



THE BIOME SCHOOL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 30, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Directors of The Biome School was called to order by Mr. Phillips. The meeting was in-person at the Biome School and via Zoom at approximately 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, a quorum was present.

Directors Present:

Jessica Cochran	Alex Head
Tim Houghton	Sam Bush
Charlie Walch	Ellen Mocerri
Brian Phillips	Joe White
Ray Claybrooks	

Attended by Invitation:

Bill Kent, Jr. (President and CEO of Group)	Susan Marino (UMSL)
Carolyn Jordan	Mark Kent (Director of Development)
Pam Thomas	Julie Harris (School Principal)

Approve Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the minutes from November 14, 2023. The motion was moved, seconded and the motion was approved.

President & CEO Report:

Mission Moment- Julie Harris

Julie reviewed a recent Steam Night at the Biome. Parents attended in force; it was a great evening organized by Brittany Sullivan.

Review Biome School Board Terms- Bill Kent

- I. Mr. B. Kent stated that Jessica Cochran will have completed her term as of January 31, 2024. He thanked Jessica for her service to the Biome. Mr. B. Kent also announced that Jessica will help him form a marketing committee and is willing to assist that group.
- II. Ellen Mocerri's term ends January 31, 2024, and she has requested to serve another year on the board.

A motion was made to approve Ms. Mocerri's extended time on the Biome School board, motion was



moved, seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Strategic Growth Committee Update- Bill Kent

Attrition Data Review- Mr. B. Kent reported that there has been a 24% decrease in students over the last few years and the school has not been able to recover since 2019. This is primarily due to effects of covid and attrition to the county districts.

SY24-25 Student Recruitment

Mr. B. Kent reported that recruitment is currently at 30 in the door; comparing at this point in time last year we were only at 10 or so student in the door. Loss of students this school year was reviewed. Keonna needs to send out attrition data review to all board members.

Members of the board asked questions and received answers regarding recruiting efforts, including suggestions to assist enrollment through BEG's relationship with The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis; partnering with local property managers and realtors to promote the School providing materials to new owners and renters in the area. Mr. Phillips indicated he would be exploring outreach to Keonna and local realtors. The school will also reach out to Urban League Headstart and YWCA partners to recruit.

Mr. B. Kent reported that the School will continue with tv and radio advertising. In addition to its radio ads with iHeart, the School plans to continuing its recruiting from their Thursday evening music in the park events.

Mr. B. Kent ask for a motion to suspend policy of no new 1-5 grade students for the upcoming SY24/25 so we can recruit these grade level children. The motion to suspend was moved, seconded and the motion carried.

Finance:

Approve 2023-24 Budget & June 2023 Financials

Mr. B. Kent and Mr. Houghton discussed recent financial results. Members of the board asked questions and received answers, including with respect to the school's ERC application.

Fundraising Report- Mark Kent

Mr. M. Kent reviewed the fundraising revenue. Members of the board asked questions and received answers regarding fundraising.

Academics- Julie Harris

Julie Harris reviewed the Diagnostic Results to date for Reading and Math.

The board requested a student attrition report and tables tracking student performance.



Closed Session:

A. Personnel- 610.021(3)

Brian: Please state “Can someone please make a motion to enter closed session pursuant to the Missouri Revised Statutes, Section 610.021, subsections 610.021(1) Legal, 610.021(3) Personnel, 610.021(6) Student, 610.021(13) Personnel Performance and 610.021(14) Generic records protected from disclosure. Can someone please second the motion. Now we will take a roll call vote (each board member must give a voice vote).” After this is done, “the motion is carried by a vote of 8.”

New Business:

There was no new business presented

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned following the closed session.

Respectfully Submitted,

DocuSigned by:
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Brian Phillips, Biome School President & CEO

Prepared By,

DocuSigned by:
G3C19EE052854F5...

Pamela Thomas, Development Coordinator