

TWIN CITIES ACADEMY
Board Meeting
Thursday, September 5, 2019
(rescheduled from cancelled August 22, 2019)
5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Meeting was called to order by Alexandra Howes at 5:03 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Rich Holst via phone, Alexandra Howes, Elizabeth Neilson, Tamika Rhodes, Phil Jemielita via phone

Members absent: Tim Becken

Others in attendance: Betsy Lueth, Executive Director; Brenda Reedy, recording secretary;

Guests: Andrew Ng, Staff member; Doris Espelien, Community member

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the June minutes was made by Neilson, second by Rhodes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Add to agenda: 1) Moving the September board meeting, and 2) Transportation Issues update. A motion to approve the August Agenda with additions was made by Neilson, second by Rhodes. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Doris Espelien gave a brief overview of her desire to possibly join as a community board member and some of her experience. Andrew Ng also has expressed interest in joining as a staff board member replacing Shannon Hady. He also talked briefly about his experience and what he could bring to the board.

ACTION ITEMS

- Discussion: Appointment of Andrew Ng to vacant teacher seat. Board members felt Ng's experience would make a good fit for the Board. It was noted that Mr Ng would need to attend a Board Training required of all new board members. A motion to appoint Mr Ng to the position was made by Neilson, second by Rhodes. Motion passed.
- Discussion; June Preliminary Financials. Met the budget with revised lower ADM. Food service had a revenue surplus; that money can only be spent on food service items. It was also noted that the audit wasn't final, and will begin by the end of October to be completed prior to December. A motion was made by Neilson; second by Rhodes to approve June Financials. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

- Board membership on Board committees; discussion ensued regarding forming two really strong committees Governance: Ng, Howes, Neilson, Rhodes and Holst; Finance: Jemielita and Becken. It was noted that others, even non-Board members, can be on these committees. The Governance Committee will be required to follow Open Meeting Laws due to a quorum of the board on the committee.
- Review of Open Meeting Law: Members were given the statutes and a synopsis of the law for review.
- Data Practice Law: Members reviewed the law as it pertains to students and employees. Basic premise is everything is private.
- Transportation Update: Issues are present with 1-1.5 hour route in the AM. The Transportation Company is requesting to possibly add an additional bus at a cost of \$35,000. A proposal will be brought to the September meeting showing the feasibility of adding this extra bus and the benefits.
- September Board Meeting: Discussed that holding the meeting a week later due to Curriculum Night and the Board Listening Sessions occurring on the originally scheduled evening. The Board Meeting will be rescheduled for October 3.

OLD BUSINESS

- Stakeholder Listening Sessions: In the interest of convenience, it was suggested they happen on Curriculum Night. Concerns were raised about being rushed, suggested moving the Board Meeting and put listening sessions before Pizza at 5:00 pm on Curriculum, September 26th. Discussion will be what's going well, what needs to improve. Structure was strongly encouraged by having specific topics. Lueth will have listening sessions with a staff time (possible AM), students (possible at lunch) and parents/others (possible after school) on a monthly basis beginning on October 3rd.

REPORTS

- **Committee Reports**
 - **Governance**
No discussion
 - **Finance**
None
- **Executive Director**
Enrollment update: 631 which is a good start. New behavior space and new special ed space is very productive and appears to be working.
- **Teachers**
Feels good 2 days in!
- **PIP**
All dates for all events are set. It was a busy summer. It was noted to check and verify dates on the Academic Calendar. Pizza Palooza coming up. They are also looking for more parent participation.

(Noted: Jemielita left meeting at 5:52 pm)

Motion to adjourn meeting by Neilson, second by Rhodes to adjourn meeting at 5:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Reedy

