

## LIFE Prep Vision

LIFE Prep ignites a desire to achieve and inspires students' hope for a bright future. Students develop self-confidence through their accomplishments and are empowered to pursue their dreams. We provide encouragement and a foundation for perseverance; preparing students to thrive as individuals on a successful life path.

### October 2021 Board Meeting Minutes of LIFE Prep

**Date:** Monday - October 18, 2021

**Time:** 5:00-6:30 PM

**Location:** LIFE Prep School: 930 Geranium Avenue East, St. Paul, MN 55106

Called to order at 5:07 by Nou Yang

**Members in Attendance:** Nou, Gillian, Katie, Mike, Christine, Pang  
(Leah, Kelsey, Christyna and Glory- remote)

#### **Agenda:**

1. Consent Items:
  - o Review/approve October 2021 agenda
    - Mike motions
    - Christine seconds
  - o Review/approve September 2021 minutes
    - Christine motions
    - Mike seconds
2. Authorizer Communication – (The Guild)
  - MCA goal will be on hold and use NWEA scores for now
3. Executive Committee Report – Nou
  - Discussed EpiCenter tasks, approx 11-12 remaining
  - Discussed sub-committees (Governance- Pang, Enrollment/Marketing- Mike, Fundraising- Gillian) Leader will reach out to get committee members and provide updates at monthly board meetings. New Building Committee on hold for now.
  - Discussed adding additional board members- Glory gave the go ahead, no authorization needed, just update the Guild when changes are made
  - Christine will go forward with this
  - Will update the website to remove Mike from Vice Chair which was mistakenly listed- currently still without a Vice Chair
  - Goal #3 will be paused and the Guild will be working with MDE to get clarification on goals and let us know
4. Policy Committee Report – Christine
  - Joined the Minnesota School Board to get support with policies, training, etc.
  - Discussed the need to condense the Bullying Policy since we currently have multiple
  - Can focus on procedures (especially focused around cyberbullying/ cell phone use)

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- Continuing to work on list of policies needing revision to get consistent formatting
5. Finance Committee Report – Katie
- Did not meet this month- Dawn unavailable
  - Leah noted that under the Federal Revenue ESSR Funds- \$0 doesn't mean we haven't used those funds, they just haven't been formally moved over which Dawn will take care of
  - Everything else is right on track for this time of the school year
6. Executive Director's Report – Leah
- Enrollment 201, budget at 206
  - Attendance is at 87.5%, goal is 85%
  - Teachers have started using both Wonders reading curriculum and new SEL curriculum
  - Team Smile- most students received free dental cleaning, education, and support. Will see them again in 6 months to continue the care with the goal that the need will be less as time goes on and education turns into home routines
  - Assessments have been completed and results of NWEA testing will be shared (those
  - Hispanic Heritage Month is wrapping up- creating a video of students since we cannot invite families into the building at this time
  - Kindness Campaign- October 26th 3rd- 6th grade girls. Will address things such as return to school/ social media/ bullying/ etc. Will be a virtual interactive event in the cafeteria.
  - Contacted Youth Frontiers as an additional support for all students
  - Still need a Special Education Coordinator, position is posted- need someone with experience
  - In house sub starts Oct 25 (MWF)
  - Continuing to look for a new cleaning company
  - Playground- spoke with the attorney today, a letter will be written to the landlord regarding the community playground grants and lack of maintenance and keeping it a "private" playground. Lawyer is prepared to send the letter next week and will progress as needed.
  - COVID update- 0 cased. Testing has improved- 41 new members enrolled in testing program. Now 75 students in testing program which tests every Monday morning. Also using rapid tests for staff and sent home with students as needed. Have had no quarantines needed, feeling positive with what is in place at the school
  - Camp St. Croix was a success
  - Halloween celebrations will still take place this year with some adjustments for COVID

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- Other Business -
- o COVID update
  - Discussed during Executive Director report
- o Review NWEA results
  - Christyna discussed what components are tested within the NWEA testing
  - NWEA-
    - K-2 did not take NWEA in the Spring of 202 and Fall of 2020 which means students currently in 3rd grade haven't since the NWEA test since 1st grade
    - 4-6 most accurate scores are from Fall 2021-2022 as not all students took it last year and testing times ranged from 9 min to 133 when it should take 40- 60 minutes
      - o Testing time and importance of test will be a focus to convey to students for January test
    - Discussed difficulty finding a baseline to compare results to given distance learning
    - Students in 4-6 who tested in both the spring of 2021 and fall of 2021 are showing consistency in results
  - Title Data- All students that tested red are being serviced daily by a Title teacher this year (122)
  - Dyslexia Screener- 59/93 students were flagged
    - Students scored highest in Listening Comprehension and Picture vocabulary
    - Students struggle with phonological awareness and phonics/word recognition
    - Next test will be in January
    - Hoping flaws of test itself will be sorted out to provide more accurate data
  - Discussed Learning Loss from 2020/2021 School Year
    - o New literacy curriculum w/ leveled interventions
    - o New Pre-k and Kindergarten curriculum
    - o New SEL curriculum
    - o Revamped PBIS program
    - o Hired a Literacy Specialist/Coach w/ extensive experience and knowledge of Wonders Curriculum. She works with staff and students with the highest need.
    - o 2 Full time and 2 part time Title 1 teachers so all students who qualify for Title services are being served
    - o Full time school counselor and 1 intern as well as City Connects to address students' social and emotional needs

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- o Reading Corps
- o UWRP and UST tutors
- o Hoping to offer Saturday school at some point
- o Purchased IXL, Vooks, Epic, and Seesaw for additional literacy support
- o All students are 1:1 w/ technology
- o Purchased new science curriculum
- o Goal review

**Goal 3 – All Students in Third Grade Achieving Grade-Level Literacy:** By FY 2023, 60% of third graders who have been continuously enrolled since October 1st will read at grade level as measured by the year end NWEA. NWEA will be administered in fall, winter and spring. Reading proficiency will increase, as noted below, as measured by NWEA year-end scores.

Baseline	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
46%	50%	55%	60%

- Paused until we get guidance from the Guild as all students did not take NWEA test when in distance learning last school year

**Goal 5 – Attendance:** LIFE Prep School will maintain a measurable goal of 85% average daily attendance, annually, as measured by year end MARSS data.

Baseline	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
84%	85%	85%	85%

- No questions at this time

7. Public Communication to the Board
  - None
8. Board Actions
  - o Approve Check Register for September 2021
    - Katie motions
    - Christine seconds
9. Adjournment @ 6:17 by Nou Yang
  - o Christine motions
  - o Mike seconds

**Next regular board meeting: Monday, November 15, 2021 @ 5:00pm**