



The SEED School of Washington, D.C.
a public charter school

Hybrid Meeting of The SEED School of Washington, D.C.
Board of Trustees
November 16, 2023
9:00 AM
MINUTES

Attendance:

Trustees

D. Sealy – Board Chair
R. Hood – Head of School
H. Gray | Zoom
K. Arndt | Zoom
H. O’Connor | Zoom
V. Allen
G. Luna
E. Vinson
R. Chait
T. Jefferies (Absent)
E. Carter (Absent)

Staff and Guests

K. Coney | Zoom
J. Jones | Zoom
K. Bradley | Zoom
K. Johnson | Zoom
R. Abdullah | Zoom
C. Rooks
N. Best
R. Holman-Jones
H. Aganga-Williams
C. Marshall
E. Holloway

Secretary of the meeting

Tais Taylor



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Call to Order

Desa Sealy, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:26am. Ms. Sealy went on to speak about the signage around the room that details the SEED mission and gave a brief anecdote of how Ms. R. Hood, while she has not grown up with the SEED model, she embodies it in her work and abilities despite having only been with the school for a short time.

SEED DC School Updates

Roseyn Hood welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced her Executive Assistant, Ms. Tais Taylor, the new Director of Academics / Principal, Ms. Hilda Aganga-Williams, as well as Ms. Jordan Jones the new Senior Director of Academics of SEED DC. Ms. Hood asked for Ms. Taylor, Ms. Aganga-Williams, and Ms. Jones to give a brief introduction and background to their experience in the education sector. Ms. Aganga-Williams spoke on preparing to implement curriculum and introducing new roles to SEED DC. Ms. Sealy stated that she like to meet with Ms. Hood, Ms. Aganga-Williams and Ms. Jones to speak about curriculum and ensuring that it is something in line with being the best option for the students of SEED DC.

Ms. Roseyn Hood spoke on connecting more with families, remarrying academics and student life, and Quarter 1 Parent Conferences. All staff were involved in Parent conferences. During conferences, tabling was also set up for Student Support Services (SSS), athletics, and all cocurricular student services. Parents were presented with a folder containing their academic grades, their student's schedule, and the student life report card. Should a parent want a more in-depth discussion on a class or service their student is involved in, the parent could schedule a 30 minute meeting with that teacher or staff member for another day and time. Ms. Hood spoke on reverting back to having weeklong student orientations.

Ms. Hood spoke on the SEED DC Falcon Volleyball team PCSAA Championship #4 State Tournament runners up and having the school's highest finish with a record of 17-4 at the seasons finish.

School Support Team – Network Support Measures Onboarding

Ms. Keniq Coney and Ms. Rahima Abdullah gave a presentation to explain:

- What the NSM (Network Success measures) are
- What Q2 data will capture and what changes were made to the rubric
- How metrics align with local authorizer expectations



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The report summarized that SEED DC along with its sister schools has not met expectations for the percentage of students with a MAP Lexile score greater than or equal to grade level text complexity for Fall 2023 compared to Fall 2022.

Ms. Kendra Johnson reported that the SEED NSM metrics are mostly aligned with DCPCSB PARCC assessments and OSSE's Star metrics.

Mr. Eric Vinson asked if the projection numbers given quarterly would be affected in anyway as the District moves away from PARCC testing. Ms. Johnson gave insight that the NWEA MAP assessment is built to be in line with the standards of state and District tests so movement away from PARCC and into the CAPE test.

Ms. Desa Sealy expressed that seeing the data of SEED DC students showing 3% proficiency levels was sobering and disturbing. Ms. Sealy stated that based off the data shown, the model within SEED DC is not working. Ms. Jorden Jones responded by stating that SEED DC has a tremendous team in place and if the team is provided with everything that they need to be successful, including time and implementing the model with fidelity, the model can work for the students.

Ms. Keniq Coney continued with the presentation and spoke on "Next Steps" stating that the presentation provides preliminary data and the goal moving forward would be to align school calendars and board meetings with the data collection process. Finalized data were to be posted on the SEED DC data collection site and sent to Roseyn Hood, Head of School, by the end of the week following the Board of Trustees meeting. Within the data packet, webinars for Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 will be provided for review.

The annual school review will be held at SEED DC January 23rd – January 25th, 2024, to see the SEED DC model in practice as a qualitative review.

Ms. Keniq Coney welcomed again Ms. Hilda Aganga-Williams and Ms. Jorden Jones and stated that they will be onboarded to the SEED initiatives, including NSM, the school improvement plan, network assessments and the annual school review.

Ms. Coney stated that the School Support Team has raised the bar for NSM's so it is expected for schools to be in the red based off of the new measures for a short period of time.

In the interest of time, all remaining presentations were asked to be cut to 5 minutes each.

Student Life

Mr. Christopher Rooks, Assistant Head of School / Director of Student Life reported:

- SEED DC has successfully partnered with Tutor Partners this school year. Daily, tutors enter the Math and English classes to provide additional support and also stay in the evenings until 7:00pm to provide individualized and small group tutoring opportunities to scholars.



