



BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
THE SEED School of Washington, D.C.  
May 19, 2022  
9:00 A.M. EST

**Attendance:**

Directors

Angelita Buckman  
Huck O'Connor  
Trameece Jeffries  
Lesley Poole  
Raj Vinnakota  
Eric Vinson

Absent

Vasco Fernandes  
Desa Sealy  
David Steinberg

Staff

Vincena Allen  
Beverley Badley  
Lamar Bagley  
Keniq Coney  
Eriel Holloway  
Rashida Holman-Jones  
Kendra Johnson-Tesch  
Jubria Lewis  
Chloe Marshall  
Hopi Moodie  
Brian Rahaman  
Christopher Rooks

Secretary of the Meeting

Marjorie Howard

Call to Order

In the absence of Board Chair Ms. Desa Sealy, Ms. Lesley Poole called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made to approve the Minutes from the Quarter 3 board meeting. The board minutes were passed unanimously.



### **Welcome New Parent Board Member**

Dr. Brian Rahaman introduced newly elected parent board member Ms. Trameece Jeffries to her first board meeting where she was welcomed.

### **Head of School Update**

Before providing an update, Dr. Brian Rahaman reminded the board that this meeting is an open meeting in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and that this meeting is also being recorded.

Dr. Rahaman shared the following objectives for the meeting.

- Board member recruitment update
- Advance recommendation to the SEED Foundation board of proposed SY22-23 budget
- Update board members on school performance, Student Life program, enrollment, and finance
- Review special project next steps

### **Board Recruitment Update**

Dr. Rahaman reported that we have been working with Education Board Partners on board recruitment. Dr. Rahaman thanked everyone for completing the board engagement survey. He added that there is a meeting scheduled with Education Board Partners on Tuesday, May 31, 2022, at 4:00PM where they will share the results of the survey and discuss next steps on board recruitment.

### **COVID Health Updates**

Dr. Rahaman reported that between mid-February and the first week in May we had zero positive cases. Since May 7<sup>th</sup> we have had 9 positive cases which reflects what we are seeing in the wider community and across DC. Dr. Rahaman added that we continue to implement internal protocols which include universal masking, daily health screenings, weekly asymptomatic testing, and protocols put in place in compliance with the CDC and OSSE guidance. Dr. Rahaman concluded that if the cases continue to rise, we will consider reinstating the mask mandate.

### **Staffing Updates**

Staffing contracts for school year 2022-2023 went out in March and April. We have about 15 positions, including about 10 direct service positions. We are working with TalentED on teacher recruitment. We intend to be fully staffed before the beginning of the next school year.



## **PARCC Testing Updates**

Dr. Rahaman reported that PARCC testing began on Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> with students being tested over the course of three days and make up days happening next week. Students are being testing in the following subjects: Math, ELA, and Science. The results of the testing will be available in August.

## **Student Performance**

Dr. Rahaman shared three data slides that showed year-to-date course performance data and shared the following student performance metrics:

- 121 students (55%) passed all their courses for the school year, and another 45 students (20%) failed only one course.
- 89% of students passed all their courses last school year.

Dr. Rahaman stated that our goal this year is for 90% of students to pass all their classes. Last year, about 89% of students met this benchmark, and many crossed the goal line in the final weeks of the school year. We expect the same pattern to hold this year.

Dr. Rahaman also shared slides on the Spring MAP assessment administered in March 2022. The highlights include the following:

- SEED students performed better than 37% of test-takers in Math and 38% of test-takers in reading.
- 30% of our 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students receive specialized education services. The average achievement percentile for our special population students is about half of the general education students
- SEED students are in the 55<sup>th</sup> percentile in Math growth from Fall to Spring
- SEED Students are in the 62<sup>nd</sup> percentile in reading growth from Fall to Spring.
- The average 9<sup>th</sup> grade Lexile level is 948L and the average 10<sup>th</sup> grade Lexile level is 1021L. The expected Lexile range for 9<sup>th</sup> grade is between 1205L and 1520L.

Dr. Rahaman reported on quarter 4 of the Network Success Measures which focused in on the college readiness data he provided an update on the percentage of seniors applying to 10+ right-fit colleges. In February, only 18 percent of seniors had completed 10 or more applications to right-fit colleges. When faced with the data, we acted purposefully and increased the percentage to 100 percent within two weeks. This is a win for our seniors who now have more college options, but it also serves as a reminder that we can leverage data to improve student outcomes.

Dr. Buckman: Please provide a clear definition of right-fit-college? Are our dual enrollment high school counted in the number when we report the number of SEED students currently attending college?



Ms. Vincena Allen: a right-fit college has a proven track record of providing the academic, personal, and financial supports for under-represented students. Ms. Allen then answered the second part of the question by stating we begin the college tracking data collection once a student finishes high school and enters college. Students in the dual enrollment program while still in high school are not counted in the college success data.

Dr. Rahaman reported that we continue to monitor our School Improvement Plan (SIP) He reported on the final status on five out of six goals.

