

American Renaissance School
Meeting of the Board of Directors (BOD)
Approved Open meeting minutes
Wednesday, November 2, 2016
6:30 p.m.

Dated Wednesday, November 2, 2016

1. The Meeting was **Called to Order** at 6:30 pm by Sam Kennington

1. **Board Members Present:** Sam Kennington, Harriette Bailey, Jonathan Bell, Sharon Bell, Matt Reyes, Anna Johnson, Michele Knapp, Frank DiGandi

Board Members Absent: Marc Davis

Administrative Staff Present: Jim Duffey, Tony Hall, Betsy Rosenbalm, Jessica Duncan, John Mairs

Administrative Staff Absent: n/a

Others in Attendance: n/a

2. **Call to Order** – Sam Kennington, Board Chairman

- Moment of Silence
 - Mr. Nance (former ARS parent)
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Open Meeting Laws and Freedom of Information Act
- Michele Knapp read the mission of ARS

3. **Public Comment** – Sam Kennington

- Proposal submitted to use Tradd St. property as a Teaching Studio
 - Photography and Art Gallery
 - Adobe Web Design Suite
 - Community Shared Space

4. **Adoption of Agenda**

Harriette Bailey moved to adopt the agenda with additions, seconded by Michele Knapp. Agenda was adopted.

5. **Approval of minutes:**

October and November minutes will be submitted for approval at the December 2016 BOD meeting.

6. **Special Recognition**

- Parent involvement with the Advanced Learners' program
 1. Stephanie and Neil Shiaggi
 2. Noah Weiss
 3. Kathleen Scott
 4. Brian Sherrill

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- 5. Teresa Brown
- 6. Danielle Cusic

- Andrea and Zach Donahue – new Financial Services Providers
- Officer Tony (Statesville PD) – provides a presence in the ARS buildings throughout the day. He has access as needed.

7. New Business

Committee Reports

- **Development/Fund raising** (4 main events: Discount cards, 3b, Annual Fund & Spring Gala)
 - **RAP**
 - Discount cards – funds will go toward supporting the new playground project, specifically to pay for new sod fee and maintenance on Tradd St. property, not for playground equipment
 - **3b**
 - 3b did not lose money, given Hurricane Matthew
 - Looking for possible rain locations for future 3b Festivals (i.e., Mitchell community college continuing education building)
 - **Chair comment**
 - Appreciate staff's involvement, parent volunteers, Jessica Duncan's family's donation of property usage
- **Finance**
 - New Financial Services providers met with ARS BOD Treasurer to work on correcting budget line items
 - Corrections will be on October budget report

Sharon Bell moved to approve Financial report. Frank DiGandi seconded. Motion passed.

- **Governance**
 - No report
- **Personnel**
 - Hiring of part-time EC teacher to help Dr. Rosenbalm with teaching duties
 - Next meeting will develop exit surveys for departing staff. Plan to put forth a recommendation
 - PT custodian/maintenance – John Saunders
 - PT EC teacher – Emily Robinson

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Jonathan Bell made a motion to approve the hiring of PT custodian/maintenance and PT EC teacher. The motion was seconded by Michele Knapp. Motion passed.

- **Property and Facilities**
 - Presented draft of proposed outdoor learning environment on Tradd St. property
 - Suggestion of a community forum prior to a final decision on what to do with the property
 - Consider how the property fits into ARS' long range plans
 - Possibly partner with city of Statesville to be used by citizens of the city
 - Identify priorities

- **Head of School**
 - Drafted confidentiality statements that all volunteers must sign
 - Require background check for any volunteer working with kids unsupervised by ARS staff/employees
 - Records will be maintained by Mrs. Durham
 - Advanced Learners program's name was changed to Explorations to align with the Renaissance Era. The decision was made to change the name in response to child/family concern
 - Newsletter goes out on Fridays
 - Will contain general information, celebrations, FYI
 - FT custodian addressed staff regarding their responsibility in keeping the building clean
 - Energy saving audits are completed daily
 - Traffic issues
 - Chief Barone addressed drop off at 6-8 building
 - HOS to meet with Kimbrell's, ABC child development center & K-5 building lease holder to discuss traffic in the back alley
 - Working with Chief Barone to write grant to request a School Resource Officer
 - Suggestion to feed Statesville PD a meal as relationship builder
 - Possibly identify bus pick-up hubs as an alternative to address traffic concerns. This can open/remove barriers if we can provide transportation
 - Gene Allen contacted Dr. Brady Johnson (ISS) to discuss some transportation possibilities
 - Multi tiers of support
 - Being planned by Jim Duffey
 - Teachers will provide progress reports every 3 weeks
 - Pull-out for extra assistance
 - More intense support – use of Title I funds for targeted assistance

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- Outside group requests
 - Possible conflicts (can be exclusive)
 - Masons & Pregnancy Prevention Groups
 - ARS will develop an information hub that parents can access for information regarding outside groups
- MAP data/reports
 - Thanks to teachers for successful curriculum night
 - Thanks to parents for attendance
 - Book Fair exceeded the goal. ARS will receive \$5K from Scholastics
 - Discussed how to use MAP data to drive instruction, assessment and predict EOG results
 - Ongoing assessment should be used to guide instruction (common assessment every 3 weeks to inform progress reports)
 - EC
 - 13 TAs – based on student needs, teacher input and IEP goals
 - 73 EC students
 - 68 students receive services in the regular classroom or resource
 - All EC students participate in at least 2 inclusion settings per day
- **Board Chair remarks**
 - Will discuss transportation and Tradd St. Property
 - Thanks to Dr. Rosenbalm and her staff
 - Mr. Mairs is working on revising the ARS website
 - HOS is excited about the current academic year

Closed Session (if needed) – Closed session

- Matt Reyes moved to go into closed session
- Jonathan Bell seconded the motion
- Motion passed

Based on information shared with the BOD, Jonathan Bell moved to reverse previous decision to terminate employee and maintain with an appropriate PIP. Seconded by Michele Knapp. Motion carried.

9. Other Business

- a. Increase membership of facilities committee to include Frank DiGandi. Committee will begin exploration of long term development and possible expansion.
- b. Committee will decide who to add to the committee
- c. Jonathan Bell will represent the ARS BOD (pro bono) and will recuse himself during voting if there is a conflict

10. Next Meeting and Adjourn –

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The next meeting of the board of directors will be on December 7, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the K-5 Building board room.

Matt Reyes made a motion to adjourn.
The motion was seconded by Michele Knapp.
The motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve these board minutes is made, seconded and passed.

Approved on: 12/7/16

Signature of Officer: Harriette N. Bailey