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- All students at SEED DC have been provided with their own technology equipment. This has allowed IXL intervention initiatives to begin. The goals of the IXL intervention initiatives are to:
 - Identify and address critical skill gaps in literacy and mathematics.
 - Aligning the focus for Study Zone practice activities with academics.
 - Within the onboarding of the program, all students will complete 120 minutes per week of IXL during their Student Life programming hours.
- To continue helping students' development their social and emotional life skills The Tumaini Way curriculum has been implemented.
- 213 students have enrolled in at least 1 club or SPARK program, including athletics, theatre, and cheerleading. Mr. Rooks continues to look for outside partnerships and vendors to work with Student Life and bring more clubs and activities to the students.
- 25 students had the opportunity to go to the EdGames Expo at the Kennedy Center to learn more about educational software currently being used and compete in team challenges against other schools in the District.

A select few students were able to see the theatre production of The Wiz and speak with singer/songwriter Deborah Cox about her experience working in theatre.

Office of Family and Community Engagement

Ms. Rashida Jones-Holman, Director of Family and Community Engagement reported:

- Current enrollment is 243 students
- Between July 2023 – November 2023 there were a total of 25 withdrawals, 7 student dismissals and 1 student deceased. There are 30 students on the waitlist.
- During the residential audit, SEED DC was awarded for 244 students. There are 3 students in the appeal process due to them showing as having duplicative enrollment with another school by the enrollment deadline of October 5th. Expectation is for SEED DC to be paid for a total of 247 students.
- There are 22 anomalies showing in the residency audit due to having students enrolled as unaccompanied minors, meaning the students can not complete the OSSE residency paperwork themselves. OSSE has agreed that there needs to be something in place for these students so it is expected that SEED DC will be awarded funds for these 22 students which will bring the total number of students SEED DC is funded for to 250.
- The marketing season has begun, and Ms. Holman-Jones has begun scheduling meetings with middle schools in Washington DC to market SEED DC. Jefferson Middle School is the first school to visit. The goal is to have 3-5 school visits per week until winter break.
- SEED DC will be participating in the first in person Edfest since the pandemic on December 9, 2023. The MySchoolDC lottery opens to parents on Monday, December 11, 2023.



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- Ms. Holman-Jones has begun communication with WMATA to have SEED DC bus ads run throughout Washington DC.
- School ambassador applications have been sent to students and the interview process has begun to accept new student ambassadors by Friday, December 1, 2023.

Finance Update

Jerry Luna, Network CFO presented the finance report as he has transitioned into the position after Mr. Ken Arndt. Mr. Luna reported:

- Last year's overall revenue was higher than expected due to a higher SpEd count than anticipated. Overall expenses were higher than usual; however, the amount was made up for due to the per pupil funding allotment. A total of approximately \$650 thousand more than anticipated for last year.
- For the current quarter, revenue is going to be lower than anticipated due to a lower SpEd count. The lower revenue will be offset by lower expenses and by supplemental funds given by D.C.
- The financial audit is projected to end within the next few days after the BoT meeting.

Mr. Ken Arndt and Mr. Huck O'Connor welcomed Jerry Luna to the position. Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Desa Sealy thanked Mr. Arndt for his tenure working as the Network CFO.

Mr. O'Connor stated that SEED DC has between \$8 million - \$9 million dollars that the Board and management intend to use to continue to push the SEED DC mission.

College Knowledge and Advising Update

In the absence of Ms. Anshay Tull, Ms. Roseyn Hood presented the College Knowledge and Advising update. Ms. Hood reported:

- Ms. Tull escorted 30 junior and senior students to the Virginia Tech Science Fest which led to students who were not previously interested in the sciences becoming very interested in the subject matter.
- As of October 2023, close to 44% of seniors completed at least one right-fit college application.
- As of November 2023, 72% of graduating seniors received two or more right-fit college acceptance letters.
- The first College Counseling and Family Engagement night was October 19th, where students from all grade levels were present. 9th -11th graders were given assignments geared toward college planning, and 12th graders began the college application process. These events will continue quarterly in addition to the Head of School dinners that are hosted by Ms. Hood.



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Culture and Community Building

Ms. Roseyn Hood reported that she and the Leadership Team will be implementing a “January Reset”. To begin the reset, there will be two full days of professional development for all staff regarding Model of Care. Model of Care will be a set of expectations for all students that will be enforced and modelled by the staff and teachers of SEED DC. These PD days will be on January 2nd and January 3rd.

Model of Care leads will be:

- Ms. Randee Grant – Youth Development Coordinator
- Mr. Timmy Kimber – Academic Strategist
- Mr. Lamar Bagley – Director of Experiential Learning and External Partnerships All SEED DC staff will participate in weekly 90-minute professional development sessions to continue the implementation of Model of Care.

Lunch for students has been cut from one hour to 30 minutes. During the remaining 30 minutes, students will be able to work on assignments or meet with teachers for questions or assistance.

Ms. Hood has initiated “Falcon Hour” Monday – Thursday from 3:00pm until 4:00pm. Students will be able to work in small groups with their teachers, receive individual tutoring time, join external partnership clubs or activities, and/or participate in monthly on campus events.

Approval of Minutes

Quorum was met. Ms. Desa Sealy made a motion to approve the minutes from May 25, 2023, and September 28, 2023, board meetings and asked for a second. Motion seconded by Ms.

Robin Chait and brought to a vote. The I’s have and the meeting minutes for both the May 25, 2023, meeting and the September 28, 2023, meeting were approved.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22am.