



Sisu Environmental School Regular Board meeting April 19, 2022, 7:00 pm

Call Meeting to Order:

Attendees:

Absent:

Visitors:

***All visitors will be given a chance to speak if they wish. Speaking time will be limited to two minutes.*

Reading of the Mission:

Delivering a bold education, in the renowned Finnish style to empower each child on their own unique educational journey to become competent, creative and joyful learners.

Board Check-in: (10 mins)

Committees, the most formal of work groups, are groups of persons appointed or selected to perform a function on behalf of a larger group (the board in this case). In a sense, the larger body entrusts a smaller subset of members to do something for them, usually with a formal written charter.

Task Forces may be created by Committees, subject to approval by the Board. Task forces are smaller groups of people, preferably with experience and expertise in the area,—and resources—brought together to accomplish a specific objective, with the expectation that the group will disband when the objective has been completed. An example would be the Facilities Identification Task Force which would fall under the purview of the Internal Affairs Committee and disband after the board accepts the Task Force's recommendation of a suitable facility. Other facilities related tasks could come up in the future for which the Internal Affairs Committee would then create and appoint another task force.

So in summary, Task Forces should be appointed where the work is of limited duration and/or for a specific purpose. They should be disbanded when the task or project is complete.

The purpose of meeting

Regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of Sisu Environmental School

Meeting objectives:

- Approve Consent agenda
- Approve marketing expenditures
- Receive reports from Committees
- Accept fundraising donations
- Appoint new Internal Affairs Committee member

1. Consent Agenda

- Minutes from March 15 Regular board meeting
- Minutes from March 1 Special Board meeting
- Communications/Outreach Task Force minutes

2. Committee Reports (10)

- **Governance**
CSP updates if any
- **External Affairs**
Communication/Outreach Task Force - Beth
- **Internal Affairs**
Facilities
Talent Search Task Force

3. Task Force Action Steps checklist progress

The Task Force will:

- ~~Sever contract with current realtor~~
- ~~Yet, interview and decide on a charter school realtor~~
- ~~Bring the realtor contract to the Board for final approval~~
- ~~Report to the board, calling for Special meetings as necessary due to the tight timeframe~~
- ~~Visit potential properties with the school's "Must haves" at the forefront~~
- ~~Bring facility recommendations to the Board for final approval~~

3. Discussion (20 minutes)

- Out in the Open House, April 23rd

- Roles
 - engage the children
 - discuss Finnish Education
 - operational questions - we need to discuss
 - other ideas?

- We need to provide a consistent message to have a good first impression. Kendra’s soundbite for your reference.

Sisu Environmental School will use an instructional approach based on the highly successful Finnish Education System that emphasizes whole-child development, equity of education, collaboration over competition, the outdoors and nature, and student well-being as important elements of the curriculum.

Our customized “Finnesota Approach” will provide a Finnish-style education for Minnesota kids.

Our Mission: “Delivering a bold education in the renowned Finnish style, empowering each child on their own unique educational journey to become competent, creative, and joyful learners.”

Sisu plans to open in the fall of 2022, initially to serve grades K-5, and eventually expand to include middle school grades 6-8 as students progress through our program.

4. Board calendar check in (5 minutes)

5. Action item check in (5 minutes)

Action items (What?)	Who?	When?
Bring website up to compliance	Courtney	1/20
Develop a marketing plan for the spring	Marketing Committee	By April board meeting
Finalize CSP required policies for Board approval	Governance Committee	By April Board meeting
Apply for Propel loan	Kate and Jim	ASAP - Waiting on finalizing of facility
Create policy for “waiting room message” and visitor guidelines	Governance Committee	By May board meeting

Benefits quotes/info	Kendra	April 1st - not done, CSP negotiations put this on the back burner
Update website with more information once decided Communication/Outreach/ Task Force	Marketing and Communications and Outreach Task Forces	May 1
Additional board member recruitment	Governance Committee	Ongoing

6. Items for next meeting (5 minutes)

- Board member recruitment
- Use timetable to put together board agendas
- Updates on insurance/benefits
- Information on Hiring

Check in - Meeting objectives:

- Approve Consent agenda
- Approve marketing expenditures
- Receive reports from Committees
- Accept fundraising donations
- Appoint new Internal Affairs Committee member

Adjourn meeting:

Attachments:

March Board Minutes

Special meeting minutes

Task Force Charge Template

Board Calendar

MN Charter School Website Compliance Checklist

