

**Granite State Arts Academy**  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
January 5, 2016

*Granite State Arts Academy nurtures creative thinkers, active citizens, and independent learners with a curriculum that integrates the arts and academics. Our Vision is a high school that is dedicated to the arts. It will appeal to a broad cross section of students who are looking to discover the joy and transformational power of the arts and those interested in pursuing the arts in a professional setting. Our academic courses will strive to instill a sincere lifelong desire to learn. Students will explore real world problems, simultaneously developing cross-curriculum skills while working in small collaborative groups. During their time at GSAA students will attend art classes each day and will study at least two of the following studies: Dance, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts. This will allow for personalized learning, creating conditions where students' talents can flourish. This positive approach to educating will empower students to dream and create every day.*

**ATTENDANCE: AMY SEVIGNY, MARK BOGRAD, KATE RUSSELL, KEN DUNNE, MELANIE HOLDEN, JUDY DAVID, DON ERDBRINK (ON PHONE)**

**EXCUSED: SCOTT MULLANE**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:09 PM BY KENNE DUNNE AS HE IS PRESENT AT THE MEETING**

- Public Comment
  - none
  
- Approval of Minutes - December 1st and December 10th - Melanie made a motion to approve both these meeting minutes - seconded by Amy and approved by all
  
- Chair's Report
  - Mielle Riggie ([www.mielleriggie.com](http://www.mielleriggie.com)) (Friend of Melanie) Introduced by Melanie- Mielle is not at the meeting today- local artist that specializes in poured glass that visited the school in December and Melanie states that she was very impressed with the school. Melanie has spoke to her about ways she can participate- she would like to participate in the curriculum committee with Melanie, Mark and Bill Viau.- more members needed- please contact Melanie Holden if interested. These meetings will be restarting very soon again. Mielle has also expressed interest in possible field trip or visiting artist.
  - Denise Sharlow – Grant Writer – Update - given by Don. Frank Sharlow's wife- she has been doing some research for us. Don and Mark are working to see if we can get her on the federal grant site as more specific grants are available on DOE site. Don will be reaching out to her with possible update for strategic planning.
  - Strategic Planning Meeting – Agenda? 1 year / 2 year / 3 year
    - Mark did a structured strategic plan over the summer- this will be forwarded to the board. Mark developed 6 main goals. Mark explained how he came to

these 6 goals (student learning, highly qualified teachers, community building, fundraising and resource development, facilities and operations, and governance and capacity). These goals should be prioritized during Saturday's session. Under each goal - 3 objectives. We need to discuss these Saturday. From there a strategic planning committee should be developed- Mark explains that this is a living document that may take up to a year to develop. Other committees should be developed from this. An executive summary to be developed on Saturday. The board will review and send suggestions prior to Saturday to Don. Meeting Saturday will begin at 9am with a goal of 3pm completion. Renia will be at meeting to discuss proposed budget. Need to discuss possible move and funding needed for that. Don is connecting with Joe Freidman about the other available buildings and the needs around this- to be further discussed Saturday.

- Ken is working on looking into possible tax reduction- he is connecting with legislature regarding the new bill that was recently passed.

- Gala progress- email from Deb Z. -

Renia suggested I email you tonight since you wont be at the board meeting. I wanted to give you a brief overview of progress so far,

I have mailed and emailed about 58 donation letter requests. I have been able to secure the following larger items so far

4 One Day Disney Hopper Tickets value about 640

An online Berklee College of Music course including 3 academic credits. Winner can choose over 165 online classes. Value \$1500

I contacted Patriots Red Sox and Bruins for donations. We can get autographed items not tickets.

Red Sox already confirmed we will get something waiting confirmation on others.

I contacted Royal Caribbean but we were turned down due to high volume of requests.

Parent donation of Jet Blue tickets again

Parent donation of \$1000 off orthodontist work for local orthodontist.

Smaller items like Canobie Lake Park tickets, music theater tickets etc.

I have targeted Restaurants, hotels, art supply stores, dancewear stores and theaters.

I also targeted places with helicopter rides, hot air balloon rides, paintball and spas.

So in all we are doing ok in the silent auction area. I will continue to send out letters.

Renia and I talked about ticket price and we feel \$55 each is a good price. Our dinner will run about \$33-\$34 pp so this will give us a \$20 profit each ticket and if we sell 200 that is \$4k just in ticket sales. It is important that we start selling tickets asap. We need to give a final head count to Atkinson by Feb 28 I think.

We are currently looking into finding an establishment to donate 50 bottles of wine for a wine pull but not sure how that is going.

I have given donation letters to several parents so not sure on their progress on donations but will update you.

So far that is all I got! Lol..let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks!

Deby Z

- Head of School Report -- Mark
  - 107 current students- 1 more coming in 2nd semester with another shadow this week.
  - Numbers for next year looking great- Mark feels we will be at approx. 140 students next year
  - 2nd semester schedules were handed out today.
  - This Friday the staff will talk about schedule for next year. The 2016-2017 program of study has been started and is nearly complete.
  - Mark and Renia are still undergoing powerschool training (January) for rollover to next year.
  - The week of the January 18th finals week. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are the finals/wrap up days. Friday the 22nd is a teacher workshop day- the teaching staff is attending Plymouth State College Arts integration workshop.
  - Mark talked about the "futurism" theme - possible field trip to see Star Wars for all students 2nd semester. Logistics are still being worked out.
  - Europe trip in March is still occurring- this is not a school sponsored trip. Each student has an individual contract and Mark has sent out an update regarding world safety concerns.
  - Mark had a whole school meeting to discuss schedules, grades, SAT and PSAT day, cleaning etc. today
  - March 2nd - SAT testing free for Juniors in place of smarter balance, PSAT testing for 10th graders (\$15 per child), Freshman to go on science field trip, seniors will have the day off. Students are preparing in English classes for this. Melanie suggested that all sophomores take this.
  - Teacher observations (3x/year) ongoing. Frequent walk throughs- and then a final end of the year evaluation will be compiled.
  
- Budget Committee Report/ Fundraising –
  - Don discussed current bank balances etc. no current issues.
  - Family pledge- email has been sent out and posted on facebook pages. 100% participation needed.
  - Gala preparation- help needed- donations, buy tickets etc.
  - Don is planning on sending out letters to "famous" musicians- will send to board for review.
  - Plan for Friday advisory to send out ask letters.
  - Meat raffle - ? next Friday
- Kate made a motion to go into non public session based on RSA 91- A:3- 7:20 pm
- Returned to open session- 8:30pm
- Meeting closed @ 8:35 pm
- Next meeting January 26th @ 6 pm

