

Herron Classical Schools Board Meeting  
Via Zoom  
Oct. 19, 2021

Board members present were John Watson, Keith Steiner, Dave Sternberg, Adrian Miller, Mindy Cunningham, Daniel Roy, Mark Nottingham, Caryl West, David Steele, Brenda Roper, Mary Ann Sullivan, Carolyn Mosby, and Meggie Dials. Staff present were Janet McNeal, Katie Dorsey, Jonathan Harris, Anne Deckard, Tenika Holden-Flynn, Juli Woodrum, Jennifer Neher Sommers, and Karen Laliuff.

Mr. Watson called the meeting to order and a quorum of the Board was present.

Dr. Harris provided a report highlighting the efforts of recent Riverside graduates and school leaders and staff to enable students to graduate on time. Dr. Harris also reported on efforts to address learning loss resulting from the pandemic. Proper class placement, academic rigor, and, especially, time, have been important. Required quarantines of students have had a negative impact. Targeted interventions, such as Saturday school and virtual office hours, have had positive results.

Minutes of the prior Board meeting were approved.

Mr. Watson reported that the search for a permanent site for Herron Prep continues to be challenging. We continue to speak with potential partners about various properties. The relative costs and merits of building new versus acquiring an existing facility were discussed.

Dr. Holden-Flynn provided a report about Herron Prep's start. Move-in to the modulars has been adjusted so as to have as little disruption for the students as possible, with the new plan to move in close to Thanksgiving. We are on schedule to satisfy all steps required for moving into the modulars, including the playground. Student learning loss has been fairly evident in older students impacted by the pandemic. Very good attendance so far and we are working to address tardiness. Off to a good start and parents have been very supportive.

The Board discussed forms provided by OEI regarding certain legal matters. The Board agreed that we would submit proposed changes to OEI for the forms.

Ms. Woodrum provided a financial report. Some costs were greater than expected in the amount of \$1.1 million. Fewer students enrolled than expected and some first semester costs were higher. The Fiduciary Committee will review and approve the revised budget.

Mr. Sternberg provided the Development Committee's report and previewed the upcoming Classical Cocktails event.

Ms. McNeal provided a report regarding graduation data. Herron estimated at 97% and Riverside at 84%. We lost some seniors last fall. In addition, the innovation agreements with IPS are coming up for potential renewal. IPS and HCS leadership have discussed various processes by which data may be provided to IPS about performance in a manner that is efficient.

The Board approved the new Covid-related policy introduced to the Board by leadership. 93% of staff responded to a recent survey regarding vaccination status and 96% of respondents were vaccinated.

The meeting was adjourned.