



TWO RIVERS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 11, 2024

Call to Order

Chair Treml called the March 11th Meeting of the Two Rivers Board of Trustees to order at 6:03PM via Zoom. Chair Treml opened the meeting by explaining that the meeting would be held per the Open Meetings Act and recorded.

Roll Call

Board Members

Gregg Treml, Chair	Present
Ahnna Smith, Vice Chair	Present
Kimberly Eddings, Secretary	Absent
Ben Robins, Treasurer	Present
Elle Carne, Trustee	Present
Lauren Hamilton-Edward, Trustee	Present
Malik Husser, Trustee	Absent
Alvincent Hutson, Trustee	Present
John Phillips, Trustee	Present
Derek Pierce, Trustee	Absent
Jessica Proffitt, Trustee	Absent
Michael Murphy, Trustee	Present
Erin Sheehy, Trustee	Present
Cara Williams, Trustee	Present
Aswathi Zachariah, Trustee	Present
Belicia Reaves, Executive Director and Ex Officio	Present

Others Present

Michelle Kimso, Executive Assistant
Aurora Steinle, Chief of Staff
Aqueelha James, Chief Academic Officer
Khizer Husain, Senior Director of External Relations
Gail Williams, Chief Operating Officer
Rebecca Nemec-Boehm, Young Elementary Parent

Moment of Silence

Chair Trembl asked that a moment of silence be observed for Mailyn Turkes, a Two Rivers student who tragically had her life taken from her.

Amending/Approval of Meeting Agenda

The meeting agenda was amended to add the Board Risk Survey under the Finance Committee Report and to have the Development Committee directly after the Executive Director Report. Trustees Robins, Smith, and Phillips were not present, all other Trustees voted to amend and approve the agenda.

Amending/Approval of February 12th Minutes

The February 12th minutes were amended to reflect the sentence in the Executive Director section which read 'Currently 4th & 5th grade at both Young and 4th Street have more than 5 students applying,' to 'Currently 4th & 5th grade at both Young and 4th Street have more than 5 students applying out.' Trustee Phillips was not present for the vote, all other Trustees voted to approve the minutes.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director Reaves led off her report by thanking Trustees for their support in the loss of Mailyn. She also shared the date for the upcoming 4th St Celebration of Learning and that she has been accepted into GreenHouse E3 Fellowship for CEOs & Executives. She then shared the timeline of recruitment & enrollment including shadow days and opportunities for families to meet with next year's teachers. With regards to class size, 4th St & Young Elementary may have up to 26 students in class. The Middle School is looking at smaller numbers, but they still meet the budget through the projected numbers. She noted that this was not a typical lottery as in the past due to fewer applicants and more families applying out. A discussion was held around students applying out, outreach, and enrollment highlights.

Executive Director Reaves continued to share an update on the strategic plan wherein Two Rivers is looking for their strengths and opportunities including professional development, rigor, strong culture, and data routines. The next steps include bringing the draft plan to the Executive Committee on March 20th and full board on April 4th. A discussion was held on how feedback was gathered from families.

Public Comment

Young Elementary parent Nemec-Boehm shared that a teacher had commented that students don't come to school on Wednesdays due to early release. She had noticed that the school is quieter on Wednesdays and wondered about a 4 day school week as 30% of schools in Missouri have, along with widening inequities in schools. She encouraged the Two Rivers to evaluate attendance on Wednesday vs. other days and look at the data to address the issue.

Development Committee Report

Senior Director of External Relations Husain shared an overview of fundraising. Two Rivers currently has three open grant applications. Additionally, for the Spring Fundraiser there are ten fantastic voyages beginning in Mid March-Mid May, which will stand in for the gala. Husain invited Trustees to the October 18th anniversary gala and September 7th birthday party.

