



Granite State Arts Academy

Board of Trustees Meeting

December 11, 2018

6pm @ GSAA

Attendance: Don Erdbrink, Tony Polito, Jeff Marquis, Alison Gangler, Frank Sharlow, Robin Calitri, Paula Trout, Renia Radziszewski

Called to order: 5:59pm

- Public Comment – None
- Approval of Minutes from last meeting: Mr. Calitri made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting from November 13th. Mr. Marquis seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

Treasurer's Report:

1. Current Status of funds:
 - Projected to year end based on existing enrollment. The current enrollment is 122 which includes 6 students from MA; there are 2 potential enrollments of sophomore students in January, bringing the total to 124.
2. ACH update – What is collected? What remains collected?
 - So far \$10147 collected and improving the amounts of contributions
 - The Giving Tuesday brought in \$2795 and a check for \$1000
 - The Adequacy payment will be arriving soon in the amount of \$249452
 - Ms. Radziszewski suggested finding a solution for those families behind multiple years to allow them to catch up on the ACH but the solution needs to be trackable in the budgeting
 - The school policy is that if the ACH fees are not paid, the student will not receive the diploma
 - Students can also volunteer at the school to help pay off the fees by doing summer projects or cleaning
3. The Poker Room: waiting for an actual date to hold the event which can be anytime from March, onwards.

Mr. Calitri moved to accept the Treasurer's Report; Ms. Trout seconded the motion; all approved and the motion was carried.

Teachers Representative:

Survey from Teachers:

- Most of the teachers are happy using a school laptop or desktop computer
- Tech in the classrooms: more chrome-books needed
- Internet speed – report that it is too low for showing videos or films (from one teacher); but the school already has the maximum speed
- Discussion on possible solutions to upgrade the technology: Running apps (Linux) on Chromebooks; possibly using Amazon Web Services (AWS Education); information about Manchester Makerspace
- For Dance: better manner of recording dances to play back; get video cameras mounted; or perhaps using GoPro cameras
- If choice between Desktop and Laptop: prefer laptop
- Mr. Calitri suggested adding a line item in the budget for Technology

Chair's Report:

1. Tech Discussion
 - Mr Erdbrink: Get budget together for Technology
 - Mr Trout will do a \$3000 match for Technology at the Live Auction to be held at the Gala
 - Proposal to direct all Live Auction to Technology
2. Enrollment:
 - Discussion about possible initiatives to increase enrollment
 - The outreach, performing the Wizard of Oz is good publicity for the feeder schools and introduces the school to perspective students
 - The 3rd Open House will be held on January 24th and is important because a significant number of students look to transfer at this time of the year
 - The suggestion was given to send posters about the school to schools in MA and to place publicity in the newspapers
 - Also, hosting an event at the school is very positive publicity which also improves the community awareness of the school
 - The Chamber of Commerce is very helpful in raising awareness of the school in the community too
 - Outreach events in the near future: caroling at Salem Haven and Greystone Farms, wreath stroll, Christmas cards to the U.S. Troops
 - Possible 6 week evening courses: for art and dance to be held in the spring will increase the school branding as well. More information needed on fees and logistics

Action Items:

- The January 24th Open House: a listing needs to be posted in the area newspapers
- Board Vote for “up-to” budget: \$2000 to be able to publicize in the areas of Manchester to Lawrence

- Mr. Marquis moved to set a budget for up-to \$2000; Ms. Trout seconded the motion; all approved and the motion was carried
3. Proposal to add an 8th Grade to the school:
 - This discussion will be postponed until the Board of Trustees is fully present
 4. A discussion was held about implementing the IB program at GSAA
 - Mr. Calitri provided a hand-out with information about the program and requirements
 - The requirements will be changing soon, and Mr. Calitri informed the group that an application would need to be filed soon to be considered for candidacy
 - A further discussion followed with advantages and disadvantages of implementing such a program at GSAA
 - Mr. Polito felt it is important to speak with Mr. Erdbrink and Mr. Calitri in a future discussion of his concerns about implementing an IB program; he thinks that other priorities need to be addressed in the school first
 5. Fundraising:
 - Gala Update: Goal of \$40000; 504 companies have been contacted for Item donations and donations are already coming back
 - Mr. Marquis and Ms. Barrow came to the meeting; there are sponsorships for food and drink; 23 people are already on the sponsorship list
 - Ms. Radziszewski asked the board to send any other suggestions for possible sponsorships
 6. Outreach to SAU's
 - The board had previously discussed the possibility of outreach to he SAU for financial support, but this was not as represented, and this kind of agreement wouldn't work with the Salem district

HoS Report

1. Update:
 - Performances: Grappone Center Concord NH, 1/24/19: Theater, Dance, Presentation table
 - 3rd Open house will be held on January 24th
 - Parent Curriculum nights will be held in March
 - There is no need for a lottery this year
2. The renewal of the School Charter will be the focus for the next 3 weeks
3. The new teachers for Science and Theater have started work and the school was very lucky to get these two teachers; both have excellent experience and credentials

New Business *

1. Teacher needs will be discussed at the next meeting
 - Ms. Peterson: \$192; Mr. Sharlow: \$407
 2. The Charter renewal: The Board will walk through the plans and schedule for that week at the next meeting
- * All new business items will be put in the agenda for and discussed at the next meeting

Wrap Up and Adjourn:

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:53pm, Mr. Marquis made a motion to adjourn the meeting and this was seconded by Ms Trout; all approved and the motion was carried.