

American Renaissance School

Meeting of the Board of Directors (BOD)

Open meeting minutes
Wednesday, September 5, 2018
5:30 PM

ARS Mission:

To ensure a standard of academic excellence by providing a nurturing environment that allows each child to reach his/her fullest potential as students and citizens.

The meeting was **Called to Order** at 5:30 by Michele Knapp

Board Members Present: Ben Stikeleather, Jonathan Bell, Michele Knapp, Kameron Brown, Frank DiGangi, Carol Thompson, Caty Gordon, Tracy Sain

Administrative Staff Present: Jim Duffey, Jessica Duncan, John Mairs, Andrea Leluika, Danielle Cusick, Kay Johnson, Tai McMiller

1. **Call to order** - Michele Knapp, Board Chairman

2. **Adoption of Agenda** - *Tracy S. moved to approve meeting agenda. Motion was seconded by Kam B. Motion passed.*

3. **Recognitions of the Baseball, Track & Football teams**

4. **Board Resignation** - Ben will be moving to the coast at the end of September, tonight's meeting will be his last. His resignation will be voted on at the end of the meeting tonight.

5. **New Board Members** - Kam and Jonathan are still working on new board members.

6. **Secretary** - *Carol nominated as secretary. Kam moved to approve motion. Tracy seconded motion. Motion passed.*

7. **Public Comment** - N/A

8. **RAP update** - Shannon Sloan advised they recruited fresh RAP volunteers at the first meeting of the school year. RAP worked hard over the summer break painting/installing kindness quotes in the bathrooms. Also, painting and spraying rocks for the 3B festival. Our discount card fundraiser is well under way. As well as planning for the fall festival. Touched on the upcoming book fair, golf tournament and Gala fundraisers. Gala goal is 250 for dinner with similar pricing, possibly a slight increase. The golf tournament is scheduled for March 22nd and volunteers are needed. Discussed the possibility of using the Great Wolf trip as a fundraiser as well.

9. School Report

Jim Duffey on Charter Renewal - Cohort Renewal Report has been turned in and approved.

Jim Duffey on Audit - Auditor was in and out in 3 hours, no compliance issues. Currently looking at finances.

Jim Duffey on Epicenter Pilot Group - we will have to submit all paperwork again for this.

Andrea Leluika on NAEP - ARS was chosen for this additional testing. This will happen in February, 50 of our 8th grade students will be chosen. No choice in this as it is through the

department of education. The testing is for Math & Reading. Parents will be notified that their child was chosen.

Andrea Leluika on 2018 EOG testing- Unscheduled staff meeting today re 2017-18 Testing Data. **Excellent Report!** Reading grade levels for ARS above state levels and up from last years testing. Math grade level at proficiency again AND above state levels. Overall grade level proficiency was well above state levels and where state decreased, ARS increased. 499 out of 550 students met or exceeded their projected growth. 90.7% growth met or exceeded.

10. Finance Report - Changes in final #'s compared to report at last meeting. Sales tax \$ increased . also a few items were incorrectly coded for 2017-18 school year that were actually for the 2018-19 school year. There is a greater surplus now thanks to those corrections. Going forward we will be talking with our financial planner monthly to access our financials throughout the year.

Ben motioned to approve the year end report and move the fund balance to surplus. Jonathan seconded. Motion passed.

11. New Budget Analysis Report presented with new layout. New layout may make it easier. Board would like to continue with the new look. *Kam motioned to approve the July report. Ben seconded. Motion approved.*

12. Sales Tax Referendum - Ben advised of potential sales tax increase to be voted on the November election. Something to notify RAP to educate RE increased sales tax income.

13. OT/PT Contract - Shopping for a new OT/PT. Looking at Pediatric Advanced Therapy. Hourly rate is the same but a slight increase for paperwork and meetings. Will need to update indebtedness clause as not in contract. Also, add to invoice every 30 days. *Motion to approve with corrections made by Tracy. Kam seconded. Motion passed.*

14. Committee Reports

Facilities

- Addressed vague language in contract with Charter Success Partners. Changes suggested . capping fee @ 15k if we walk out on deal.
- Offer should also be framed to extend lease until closing.
- Oldest air unit is being replaced in the upcoming week.

Governance

- 5 policies to review. Policies need to be approved for audit. *Ben motioned to approved policies. Jonathan seconded. Motion passed.*
- Frank suggests an internal policy handbook.
- Periodic background checks to be discussed @ governance meeting.

Personnel

- Andrea recommends Beverly Sipe for open FT EC position. 26+ years of experience. Frank confirmed position is in budget. *Frank motioned to hire Beverly Sipe for the EC position. Kam seconded. Motion passed.*
- Frank proposed Jim Duffey control hiring/staff decisions. Ben questioned how other Charter schools handle? Jonathan will review bylaws and further discuss @ governance committee meeting.

Fundraising

-3B festival tickets and discount card fundraising are currently under way. Sales aren't quite where we would like them to be. Jim will be meeting with radio and Record & Landmark to advertise.

- Clean up crew going to 3B site to tidy up.

15. Ben final business - Ben to introduce Tracy to the Deatons. Ben also suggests Ron Smith may be able to help with strategic planning.

16. Jonathan motions to accept Ben's resignation. Frank seconded motion. Motion passed.

17. Closed Session (if needed)

no closed session in Sept meeting

18. Next Meeting and Adjourn -

The next meeting is October 3, 2018 @ 5:30

Kam B made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Frank DiGangi. Motion carried

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

Signature of Officer: Carol Thompson