



**Saint Paul Children's Collaborative
APPROVED Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, September 14, 2016
8:15- 10:00 @ CAP/RW**

Board Members Present: Robert McClain, Toni Carter, Bruce Thao, Mary K Boyd, Mary Jo McGuire, Anna Ross, Peter Grafstrom, Mary Vanderwert, Heather Kilgore, Rebecca Noecker

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

Visitors: Chief Todd Axtell (Saint Paul Police Department), Kevin Casper (Juvenile Commander Saint Paul Police Department), Emily Clary (Humphrey Institute student)

Meeting called to order by McClain at 8:20 am.

I. Call to Order and Children's Fire

McGuire lit the Children's Fire with words from Patty Wetterling, when she was asked how people could help. Everyone wants to know what they can do to help us.

Say a prayer.

Light a candle.

Be with friends.

Play with your children.

Giggle.

Hold Hands.

Eat ice cream.

Create joy.

Help your neighbor.

She also shared 11 traits that youth should have if they are to wear jerseys with Jacob's number 11:

Be fair

Be kind

Be understanding

Be honest

Be thankful

Be a good sport

Be a good friend
Be joyful
Be generous
Be gentle with others
Be positive

II. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes from the July 13, 2016 Board Meeting and accept the information contained in the August update from Advance Consulting and the August financial report. Motion approved.

III. Youth and Law Enforcement Relationship

Chief Axtell and Commander Casper participated in a discussion with the Board about youth/law enforcement relationships. The Chief talked about his priorities: 1) reduction of gun violence; 2) diversification of Saint Paul Police Department; and 3) community engagement. “Trusted service, with respect” is the mantra of the Department. Obama’s 21st Century Policing [roadmap](#) is a guiding document. He talked about School Resource Officers to start teaching in schools, not just being present. There will also be monthly meetings with 6-10 students in each of the seven school, to talk about they can be helpful, teach them about law enforcement, and expose them to the many facets of policing. (Suggestion from the board to not have that group of students be self-selected – consider more broad presentations to the larger student body.) The focus is equally on officers getting youth’s perspective, in addition to sharing info with them. Chief Axtell created a Community Engagement Unit, which includes efforts to recruit a more diverse police force. He’s changed the process for the academy – the current class is 50% diverse candidates. McGuire asked about high impact grant areas – Bremer made a grant for community engagement (\$500,000) that requires \$250,000 match. What else do kids need? Jobs, counseling, activities, especially for youth of color. How are officers trained to interact with youth? The racial equity work through the City, implicit bias training, Kelly Webb & Associates will conduct another training, targeted to law enforcement regarding implicit bias. Focus on “hiring the heart and training the brain.” Focus on hiring guardians, not warriors. .02% of all calls involve force – clearly the job calls for guardians, not warriors. Grafstrom asked about SRO policy in the new contract. There were changes that addressed how the police officers act in the schools, including school rapid response teams of school staff (not leaving those situations as the responsibility of the SRO). SPPS has a Student Involvement and Engagement Board are a resource available to the Department. The Department is exploring the use of reflective supervision for the Department staff in those positions. Suggestion to not have SROs park their squad cars right in front of the school door, as it is not very welcoming to anyone. Elder Boyd talked about concerns in the community – first is fear. Can the implicit bias training get deep enough for people to realize the point where officers are no longer able to handle their own fear in an effective way. Is there any information being provided regarding historical trauma and its impact on bias? Are teachers going through training to help them work more effectively with SROs? The Department does expect SROs to attend the trainings conducted by the schools. They

are trying to bring the “Policing the Teen Brain” training to the SROs. All this requires working in concert with the school and the district. In closing, Commander Casper offered to meet with anyone interested in sharing more ideas or suggestions or concerns. (651-266-5516 or kevin.casper@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

IV. Learn, Grow, Thrive Grantee Update

Staff distributed a summary of the six month progress reports. Please feel free to contact staff if you have any questions or concerns.

V. Saint Paul Public Schools Items

Yesterday, a number of SPCC board members met with the Committee of the Board of the School Board to provide an overview of the SPCC, and how our work connects clearly and in a supportive way of students and families served by the District. We worked hard to convey that our grants are dependent on in-kind and direct support from the district. Discussion of what we do next to further engage the School Board in our collective efforts. Director Vanderwert’s role is to be a liaison between SPCC and the School Board, so we can strengthen our relationship. She will give a report to the School Board each month to make sure they stay apprised about our work. Carter asked that staff send a follow up thanks and be clear about our intent to stay connected. Highlight something positive in emails to the School Board. Share those reports with the county and city, too. Ask grantees to provide those stories.

Thao and Vanderwert reported on the Council of Asian American Leaders’ recent meeting with the School Board. Thao reported that the meeting was very, very positive. The community members were able to speak clearly and honestly, and felt like they were heard. Some of the key issues, especially from district staff – need for systemic analysis and change in curriculum, hiring, and “pipeline programs” and those positions never going to staff of color. Need for culturally appropriate reading materials for a range of cultural communities. Community requested that Board members come to a more real understanding of the Asian-Pacific Islander community. Thao described the summary as a plea to really hear and see the API community and create substantive change. Vanderwert described it as a hard, but necessary meeting. She thought next steps would be more meetings like this, but driving toward specifics of what needs to change. Boyd asked specifically about what the connection is between Human Resources and the classroom. There was a legislative appropriation to focus on recruiting teachers of color – what is SPCC doing with those funds? Ross also talked about the [MOA](#) between MPS and the American Indian community and held it up as a model for the district and community to hold one another accountable. Suggestion of inviting the new Superintendent to sit down to talk about how we will work together.

Transition planning for the Saint Paul Schools Foundation to the Capital City Education Fund and other potential efforts to support the work to support students and educators. More description was provided in the board packet.

VI. Appreciation for Cox

The Board expressed appreciation for Cox's service to the board and efforts outside the board to support students and families in many ways, including through our grantee efforts. Cox was unable to attend today, but we hope she can come to say goodbye at a future meeting.

VII. Board Updates and Connections and Items for Future Meetings

Meeting adjourned 10:00.

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
- Ramsey County Attorney – Triad, juvenile justice, school violence
- How is SPPS using new legislative funding targeted at recruiting more diverse teaching workforce?

Next meeting: September 14, 2016 from 8:00 – 10am at CAP/RW

NOTE: August 10 meeting cancelled for summer break