



## TWO RIVERS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 27, 2022

### **Call to Order**

Chair Zachariah called the August 27th Meeting of the Two Rivers Board of Trustees to order at 10:38 AM. Chair Zachariah opened the meeting by explaining that the meeting would be held per the Open Meetings Act and recorded. A motion was made to amend the agenda to move up the first agenda item to a Closed Session. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Roll Call**

#### **Board Members**

Aswathi Zachariah, Chair	Present
Malik Husser, Vice Chair	Present
Eli Schlam, Secretary	Present
Gregg Treml, Treasurer	Present
Jenny Bradbury, Trustee	Present
Kimberly Eddings, Trustee	Absent
Lauren Hamilton-Edwards, Trustee	Present
Alvincent Hutson, Trustee	Present
Michael Murphy, Trustee	Present
John Phillips, Trustee	Present
Derek Pierce, Trustee	Absent
Ben Robins, Trustee	Present
Ahnna Smith, Trustee	Present
Matthew Steenhoek, Trustee	Absent
Penelope Thornton Talley, Trustee	Present
Kristina Kyles-Smith, Executive Director and Ex Officio	Present

#### **Others Present**

Aurora Steinle, Chief of Staff  
Kenneth McCants-Pearsall, Chief Academic Officer  
Gail Williams, Chief Operating Officer  
Mary Gornick, Senior Director of Human Resources  
Tricia Eisner, Senior Director of Development  
Aziza Temple, Development Manager  
Fatima Graham, Student/Family Empowerment Coordinator  
Anya Stockberger, Two Rivers 4th Street Elementary PSA President  
Cara Williams, Two Rivers 4th Street Elementary PSA Secretary  
Devin Turner, Middle School FSAPresident

Karen Young, Middle School FSA Secretary  
Liz Clapsis, Two Rivers Young Elementary Secretary

### **Closed Session**

The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to move to Closed Session under Open Meetings Act D.C. Code Section 2-575 (b) (10) Personnel Matter.

The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to move to Open Session.

### **Working Lunch with PSA (Parent School Association)/FSA (Family School Association) Leadership**

PSA Committee members from Two Rivers 4th Street Elementary, Young Elementary School, and Young Middle School joined the Board of Trustees to introduce themselves and share their goals for the coming year. Chair Zachariah shared the role of the Board of Trustees with committee members. Student/Family Empowerment Coordinator Graham shared that the main goals for each PSA are community building and family engagement. Two Rivers Young Elementary is a new PSA looking to model what 4th Street has done. Chair Turner shared the Middle School is setting the foundation and the core values of the FSA (Family School Association). Chair Turner also noted that he had strong goals to ensure the FSA can support students and families in need and can help the school work to streamline communication with parents. The Board of Trustees shared their great appreciation for each association's work this year and committed to continuing communication and partnership in various ways, including reserving space for dialogue at board meetings.

### **Academic**

Chief Academic Officer (CAO) McCants-Pearsall started his academic update by sharing Two Rivers' most recent Instructional Focus, which spans the next three years. The focus is: By the end of the 2023-2025 school year, every student will be able to consistently produce work that is complex, authentic, and well crafted. He noted that the goal is to increase the consistency of high-quality work produced across our entire student body. After reviewing the instructional focus, CAO McCants-Pearsall provided an overview of the EL Education Credentialing model. Director of Two Rivers Learning Institute, Heyck-Williams, noted that in 2014 Two Rivers participated in EL Education's pilot of credentialing with 4th Street's campus being one of the first in the nation for credentialing, mastery of the three dimensions of learning and doing it through the EL Education model. All three schools are up for credentialing at the end of the school year. The goals of the presentation were to provide clarity to the board on what metrics are used for each dimension of student achievement (Mastery of Knowledge and Skills, Character, and High-Quality Work) and to spark discussion about the effectiveness of the metrics and goals for increased visibility of progress in each area at the Board level. Trustee Schlam requested that the school leadership team think about building a review of the alignment between teacher grades, in class assessment scores, MAP scores, and state assessment scores. He also suggested measuring student growth in scholarly habit grades and high-quality work outcomes, and measuring how students are scoring in the components of high quality work

(authenticity, craftsmanship, and complexity). Further discussion occurred about the metrics for measuring student success and communication with families about the three dimensions.

### **Operational Update**

Chief of Staff Steinle shared an update on our current enrollment. She shared that Two Rivers is enrolled at 1,058, with a max enrollment of 1067. There are robust waitlists in grades PS-4th, with waitlists depleted in grades 5th and 6th grades. She also provided an update on health at Two Rivers. Two Rivers Young Elementary and Middle School have a dedicated nurse, and Two Rivers is negotiating with Children's National to provide a healthcare professional due to the national nursing shortage.

Executive Director Kyles-Smith gave an update on the budget based on a presentation created by Chief Operating Officer Williams. The presentation was a primer for the upcoming re-forecast that will occur in November and noted that to improve key performance indicators, the school is looking to increase development revenue, restructure staff, or adjust the student-to-teacher ratio. The FY'23 budget includes sunseting federal pandemic relief funding. Revenue drivers include new and carryover of pandemic-related funding and increased development revenue projections. Expense drivers include fully staffing the Middle School. The New Money Fund (\$1.2 million) must be expended by October 2023. Board members discussed the financial update and noted that operational choices will need to be made for the FY24 and FY25 budget.

### **Development Update**

Senior Director of Development Eisner shared that this year the development team has set a goal of raising \$600,000. Foundational grants and special events will make up most of the goal, which is budget-relieving funding. Senior Director of Development Eisner also shared that last year's gala was important because it was the first time our community was together in person. However, the auction items did not raise as much as they traditionally do. The team is working on revisiting how to ensure the auction returns to its previous success rate. Senior Director of Development Eisner noted that the neighbor in need fund started in response to COVID-19 has dispersed \$32,000 and allows for the needs of our community to be addressed. The fund is highly visible, and would like to continue this campaign.

### **Adjournment**

The Board meeting adjourned the Board Retreat at 2:36 PM.

Prepared by:  
Michelle Kimso/s/  
Executive Assistant

Submitted by:  
Eli Schlam/s/  
Secretary