



PSO Virtual Town Hall Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 29th, 2024

Meeting Called to Order at 6:02pm

- I. Attendees
 - A. PSO Board Members
 1. Amy Mackenroth
 2. Paulina Moreno
 3. Gina Raab
 4. Nelly Macias
 - B. Great Hearts Irving Leadership
 1. Charles Brogan
 2. Jim McCormick
 3. Amber Dyer
 4. Keo Strull
 - C. Observers: Approximately 50 Additional Parents (our Zoom Max was 54 and rolled down and back up)
- II. Quorum (51% of Current Board Members) Achieved
- III. Discussion of Items from Agenda
 - A. Welcome and Introductions of PSO Board Members & GHI Leadership
 - B. PSO Board Members:
 1. The Mission of PSO:
 - a) To support faculty
 - b) To build community
 2. Volunteer Opportunities: i.e. Used Uniform Sale on November 2nd, Spirit Night at Lamberti's on November 6th & 7th, Monthly Faculty Luncheons, Snowflake Fund November-December, Check emails and Konstella for sign-ups and feel free to reach out to the PSO Board if interested.
 3. School Directory: Konstella has launched. Check your email for invitation/ how to register. If you have trouble getting on to Konstella contact Amy Mackenroth.
 - C. Mr. Brogan, Lower School Headmaster:
 1. Bio: has been an educator for 17 years, 10 years at Great Hearts Northern Oaks in San Antonio, 4 years were as Headmaster, wife is a first grade team lead teacher at Northern Oaks where their three

daughters currently attend/ live and they will be moving/ joining Great Hearts Irving in January 2025

2. "This is a transition year at lower school." Actively working to fill open positions. Trying to help navigate through the level of loss and grief. Model this year is, "stability" with as little stress possible.
3. Added 21 scholars, goal is to have 30 scholars per classroom. Usually start year out with 32 scholars per classroom to allow for attrition.
4. Looking forward to and preparing for "growth" next year. Approximately 1 in 5 students will be new next year.
5. New Lower School building will be state-of-the-art with flooring, plumbing, HVAC, have a cafeteria, updated security, fence around campus like the middle and high school buildings.
6. Hopes to expand volunteer opportunities to include daily lunch and copy room volunteers.
7. Partnering with Upper School i.e. Snowflake Fund & Floresco
8. Trying to listen to and support all stakeholders.

D. Mr. McCormick, Head of Middle School

1. Bio: over 20 years of experience as an educator.
2. Discipline: Middle School suspensions reduced by half this year. "Rules without relationship, breeds rebellion." Very present in hallways. Taking a proactive, relational approach to discipline.
3. 7th Grade Texas History Grade Event coming up
4. Tribunes have relaunched
5. BARD Competition is coming up
6. Etiquette Week is coming up
7. Very excited to train in the virtue of love at the next seminar and very happy to be a part of this family.

E. Dr. Dyer, Upper School Headmaster

1. We are now close to 1,000 students in Upper School.
2. We now have a 100% placement into college and highest SAT average in Great Hearts Texas.
3. The highest achievement is when you look at our Seniors and the Graduates and they are good human beings. Parents say, "I love being around my kids."
4. Scholars experience 1,000 hours of human letters conversations, over 90 Upper School events but our teleology, the best part of Great Hearts Irving is the formation of the heart.
5. We only lost two High School teachers from last year to this year.
6. Just pinned the largest Senior class and blazered the largest Junior class.

7. Homerathon: Junior & Senior event this Friday, November 1st
8. Q2 Culture Week Topic: "What is love?"
9. Senior Drama Performances are coming up, all are invited to attend. Check email for coming details.
10. New Student Service Organization launching: **Non Nobis Solum**, *not for ourselves alone*, a phrase from Cicero. One of the highlights will be that Seniors will now graduate with a service transcript in addition to their high school transcript that they can submit with their college applications.

G. Keo Strull, Director of Academy Giving

1. Annual Gala & Silent Auction, Floresco to be held on April 26th, 2025 at the Embassy Suites Grapevine, Co-Chairs are Diane Carpenter and Reena Patel, would love a third Co-Chair, contact Keo Strull if interested. Planning has begun!
2. Raised close to \$80,000 last year and hope to do better this year.
3. Volunteer Interest Meeting to be held on Thursday, November 7th check email for details on time and location.

H. Q&A from Zoom Chat Box

1. Mr. Brogan would like to hold a Ground Breaking Ceremony at the site of the New Lower School in December.

I. Meeting Adjourned by Amy Mackenroth at 7:07pm