Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence Charter School

Public Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

The Howard Gardner MI Charter School (HGMICS) held a public Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. Stephanie Westington, President, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Stephanie led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance and took roll call for the board members and non-voting attendees.

The following Trustees attended: Sam Ceccacci, John Ezbiansky, Michael Barbetti, Laurie Cadden, Wayne Evans, Dino Galli, Susan Hennemuth, Dr. Clarence Lamanna, and Dr. Catherine Richmond-Cullen. Absent from the meeting: Laila Kane.

Also in attendance: Dr. Marie George, CEO; TreeAnne McEnery, Principal; and Deana Bonacci, Assistant to the CEO.

Stephanie Westington noted that there were no visitors in attendance.

I. Minutes   **Stephanie Westington**

Stephanie Westington presented the January 21, 2023 Board of Trustees meeting minutes and asked for approval. A **MOTION** to approve the January 21, 2023 Board meeting minutes, as submitted, was made by Susan Hennemuth and seconded by Sam Ceccacci. Stephanie asked if there were any comments or corrections on the minutes. Not hearing any, Stephanie called for a vote. All Board of Trustees members present voted in favor of approving the January 21, 2023, minutes as submitted, with one Trustee absent.

II. President's Report   **Stephanie Westington**

Stephanie Westington welcomed everyone in attendance to the February 2023 Public Board meeting. Stephanie reported the School was awarded $140,000 in grant funds from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. Grants from this fund will promote two very important areas, school safety and student mental health. With the School's business manager, John Marsico, on medical leave, the January financial report will be deferred and presented at the March Board Meeting. Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence School's enrollment lottery for the school year 2023-24 is scheduled for March 1, 2023, for which Stephanie announced she will be present. Also, an Employee Recognition Event is scheduled for May 11, 2023, held at Glenmaura Country Club. Stephanie thanked trustee, Dr. Catherine Richmond-Cullen, for being a sponsor of this event. Lastly, Stephanie welcomed Ms. Melissa

Cruise, Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence School's Art teacher, to present an educational presentation.

III.   HGMICS Educational Session – "Why T.A.B.?"   Ms. Melissa Cruise

Ms. Melissa Cruise, Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence Charter School's Art teacher, presented on how she incorporates the T.A.B. (Teaching for Artistic Behavior) method of teaching in her art classes and why she believes in this method of teaching for Middle School students. Ms. Cruise described the process of letting her students choose their own projects and the positive attributes that accompany this teaching style. By letting students have choice and options they are more likely to embrace their creativity and thrive in school and outside of school when it comes to their creative impulses. Ms. Cruise stated that for students in the Elementary grades she focuses on skill building, which prepares them for choice-based art in grades 5-8.

IV. Academic Committee   Dr. Clarence Lamanna

Dr. Lamanna reported that the Committee met February 7th and there were two informational items discussed – plans for a Gifted Education Program and plans to apply for ARPA Scranton City Grant funds for two important emerging needs.

At this time, Dr. Clarence Lamanna entertained a **MOTION** to approve the Pennsylvania Department of Education's (PDE) Emergency Instructional Time Report for the 2022-2023 School Year as submitted. The motion was made by Michael Barbetti and seconded by John Ezbiansky. Dr. Clarence Lamanna called for any questions or comments. Not hearing any, all Trustees present voted in favor of accepting the Pennsylvania Department of Education's (PDE) Emergency Instructional Time Report for the 2022-2023 School Year as submitted, with one Trustee absent.

Dr. Clarence Lamanna entertained a **MOTION** to approve the Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence Charter School (HGMICS) 2023-24 & 2024-25 Calendars as presented. The motion was made by Stephanie Westington and seconded by Dino Galli. Dr. Clarence Lamanna called for any questions or comments. Not hearing any, all Trustees present voted in favor of accepting Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence Charter School (HGMICS) 2023-24 & 2024-25 Calendars as presented, with one Trustee absent.

V. Development Committee   **Susan Hennemuth**

       Susan Hennemuth stated the Development Committee met on Wednesday, February 1, 2023. The Committee discussed the Annual Golf Tournament, which will be held on Sunday, October 9, 2023. They also discussed the robust activity towards school grants that were received, pending and possible submission. Additionally, the Legacy Task Force was initiated that will assemble a team of people dedicated to identifying former students to add to a database of existing alumni and importantly to have them engaged with the school in various ways.

VI. Personnel Committee   **Sam Ceccacci**

       Sam Ceccacci stated the Personnel Committee on Tuesday, February 7, 2023. The Committee discussed the Employee Recognition event as well as the updated Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence School's updated Organizational Chart.

VII. School Matters

   1. **Administrative Updates**   **Dr. Marie George**

       Dr. George presented her CEO update followed by the Administrative Staff updates. The report gives a summary of updates from the Principal, Student Support Services, Facilities and Security, School Operations, and Assistant Business Manager.

VIII. New Business   **Stephanie Westington**

       At this time, there was no New Business and Stephanie Westington moved on to adjournment of the meeting.

Adjournment

At 7:56 p.m., Susan Hennemuth made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Michael Barbetti seconded the motion. No further items of business or comments had been raised.

The next HGMICS Public Board meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**