, By-laws, Review Roles and Responsibilities

- Encouraged members to review the charter and by-laws on the website.
- Read through the purpose, vision, and mission of the board.
- Discussed how the board's responsibility is governance and oversight. That the board is here to support the HOS.
- The board is a body and not a collection of individuals with separate opinions and as a member of the board you need to be able to put your personal feelings aside.
- As a board member you are a representative of the community, not yourself and your own interests.
- The board's responsibility is to ensure operation and financial stability, select and support the head of school, establish and monitor goals, and ensure compliance.
- Discussed where we currently are as an adolescent board and where we want to go/become as a highly effective board.

10:00 AM Break

10:16 AM Student Experience

- Watched a video on the Timbernook experience and how it impacts students.
- Showcased student and teacher artwork.
- Watched a few clips of Half School Meeting at SCS.

10:51 AM Small group breakout to discuss equitable aid and assisting teacher

11:27 AM Report out from small group discussions

- Some ideas from groups included:
 - Smaller classes
 - Pay increase for teachers and staff
 - Better benefits
 - School nurse
 - Need for DOS
 - Permanent sub position

- More sick days for teachers
- Professional development
- More special educator positions
- More teachers per age group
- Year long extracurriculars with stipends
- Transportation
- Administrative assistant help
- Ways to get families more involved
- Co-teaching scenario instead of assistance
- Sabbatical for teachers
- Building more relationships out in the community
- PR person for fundraising and community connections
- Bonuses

11:42 PM Updates on Strategic Plan

- Math
 - In our first year of the whole school using the new Open Up Resource math curriculum.
 - Each grade level K-6 is doing single grade instruction.
- Leadership Model
 - Kristin is collecting information about how the Dean of Students position is being used, what she is doing, and what impact it is having on students, classrooms, and supporting staff.
- Social Emotional Learning
 - Three different staff members are getting SEL certified and bringing back training and information to staff from their professional development.
- Arts Integration
 - Expansion Grant creates a focus on community connection in the arts by using the Strand and adding Theater to our program.
- Financial Stability
 - Expansion Grant and Equitable Aid being used to ensure the school is able to operate with the current funds and budget.

11:55 PM Adjourned