

# **TWIN CITIES ACADEMY**

Board Meeting

Thursday, November 30, 2017

5:30 p.m.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The Board Meeting was called to order by Board Chair Steve Cerkvenik at 5:33 pm

## **ATTENDANCE**

Members present: Steve Cerkvenik, Alexandra Howes, Cassandra Lafleur, Rich Holst, Krista Varley (via conference call)

Others in attendance: Betsy Lueth, Executive Director; Nathan Schultz, community member; Amanda Ruskin, TCA Staff member

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Holst, second by Howes. Discussion: Add to agenda a special closed meeting regarding a student discipline issue. Motion carried unanimously.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the revised October board minutes by Holst, second by Lafleur. Discussion: Clarify definition of rigor and readiness. Motion carried unanimously.

## **GUEST COMMENTS**

Schultz was provided copy of response to his questions and concerns from last meeting, he was asked if he would like to comment. He declined at this time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**RKMC Grant**--\$50,000 grant for work with Dr Hays and Equity work. We will receive the grant money in January. Proposed spending might include Black, Brown and College Bound conference attendance; might include UST, our authorizer and St Paul College President to join us.

**Equity Work Update/Equity Reading**—Cliff and Betsy met with Dr. Hays. It was reported that she met with most of the staff and several students. The Board can expect an executive summary for the December meeting. Courageous Conversation About Race, by Glenn Singleton, was handed out, first assignment, Chapters 1-4 was given with a due date of January for both board and staff. Initial reactions have been good, good buy in. The feeling is it's a good thing to have a neutral, non-admin person to talk with students, staff, parents and administration.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

October 31 Expenditures and Financials Reports—on track, some expenditures are up but nothing concerning, due to Math 180 and curriculum expenditures. Motion by Holst, second by Howes to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

## **REPORTS**

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Facilities**

No report

#### **Governance**

Discussion was desire to improve elections process by having an applications acceptance window from Jan 1-Feb 1, with elections in May to coincide with 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr Conferences. Interest in expanding board to increase diversity and teacher candidates will be discussed at December meeting.

Non-Board on Committees discussion was held—the question posed; does the Board wish to have ex- or non-Board members on the committees? It was mentioned that it would be a way to bring in new talent, the practice of excluding would be counterintuitive to our culture yet concerns of items being pushed through by these ex- or non-Board members was discussed. No motion was needed as the by-laws allow for the inclusion of ex- or non-Board members to be included in Committees.

#### **Policy and Leadership Development**

Expect to create a full binder and online policy handbook. It will include policy priorities of banned books policy, clarify the tuition reimbursement policy (1/3 self, 1/3 UST, 1/3 TCA), look at the PTO policy of 3 conference days (if rescheduled should the staff get the PTO like staff who are here on Saturday conferences). It was mentioned that the Board would be open to feedback on a conversation and discussion regarding Saturday conferences and its effectiveness. One question that came up was would granting PTO time for non-Saturday conferences drop attendance at Saturday conferences?

#### **Marketing**

No report

### **Executive Director**

Enrollment update: 633 students currently which is above budget. Projected enrollment is on track for next year. First Shadow Day was 11/30. We have a relationship with Conway Parks and Rec as well as the Family Church partnership.

### **Teachers**

Ms Howes and Ms Lafleur gave a brief mention of things going well so far in the first quarter of school. Howes mentioned the One Act Play is in the works as well as a Spring Break trip to NYC for the Spring of 2019. It was brought up we have many offerings of great trips; Spain, France, Peru and now NYC.

Regular meeting suspended by Steve Cerkvenik, President, guests were asked to leave for the Special Closed Meeting portion.

Reopen Regular Board Meeting by Steve Cerkvnik, President.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN (Regular Board Meeting)**

A motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting by Howes, second by Holst at 6:21 PM. Motion carried.

The next board meeting will be Thursday, December 14, 2017.

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Reedy