- Improve PARCC proficiency rate in ELA and Math to 20 percent or higher; we won't know until July how our student scored on the assessment.
- Improve the average score of Domain 3 (Instruction) in the Danielson Framework for Teaching to 3.0 or higher. Currently we are at a 2.8.
- Reduce the number of physical altercations by 50 percent no more than 30 fights in one school year. Although we missed this goal, we did improve our school culture from what it was in the beginning of the school year to where we are now and will continue to build on what we have achieved into the next school year.

### **Finance Update**

Dr. Rahaman presented the proposed budget for SY22-23 to the board. This proposed budget has been recommended to the board by the finance committee for review and vote. The SEED Foundation board will make the final approval. ‘

Raj Vinnakota asked how close we to our debt covenant. Dr. Rahaman stated that we would have to lose several hundred thousand dollars before we trip our debt covenant, and we are projecting to finish the year with a positive net income.

Ms. Poole asked for a motion from the board to recommend the SEED PCS's school year 2022-2023 budget to the SEED Foundation Board for approval. It was seconded and unanimously passed. This approved recommendation will be advanced to the SEED Foundation board for final approval.

### **Student Life**

Mr. Christopher Rooks presented the board with an array of slides depicting students actively participating in athletics, Student Government Association, Community Service, Falcon Theater, Extra-Curricular and Exposure Programming, Rising senior college tour, BUILD, SEL, and SPARK programing, Intro to Technology, All Things Fashion-9<sup>th</sup> grade parent partnership, Biking, Candle-Making, Chess Club, Comic Book Club, Self-Care, BUILD, Put It On Paper, Fitness Is You).



As part of his report, Mr. Rooks highlighted the following important dates:

- Sports Banquet - May Tuesday, May 31, 2022, from 7:00PM – 8:30PM
- The SEED DC Falcon Theater Madagascar, Jr. A Musical Adventure at THEARC Theater on Wednesday, May 25th & May 26th at 7:00 PM.
- Student Fashion Show June – Day and time TBD

Ms. Trameece Jefferies asked the following question: Are we ensuring that community service opportunities are being offered to vaccinated and unvaccinated students?

Mr. Rooks: We have a designated staff person who has built relationships with all our community service partners to ensure we are meeting all the COVID requirements from SEED as well as our partners.

Ms. Poole: How did we prepare students for the Black College Expo so that we didn't undermine our college matching system? Were there any opportunities for a debrief or reflection after the event?

Mr. Rooks: Many of the students who participated had already been accepted at their right-fit colleges and so this was more of an exposure opportunity for students to see something other than what they are used to.

Dr. Angelita Buckman stated she would like to see a parent representative on the planning committee for the college tours and that she would also like to see a program added to the student enrichment program with a curriculum where students learn basic life skills (e.g. financial literacy, managing your money, balancing a checkbook, budgeting, etc.).

Mr. Rooks: Stated that he has been working in partnership with Dr. Chole Marshall and our SEL team in developing a life skills and family life planning curriculum and that he will share Dr. Buckman's suggestions with the team. Dr. Buckman offered her expertise to assist with the development of the curriculum.

Dr. Chloe Marshall expanded on Mr. Rooks reply by stating the team is using the HALLS curriculum that has been in place network wide for years.

### **Theater and Greece Update**

Dr. Lamar Bagley reported the theatre resumed in late February with a new group of students. We have about 20 students that are either in the show or part of the crew. We also have several seniors that are first timers that are in the show, and they want to have a last SEED experience in the arts by participating in the show.

Dr. Bagley reported that the Greece program is back after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. The program began on April 26, 2022. There are 18 students enrolled in the



program. Dr. Bagley reported on the criteria for enrollment and the activities students must complete to travel to Greece. Students will visit Greece between June 11-June 25.

### ***Enrollment Update***

Ms. Rashida Holman-Jones reported our current enrollment is 220. We have a re-enrollment update of 181 enrolled for SY22-23. There are 152 new applications of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders with 81 applications completed. We continue to receive new applications every day and are following up with families immediately.

Ms. Jefferies: Is the main source of enrollment from the My School DC Lottery website? Or from the in-house recruitment initiatives?

Ms. Holman-Jones: Our current students do not have to apply through the My School DC website. All our 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade applications come through My School DC.

Mr. Eric Vinson: What level of recruitment and outreach is being done specifically with elementary/feeder schools that encircle the SEED Community?

Ms. Holman-Jones: Prior to the deadline we visited local schools and made presentations at charter schools.

Ms. Holman-Jones concluded her report to say that we are still accepting applications for our waiting list.

### ***April Financial Results***

Dr. Rahaman reported on the April results. We continue to be in a strong financial position with \$8.7M in cash. We anticipate a net income of about \$110K this year.

### ***Special Projects***

Dr. Rahaman reported that we will develop a Broadcast Journalism program for our multi-media center. The Broadcast Journalism program aligns well with our college preparatory mission.

Ms. Poole acknowledged that this was a difficult year and thanked the SEED staff for constantly leaning in and showing up and taking some risks so that we can do what is best for our students. And she thanked the board for a very strong year.

### ***Adjournment***

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 A.M.