

**American Renaissance School
Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Open meeting minutes

February 24, 2016

6:30 p.m.

APPROVED March 23, 2016

Dated 2-24-16

1. The Meeting was **Called to Order** at 6:30pm by Sharon Bell
2. **Board Members Present:** Marc Davis, Kameron Brown, Sam Kennington, Michele Knapp, Sharon Bell, Debra Connolly

Board Members Absent: Harriette Bailey, Matt Reyes, Anna Johnson.

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

3. **Review and Approval of December 2015 and January 2016 Open Meeting Minutes and Agenda**

*Michele Knapp made a motion to approve the open meeting minutes from **Dec 2015**
Kam Brown seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously*

*Debra Connolly made a motion to approve the open meeting minutes from **Jan 2016**
Michele Knapp seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously.*

*Kam Brown made a motion to approve the agenda.
Michele Knapp seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously*

4. **Physical Education Update** – Mike Davis
The American Heart Association's Jump Rope for Heart campaign was a success at ARS. Several elementary students jumped rope.
5. **Arts Update** – Harriette Bailey
Triniti Austin, Pressley Anne Beatty displayed and explained their middle school artwork.
6. **Public Comments / Information** – Sharon Bell
Nicole Kirshner, co-president of the Renaissance Association of Parents (RAP, the ARS parent-teacher organization) provided the board with a report and update:
 - Staff appreciation week was fabulous!
 - Great Wolfe Lodge community event

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- Curriculum Night / Book Fair are coming up
- The Spring Gala is the 4th Quarter fundraiser
 - Meal at Twisted Oak
 - Silent auction (higher ticket items)
 - \$25/person
 - **Saturday April 30th**
 - Childcare will be provided that evening
 - Ms.Bell suggested that RAP gain sponsors for the dinner to help cover costs so that all the meal fees and auction monies would be revenues for the school. This would also provide the opportunity in the community for building the relationship with sponsors.
 - On same day, a talent show and smaller auction will be provided at the Elementary building, alumni and students from school participating with music

7. Financial Report and Updates - Michele Knapp
Audit and tax form 990 each board member received.

Sam Kennington made a motion to accept the audit.

Kameron Brown seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Sam Kennington made a motion to accept the 990.

Kameron Brown seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

- January Budget
 - Ms. Knapp stated that she found some things that were not coded correctly and sent these to Acadia to be fixed. E.g.:
 - Grant funding expenses
 - Exceptional Children's (EC) instructional supplies. Ms. Rosenbalm noticed some entries that she did not recognize. Ms. Rosenbalm asked to meet face-to-face with Acadia once a month. Ms. Bell recommended that most can be resolved by online meeting.
 - Ms. Knapp questioned where the discount card money was and was informed that RAP has that money (\$13,590), and the funds will be given at the end of the school year when all the fundraising is complete.
 - Received money for the transfer students.
 - EC funds increased by \$36,441.

Kameron Brown moved to accept the January financial report.

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Marc Davis seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

- Mr. Hall reported about the line of credit the school has with Wells Fargo. We renew this every year; however, we have never needed to use it. Do we need a line of credit?

Debra Connolly made a motion to maintain/renew our line of credit.

Kam Brown seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

8. Head of School Report – Tony Hall

- The third round of Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing was recently completed. Jessica Duncan explained the data. All showed growth. One line was lower, but data still show growth.
- The resignation of the grades 6-8 PE teacher was filled with long-term sub Chip Warner. Welcome, Chip!
- The snow make-up day was scheduled for the 15th, but we had another snow day. March 11th will be the next make-up day instead of a teacher work day. March 10th will remain a half day.
- The air quality report shows there was some mold in the elementary building, which has been treated and cleaned. Mr. Hall recommends that a presentation be given to board for a maintenance plan. The expense of the test and remediation will be paid for by the owner of the building. ARS will pay for the presentation.

Telecom Services Update – John Mairs

- We will switch to AT&T for fiber line between the two buildings.
- eRate funding is disappearing, so billing should be better.
- AT&T phone is essentially half the cost of Time Warner Cable.

Kam Brown made a motion to approve these changes to the school's Telecom and Network Services.

Michele seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Middle School Roof Report – Jim Duffey

- The roof has been repaired.
- Drains have rusted and are leaking. They are working to fix it.

Annual Fund Update – Tony Hall

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- Mr. Hall reported that the annual fund is not going as well as in past.
- Do we need to make phone calls?
- Move forward with the pieces that Amy Fuhrman is working on.

9. Committee Report – Calendar – Kathleen Gay

- Survey went out to parents about their interest level in other calendar options (Traditional calendar, modified year-round, traditional year-round):
 - 49% preferred modified year-round or traditional calendar
 - 2% preferred traditional year-round
 - Most of the questions centered on child care during breaks.
- The next survey will explain more about the modified year-round calendar. This will be sent out next week.
- Ms. Bell asked what the research/literature says about the connection between calendar type and student achievement. She also asked for a recommendation from the leadership team. She also suggested that we asking the question of whether parents would you pull their student(s) from the school if we changed the calendar.

10. Closed Session (if necessary) – Sharon Bell

Kameron Brown made a motion to go into closed session to discuss a specific student situation to maintain confidentiality.

Sam Kennington seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

11. Next Meeting and Adjourn –

The next meeting of the board of directors will be on **March 24, 2016 at 6:30pm** in the Elementary Building Board room.

Sam Kenington a motion to adjourn.

The motion was seconded by Kameron Brown.

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve these board minutes is made, seconded and passed. (Item 4 on next meeting's agenda.)

Approved on: March 23, 2016 Signature of Officer: _____

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