



**Saint Paul Children's Collaborative  
APPROVED Minutes  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Wednesday, March 8, 2017  
8:15- 10:00 @ CAP/RW**

**Board Members Present:** Robert McClain, Bruce Thao, Mary Jo McGuire, Mary Vanderwert, Heather Kilgore, Jackie Turner, Karri Kerns, Alfreda Flowers, Toni Carter, Rebecca Noecker, Peter Grafstrom (joined 9:20)

**Missing:** Anna Ross

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

1. **Guests:** YMCA Early Childhood Program (Judi Schmidt, Director and Colleen Dockendorf, Mental Health Specialist) and Minnesota Reading Corps (Allison Breininger, Master Coach and Trainer, Rachel Garaghty, Development Manager)

**Meeting called to order by McClain at 8:15 am.**

**I. Call to Order and Children's Fire**

Vanderwert lit the Children's Fire with words appropriate for this group, on International Women's Day – a story about four year old Louelle and her mom showing how children come to us not as individual people, but with a community around them and we need to attend to that community, as well.

**II. Learn, Grow, Thrive Grantee Presentations**

Judi Schmidt (Director) and Colleen Dockendoft (Mental Health Specialist) from the YMCA Early Childhood Program gave an overview of their Learn, Grow, Thrive-grant funded activities and outcomes. Allison Breininger (Master Coach) and Rachel Garaghty (Development Manager) from Minnesota Reading Corps gave an overview of their grant-funded activities and outcomes.

There was discussion about what happens after these early childhood interventions, resulting in gaps in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading and other academic outcomes.

### **III. Presentation/Discussion/Action: Citywide PreK**

CM Noecker gave an overview of her plan for creating a blueprint for a citywide 3K program and asked for board approval for SPCC to provide staff support for the effort in Saint Paul. There are other cities that provide good examples/guidance about how this can be done at a city level. Discussion about keeping SPCC hours the same for the Collaborative, and add this as a separate piece of work. Mayor is interested 0-5 space, understanding that the city doesn't control K-12 and understanding the importance of early childhood. More inclusion of family child care and licensed child care is critical. Timing for raising this as an issue for discussion the mayoral race is ideal.

**Motion to ask staff to provide SPCC with a proposal for internal and external and in-kind support necessary to create a blueprint for citywide 3- and 4-year-old preK in Saint Paul for review electronically before the April meeting. Motion approved.**

### **IV. Action Items**

The SPCC fiscal agent requested board action to allow invoicing for 2017 partner contributions in the amounts of \$50,000 each from the Saint Paul Public Schools and Ramsey County, \$20,000 from City of Saint Paul and \$10,000 from CAP/RW, in accordance with the budget approved by the board in December 2016.

**Motion to ask fiscal agent to invoice SPCC partner organizations for their administrative contributions for 2017. Motion approved.**

Learn, Grow, Thrive grantee Breakthrough Twin Cities requested approval from the SPCC for changes to the Year 2 grant-funded activities, as described in the letter received from Josh Reimnitz (Executive Director) in February 2017. Changes include elimination of Saturday school for middle school participants until transportation costs can be covered, no incoming Breakthrough class in 2017, slight increase in summer teacher:student ratios and not issuing laptops to college-bound students this year, all due to financial constraints.

**Motion to approve Breakthrough Twin Cities request for modification of grant-funded activities and outcomes as described in the February 2017 letter from Josh Reimnitz. Motion approved.**

Discussion about the logistic costs of running this program, including transportation. SPPS has been trying to work closely with Breakthrough to coordinate logistics in ways that leverage existing district spending. The board is grateful that Breakthrough came to us with these changes, proactively, and is supportive of the program and their outcomes. There was discussion about whether Breakthrough would benefit from some management/technical assistance, perhaps from the Saint Paul Foundation. Management Improvement Fund RFP at Minnesota Philanthropy Partners.

### **V. Sharing & Discussion**

Ms. Flowers shared an invitation to her annual breakfast for Family Values for Life, her non-profit organization, to be held on April 26 from 7-8:30 at Keller Golf Course in Maplewood.

**Meeting adjourned 10:15.**

**Meeting re-convened at 10:18 to consider the consent agenda.**

## **VI. Consent Agenda**

**Motion to approve the Minutes from the February 8, 2017 Board Meeting and accept the information contained in the February update from Advance Consulting and the February finance reports. Motion approved.**

**Meeting re-adjourned at 10:19.**

### Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- SPPS Update: ACT scores, other outcome data, data disaggregation update (REA); Eastside middle school proposal (Turner) – AFTER March 2017
- Ramsey County Attorney – Triad, juvenile justice, school violence
- Talk about data disaggregation at future meeting

**Next meeting: April 12, 2017 from 8:15 – 10am at CAP/RW.**