

VCP Board of Directors Meeting

September 9, 2024

Attendance:

Present: Marcie, Adam, Kara, Joseph

Virtual: Monica, John, Anna, Dwayne

Staff: Ryan, Rahul, Tara, Luke

Guest: Brielle Petty (OEI)

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- Moved: Marcie
- Second: Kara
- Unanimous approval

Mission Minute:

Enrollment:

- Record Enrollment: 1,000+
- Re-enrollment rate about 85%

Trailblazers:

- Application-based leadership development program for VCP growing leaders.
- 14 in the cohort, 7 yr 1, 7 yr 2.
- 72% of current leaders were internal promotions
- 11 of 17 teacher-leader positions are held by Trailblazers

CT3:

- Culture partnership
- Codify culture practices and support new hires
- TMT wants to use VCP as a lab school for others to pilot how CT3 can be used effectively.

Funded all Donor's Choose Projects

- Gates Foundation

Firehawks Athletics:

- Social Media platforms promote new sports seasons
- Follow on X and Instagram!

Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation:

- The only charter school to win from this competitive pool.
- \$1.5M in College pathways
- ICC marketing and branding
- ICC College cash and catalog
- Prepping students academically and socially for college success

- Fostering a college-going culture
- Many students in Marion County, including at VCP, are not choosing college and the purpose of this grant is to get more students enrolled in college.
- Q: Will this free-up expenses to expand into persistence measures?
 - The grant only covers through the summer after you graduate.
 - Increased Meghan's salary to do Year 3 tracking.
 - The dollars here will allow us to move general funding around to cover persistence and other things.
 - Timing of this and the LEI grant and the consideration of expansion are all happening at the same time. We will be smart and thoughtful about how we plan for this.
- Q: What happens at the end of the grant?
 - We will work within the last 18 months of the grant to plan for covering costs that include salary and student expenses.
 - We need a four year plan – how many kids does it take to keep this program alive? What is our 4 year plan to ensure that

Reports:

- Academic Committee:
 - BOY IReady: 19% Of K came in on grade level (up from 2% ly)
 - 2nd grade curriculum need
 - No-nonsense nurturer discussion
 - PSAT upcoming for the upper school
 - 7th grade GPA is a concern
 - Strong outcomes for matriculation (70%), persistence (70%) and grad rate (88-96%) all trending above goal.
 - Data review through OEI's dashboard – how will schools within the portfolio see comparative data by grade level/by strand?
- Development Committee:
 - The Dev Committee will raise \$100,000 for the 2024-25 school year, through:
 - Renew and upgrade \$40,000 from 2024 Firehawks Fund Donors
 - Renew and upgrade the board to \$10,000
 - Find \$50,000 in new money
 - 50% of dollars are part of a multi-year commitment
- Finance Committee:
 - Ended FY24 with \$8.1M in cash reserves (\$1.8M over budget)
 - HVAC external project is 85% complete
 - Kitchen facility is 100% complete
 - VCP Capital Plan is in the works
 - AES grant to replace lighting within the gym (more efficient, at the ceiling line, painted)
 - Internal HVAC project proposal:
 - New proposal to replace the indoor units: \$654,072.50
 - Allows us to repair all in bulk over breaks

- Unit repair cost is approx. \$6,000 (\$3,200 savings per unite; +\$345K total)
- No negative impact to future expansion/renovation
- Q: How will we ensure we take care of these assets over time? We will use the same vendor to maintain these units. All PM, external and internal installations and HVAC work go through the same vendor.
- Q: What will changes in PM cost look like if we sign this contract? There will be no change to the PM/maintenance costs because of this contract. In the past, the managers were using the cheapest option and it was like putting duct tape on major issues.
 - New system is remote so the contractor can remote in with the facilities manager and solve problems.
- **Approval for HVAC proposal:**
 - Moved to pass: Adam; Second: Marcie
 - Unanimous approval

New Business:

- Upcoming board retreat:
 - Strategic Planning
 - Ryan's contract
- January 10th, 2025 – John planning to fly in; general approval of the date. Timing TBD.
- Please be thinking about: Purpose for the retreat
 - Joseph will be sending out an ask for specifics – topics, suggestions, content and what you'd hope to be true.
- Pushing back the November board meeting since it's currently scheduled for election day. Will not be November 12th.

Executive Session:

- Expansion update
- Ryan evaluation