

TWIN CITIES ACADEMY

Board Meeting Thursday, October 25, 2018

5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The Board Meeting was called to order by Rich Holst at 5:11 pm (via phone conference).

ATTENDANCE: Members present: Tamika Rhodes, Tim Becken, Shannon Hady. Rich Holst (by phone conference), Phil Jemielita (by phone conference).

Others in attendance: Betsy Lueth, Executive Director; Erin Spector, Recording Secretary

Holst conducted meeting as Vice Chair instead of Varley who was absent.

Public member: Jose Gabino Meza-Ortiz (current TCA student), TCA parents, Yolanda and William Davis, were present for last 30 minutes of meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: . Becken moved to approve agenda with corrections - "August financials" should read "September financials" on the agenda. Second by Rhodes. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: No changes. Becken moved to approve minutes. Second by Hady. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ACTION ITEMS:

-**Treasurer's Report** - Accept September Financials - Jemielita reports that TCA is within budget and there is a surplus. The school is in good financial shape and all bond covenants are being met. Motion to accept by Hady. Second by Becken. Motion

approved unanimously.

-Policy 425 - Whistleblower Policy - Lueth explained that it isn't a required policy document but was recommended by the policy committee, and the policy is a new policy for TCA. Motion to adopt Policy 425 moved by Rhodes. Second by Becken. No discussion. Motion passes Policy 425 unanimously on 10/25/18.

-Policy 515 Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records - Amendments to current policy were presented by Lueth on behalf of the policy committee. Motion to adopt Policy 515 made by Hady. Second by Becken. Discussion ensued. Motion carried to adopt policy on 10/25/18.

-MSHSL Grant - Lueth presented that the MSHSL offers an annual grant to help offset the sport fees for students qualifying for free or reduced lunch. Lueth explained that TCA already offers significantly reduced fees for all students qualifying for free or reduced priced lunch. Lueth requested that the Board approve a resolution required to access the grant funds. "Form A Grant" Motion to approve made by Becken. Second by Hady. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: None to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Student Retention -

- Lueth explains retention from 8th to 9th over the past few years has fluctuated but that we are not at the lowest rate in previous 4 years studied. Still, we want to increase student retention in those grades specifically. TCA will host HS Showcase in December. This will be aimed at current 8th grade families in hopes to build up the HS program and teach about the details of high school program here at TCA. High school teachers, students and the administrative team will showcase college preparatory classes, extracurricular activities, clubs and more.

General discussion ensued about reasons people transfer and how we can retain students. Lueth suggested bringing the UST marketing plan to the board so board members can review the work being done. Lueth provided updates on marketing initiatives in process such as the updated home page of the website and an overall push for more social media presence. Becken asks if we need to invest more money for marketing staff instead of using volunteers (PIP) in that position. Discussion ensued

and was tabled for continuation at the November board meeting.

Reports:

Governance Committee:

- Nobody representing this committee was in attendance. Lueth reported that the committee needs to work on bylaws. Holst committed to follow up with Howes and Varley.

Finance Committee:

- Jemielita reported that the committee is reviewing overall financial sustainability and the trends over the last four years. Nothing yet to report on this project.

Policy Committee:

- The committee met and reviewed the policies presented to the board during the action items of this meeting.

Principal/Executive Director Update:

- Enrollment update is that we have a positive trend with number of applications for the 2019-2020 school year based on prior years. TCA has more applications turned in than we did this time last year.
- Gym floor update - About 3 more weeks until the floor is complete.

Teacher Update:

- Nothing new to report.

Parent Update:

- Rhodes tells that PIP is looking to host some kind of dance in January 2019 to help with building community.

Adjourned at 6:09 pm by Holst. Per Holst, all items in agenda have been covered.