

**Lerner Jewish Day School**  
**Board Meeting (via zoom)**  
**October 19, 2021**  
7:03 pm - 9:22 pm

Board members present: Katherine Leibel, Ben Goldstein, Jeremy Browner, Dave Michelman, Karl Bongarten, Ron Didner, Matt Slotkin, Jared Goldstein.

Absent: Israel Abitbol

Lerner staff present: Beth Null, Head of School; Jodi Ross, Finance & Operations Director; Tal Lewin Wittle, Advancement Director.

Guest(s): Mario Calderon, Lerner parent; Jill Madsen, CEO of Jewish for Good.

**D'var Torah:** None delivered.

**Consent agenda** (the September Board minutes) is approved by a motion initiated by Dave (conditioned upon the elimination of one phrase and insertion of a clarifier) and seconded by Karl. The motion passed unanimously.

**Middle School Proposal Presentation (Beth):**

- Lengthy, vigorous discussion around Beth's detailed PowerPoint presentation.
- The discussion will continue. We will vote in November as to how we'll proceed.

**Jewish for Good Project Update (Jill):**

- The infant/toddler program at JFG will serve children ages 6 weeks to two (2) years old.
- Other upgrades include expansion of the facility and a distinctive senior center.
- The capital campaign is gaining momentum and will go public in 2022.

**Head of School report (Beth):**

- Current enrollment for 2021-2022 is 149 students (85 elementary and 64 preschool).
- Retention efforts are underway and Beth is hosting town hall meetings with each class in the coming weeks.

**Board Goals (Dave):**

Four goals (with metrics to assess success):

- The Middle School proposal
- Board training and professionalization
- Strategic planning process
- Cash flow neutrality in 2021-2022

A motion is thereafter made to enter into Executive Session. Dave motions and Karl seconds and the motion carries unanimously.

**Finance Report (Beth & Karl):**

**Tuition setting for 2022-2023 (Beth):**

A motion is made by Dave to adjourn the meeting. Ben seconds. The motion passes unanimously and we adjourn at 9:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Slotkin  
Secretary

Nelly Amariglio and Andrew Sklerov have both resigned from the Board in recent days. We have nine (9) board members remaining. As head of the Governance Committee, Dave will generate leads and provide feedback about prospective board members we should consider adding to our ranks.

**Head of School report (Beth):**

- Covid 19 Operations Update
- Enrollment, Recruitment & Admissions
  - Current enrollment for 2021-2022 is 148 students (85 elementary, 63 preschool).
  - We have a record high retention rate.
- Facilities

**Finance Report (Karl):**

The finance picture is mixed. Bonuses have been paid & new teachers onboarded while we operate at a net negative cash flow. Projections moving forward anticipate we will operate at a net neutral cash flow or better in the current fiscal year.

**Middle School (Ron):**

- More than 75% of elementary school parents indicate they would “consider” sending their child to a middle school at Lerner.
- The biggest concern seems the question of how we address after school/enrichment activities.
- A full report is forthcoming at our October 2021 meeting. It is suggested we could benefit from a flow chart detailing the steps necessary to get the middle school operational.

**Governance committee (Dave):**

Strategic plan review.

**Board Goals** for the coming year:

1. Middle School
2. Governance improvements/Strategic planning (more focus on process)
3. How do we ensure we're cash positive

**Board Retreat:**

Slated for Sunday, November 14th. What does good governance look like?

Motion to adjourn made by Matt and seconded by Dave. The motion carries without objection and we adjourn at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Slotkin  
Secretary