

TWIN CITIES ACADEMY

Board Meeting
Thursday, February 22, 2018
5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Meeting was called to order by Board Chair Steve Cerkvnik at 5:39 pm

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Board Chair, Steve Cerkvnik, Phil Jemielita, Tim Becken, Cassandra Lafleur, Rich Holst (via conference call)

Others in attendance: Betsy Lueth, Executive Director; Melissa Choquette, Band Teacher, Brenda Reedy, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Becken , second by Jemielita. Discussion: Add to agenda the closed meeting at the end of regular meeting and an update on the TCA preparedness for a crisis. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the January board minutes by Jemielita, second by Becken. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ACTION ITEMS

Finance Committee

January Financials

Budget is scheduled to increase and there is a decrease in enrollment by 5 students. The cause can be attributed to some disciplinary action of 8 students that resulted in a drop in enrollment. Budget was aligned to account for this. Additional discussion ensued on budget items and enrollment. A motion was made by Becken, second by Lafleur to accept the January Financials. Financials accepted unanimously.

Revised 17/18 Budget Revision

Reduction in enrollment from 620 to 615. There was discussion about budget and enrollment revision. An error was noted in the Revised 17/18 Budget on the PSEO students calculation. It was clarified what a PSEO student was and how many we currently have. We have 10 PSEO students taking up 6 FTE spots for PSEO. Motion by Jemielita, second by Becken to approved the Revised 17/18 Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Enrollment Seats for 18/19

The following seats are set for the Enrollment Lottery on February 28, 2018 at 4:30. In Grade 6—115; Grade 7—110; Grade 8—105; Grade 9—115; Grade 10—110; Grade 11—75; Grade 12—50. The seats that are open for the lottery are: Grade 6 has 115 open seats, 99 applications (no lottery all accepted); Grade 7 has 5 open seats, 27 applications; Grade 8 has 4 open seats, 17 applications; Grade 9 has 21 open seats, 37 applications (no lottery all applications accepted); Grade 10 has 16 open seats; 5 applications (all applications accepted); Grade 11 has 0 open seats, 3 applications; Grade 12 has 0 open seats, 1 application. Motion was made to approve available seats by grade level by Jemielita, second by Lafleur to accept Enrollment Seats. Motion carried unanimously.

18/19 School Year Calendar

Our calendar was aligned with that of the St Paul Public Schools middle school calendar. This can be revised at a later date if needed. Teacher start date moved later in August with meetings and trainings put into 7 days. Discussion: Question was posed regarding whether Administration is on board with the shortened teacher time? Lueth said yes, they believe it will improve staff retention. Motion made by Jemelieta, second by Holst to accept the 18/19 Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

Revised Enrollment Policy

Addition of the wording *foster children living in the home of currently enrolled students* and change the date for establishes and publishes by February **Board Meeting** the Available Enrollment by Grade into our Enrollment Policy. Motion to accept revision by Jemielita, second by Becken. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Equity Work Update

Discussion was tabled for March meeting. Teacher feedback by Lafleur was that it's necessary work due to the diverse population of our student body.

NEW BUSINESS

18/19 Budget First Draft Review

Expenditure lines include the addition of the AVID program. This is a college readiness program that will be starting in 9th grade with a price of \$20,000. 18-19 budget considers new vendors for transportation and janitorial. The school will be proceeding with quotes for transportation in March and April.

School Preparedness for Crisis

It was asked, in light of recent happenings in Florida, how our school is ready for a crisis. It was noted we do have a written Crisis Plan in effect. Ms Lueth went over that our building was designed with the protection of students and staff in mind within the design of the current building. Additionally, Ms. Lueth reported that TCA has more trained mental health staff for its students than the average school in Minnesota. A focus on mental health support combined with a more secure facility and regular drills are the main components of the crisis prevention plan for this type of

event.

March 14th School Walkout

A brief description of the proposed walkout is that it will be a 17 minute walkout by staff and/or students to honor the 17 people killed in the Florida shooting. As a public school, TCA does not endorse the walkout, but will honor all students and staff that wish to participate without consequence.

Board Self Evaluation

Evaluations were handed out and it was asked that they be returned no later than the March Board Meeting as they are due to UST by April 1.

REPORTS

Committee Reports

Governance

There have been two applications submitted, 1 parent and 1 teacher/staff. There are two current community board members, whose terms expire in July 2018, interested in reapplying for the open positions.

Executive Director

Lueth covered her items in the above areas.

Teachers

Ms. Lafleur reported that in March the middle school French students will take the National French Exam. She also reported that the France/Spain trip is coming up over Spring Break.

Regular meeting suspended by Steve Cerkvenik, Board Chair, at 6:36 pm guests and Ms Lafleur departed for a closed meeting focused on Labor Negotiations.

Closed Meeting: No action taken

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Holst, second by Becken at 6:58 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

The next board meeting will be Thursday, March 22, 2017.

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Reedy