



**Saint Paul Children's Collaborative
APPROVED Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, June 8, 2016
8:15- 10:00 @ CAP/RW**

Board Members Present: Robert McClain, Toni Carter, Jackie Turner, Jean O'Connell, Rebecca Noecker, Bruce Thao, Mary K Boyd, Mary Jo McGuire, Deb Moses

Staff Present: Laurie Davis and Christa Anders (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Co- Coordinators)

Guests Present: Ann Mulholland (The Saint Paul Foundation), Mary Vanderwert, St. Paul School Board

Meeting called to order by O'Connell at 8:15 am.

I. Call to Order and Children's Fire

Grafstrom lit the Children's Fire with a quote by C.S. Lewis, "Children are not a distraction from more important work – they are the most important work."

II. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes from the May 11, 2016 Board Meeting and accept the information contained in the May update from Advance Consulting and the May financial report. Motion approved.

III. Filling the SPPS Foundation Gap

Ann Mulholland from The Saint Paul Foundation discussed the recent closing of the Saint Paul Public Schools Foundation, and led the board in a discussion of how the resulting gap in funding to support SPPS might be filled. The goal of the Foundation was to raise money for projects and programs that were not fundable through the district's budget. It was established in 2006. Tutoring Partnership was created, and then additional projects evolved.). Teacher grants help fund great projects in our schools but the majority of the funding has come from Travellers as the Foundation had the mechanism in place to award and monitor them. Over the past 3 ½ years, the Foundation began having challenges with their financing, and hired a fundraising director, which did result in new funds, but mostly

for specific programs. SPPS Foundation was a “support organization” of The Saint Paul Foundation (separate 501(c)3), and The Saint Paul Foundation provided all backroom services to the SPPS Foundation. The Tutoring Partnership’s training function is being assumed by the Minnesota Literacy Council. Sprockets is taking on the quality functions. The Foundation will be closed down formally in August/September of this year. There is interest in creating some successor organization. New Lens Urban Mentoring is now an official separate 501(c)3. There is a group looking to re-establish Teacher grants but Ann’s read is that since the majority of the funding came from Travelers, this isn’t enough of a mission to create a new organization.

The Children’s Collaborative may be the right place to assess what is needed to effectively support the district’s students and teachers as well as the “ecosystem” that needs to be in place. The gaps are numerous – messaging about what is working and great about SPPS; funding for family engagement (gas cards, food). Focus on alignment, rather than “coordination.” Staff should come back to the Board about how SPCC could address the issues re filling these gaps.

Members also raised that there are some programs currently in operation that are connected to the current mayor such as Right Track and Sprockets. It was suggested that we need to agree on what we absolutely cannot afford to lose for our kids, and then figure out how to attract the funding/infrastructure needed to make sure that exists. Each board member should be thinking about who needs to be at the table for this discussion. The district can take the lead in identifying gaps although they won’t have this list by our July meeting. Board members agreed to hold an extended meeting/retreat to do some of this important thinking and planning. Others who should be part of this conversation: Generation Next, the Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood, Sprockets, Right Track and former SPCC Board members.

IV. Board Updates and Connections and Items for Future Meetings

Staff update: The Triad (Bush funded) work around aligning systems to support “deep end” children (in criminal justice system, truant, or human services involved) is exploring next steps for their work. The Joint Powers agreement for SPCC does create an opportunity for data sharing, and we are having conversations about whether it could be amended to support the goals in the Triad project.

Staff have been participating in conversations with Ramsey County, all school districts in Ramsey County (including SPPS), the Children’s Mental Health Collaborative and the Suburban Ramsey Family Collaborative about next steps in working together.

Anders and Grafstrom highlighted the recent work around re-engagement of students (also in the board packet).

O’Connell: The SPPS has a program called Gateway to College to re-engage students – 14 students graduated this year, many with significant college credits.

Deb Moses announced she is leaving Head Start CAP/RW to go to Micah House Victory Through Faith and do consulting and teach at MCTC. The Board thanks Deb for her service and wishes her all the best in her new adventures. Deb thanked the board for the opportunity to be part of this work, and for all she's learned from the other board members. She advised that we keep being bold and innovative in the grant-making process.

Boyd: Families Achieving Success Today (FAST) is an employment program – Boyd and Cox have been working on engaging the district in FAST's work with parents. The Office of Family and Community Partnerships took the biggest hit in the budget cut process. The SPCC will send a letter to the school board, signed by Robert McClain.

Meeting adjourned 10:10.

Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- MDE – data disaggregation (Peter to give update)
- New Lens Urban Mentoring overview
- Early Learning Focus: Screening, SPPS KEP Plans, Gen Next K Readiness Plan (invite Rep. Pinto)
- Results Based Accountability – NdCAD, Deb Moses, Toni Carter to talk about that framework and how it may fit the SPCC's work.
- SPPS data on ACT scores
- Turner to present on proposal for new middle school on the Eastside
- Saint Paul Police Department – community relationships, community policing.

Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am

Next meeting: July 13, 2016 from 8:00 – 10am at CAP/RW

NOTE: August 10 meeting cancelled for summer break