Finance Committee Report

Treasurer Robins presented the following memos which were shared with the board in advance:

- **Contract Recommendation for ERATE Fiber Internet Connectivity (Category 1) Services** - Universal Services Administrative Company, renewed Two Rivers participation in the 's ERATE program. To leverage the funding, Two Rivers must identify a scope of work and solicit bids through E-rate. After consulting with Dynamic Network Solutions, Two Rivers IT service provider, Two Rivers will maintain the internet connectivity bandwidth of 200 Mbps for 1227 4th St and upgrade the internet connectivity bandwidth to 500Mbps connectivity for 1234 4th Street and to 1Gbps to support the elementary and middle school located at the Young campus. Two Rivers received four official Category 1 E-Rate proposals from Verizon, DCNet , Comcast, and Allied. The annual proposal ranged from \$24,480 to \$61,368. All proposals offered a 3-year fixed rate guarantee.
- Recommendation - Two Rivers recommends contracting with Verizon for \$24,480. Using Verizon allows Two Rivers to leverage the maximum amount of E-Rate funding to provide internet connectivity.

All Trustees voted to approve the recommendation.

- **Contract Recommendation for ERATE Network Infrastructure Hardware (Category 2)** - To leverage the funding through Universal Services Administrative Company, Two Rivers is required to identify a scope of work and solicit bids through ERATE. This year, Two Rivers solicited bids to replace hardware items reaching the end of their life cycle. Items include upgraded access points, cable, and access point licenses for 1227 4th Street NE, 1234 4th Street NE, and 820 26th Street NE. Two Rivers received two official Category 2 E-Rate proposals from Electronaca (\$47,712) and Dynamic Network Solutions (\$26,542).
- Recommendation -Two Rivers recommends contracting with DNS for \$26,542. Using DNS allows Two Rivers to leverage the maximum amount of E-Rate funding to support this work's equipment purchase and installation.

All Trustees voted to approve the recommendation.

- **FY24 Marketing Incentives Contract Unexpectedly Exceeded \$25,000** -Two Rivers informed the Board of a contract that has unexpectedly exceeded \$25,000 in FY24

and asked for approval for the larger cost. Two Rivers Middle School implemented a uniform policy that requires students to wear a particular uniform shirt color according to their grade. This meant most families needed to purchase a set of new shirts by the start of the new school year, and this resulted in a sudden need for increased inventory. Two Rivers turned to Marketing Incentives, a vendor who was chosen during our—at that time—most recently run RFP search for uniform vendors (2020). Two Rivers purchased uniforms from Marketing Incentives over the summer and fall of 2023 at a total cost of \$54,891.40.

- Recommendation - Two Rivers asks that the board approve this contract at a total cost of \$54,891.40.

All Trustees voted to approve the recommendation.

Robins further shared the results of the recent board risk survey. The board appears focused on foundational issues such as student and staff retention along with financial stability. Additionally, the financial risk tolerance was moderate with an appetite for more aggressive fundraising and a somewhat more aggressive investment policy.

A discussion was held on what fundraising looks like. Executive Director Reaves also informed Trustees on an upcoming e-vote regarding the School Leader Lab.

Academic Excellence Committee

Vice Chair Smith shared at their most recent meeting committee meeting, they discussed looping wherein Two Rivers is updating expeditions and increasing rigor. She also shared that the school calendar will be sent to families and the Board. She also reported positive news that our schools have higher in seat attendance than across the city and there were zero parent complaints to PCSB this past year. Executive Director Reaves owned the rollout of the looping conversation in which there was a lot of family feedback from families in the first year in the loop. Throughout meetings with families, they were able to hear from teachers who support the decision and why. Reaves shared that the team learned from the rollout to make sure parent input is there.

Governance Committee

Trustee Hutson presented the following memos which were shared with the board in advance:

- Review of Two Rivers Mission - Review and vote on whether to keep or change the Two Rivers Mission Statement: “To nurture a diverse group of students to become lifelong, active participants in their own education, develop a sense of self and community, and become responsible and compassionate members of society.” When Reviewing the mission statement, Two Rivers should consider the following question: *Does the Two Rivers’ mission still fully articulate our program’s scope and convey our beliefs about education?* If this is no longer true and a vote is held to update the

mission statement, Two Rivers will notify AALE and request an amendment to the Charter through DC PCSB.

- Recommendation It is the recommendation of the school network that our mission statement remains as it is currently.

After a discussion on the mission and goal, all Trustees voted to approve the recommendation.

Closed Session

All Trustees voted to move to closed session under OMA 2-575 (b) (1) A law or court order requires that a particular matter or proceeding not be public.

Adjournment

The Board meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Prepared by:
Michelle Kimso/s/
Executive Assistant

Submitted by:
Alvincent Hutson/s/
Trustee