

## Granite State Arts Academy

### Board of Trustees Meeting

September 13, 2016

- Attendance: Amy Sevigny, Melanie Holden, Tony Polito, Judy David, Don Erdbrink, Rob Solomons, Jason Swift (on the phone), Ken Dunne (on the phone), Kate Russell
- Guest: Alicia Nelson(Potential Board member/Parent), Deidre Smith (staff), Michelle Barrow (staff), Renia Radziszewski (staff), Paul Sevigny (parent)
- Meeting to order: 6:05pm
- Alicia introduced as potential board member. She introduced herself and explained her interest in GSAA and her willingness to serve on the board.
- Approval of Minutes from 8/16, 8/25 and 9/1 - Kate made a motion to approve minutes from 8/16, 8/25 and 9/1/16, seconded by Rob and approved by all
- Michelle Barrow- discussed yearbook.
  - Volunteered to head the yearbook efforts
  - Would like to form a committee of students
  - board supports this
- Building Status
  - Thank you Deidre, Renia and Deb Richards and all our VOLUNTEERS for their efforts to open our new location. There was countless hours of volunteer time and supply donations!! THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU
  - Deidre discussed several small projects left to complete (Mike A. here now doing some of those)
  - Kiln in art room still needs electrical work (the hardwiring in wall etc. was already done)
  - A few outlets and light switches throughout the building need to be fixed
  - Health inspector- provided a packet that needs to be complete and sent to the State of NH (Mr. Politio) will complete this
  - Plumbing inspector- Men's room need a few repairs to make ADA approved (this will be sent to Brooks properties for review). Non urgent but will need to be done. Petition b/t urinals needs to be enlarged.
  - Egress door is complete- outside work still needs to be completed- Brooks Properties is still working on this. Don will follow up.
  - Electrical panels in the hallway need to be locked
  - Phone System - 4 classrooms still need phones. Don will contact company. (Mike Conlon is still working on this- is here tonight)
  - Thank you to Gary Harris for his work and efforts to prepare the school for opening. Don plans to reach out to him to identify his future availability

- Kiln room- Don has a contact for a Kiln Company to determine building status of this. Jason Swift has a contact with ceramics professor at Plymouth State- Don will email him questions.
- Plumbing work in art room (Renia has contact that is available after 9/23)
- Theatre room- Mike Smith will do light electrical work on this. Floor needs to be placed and a second coat of purple paint. Bill V. is working on this. Dave Sarrett who hung the TV's and he has volunteered to place the sound system. Risers need to be placed (Wagner Company)
- Curriculum Requirements for Graduation- State of NH requires 20 credits for graduation. Our current program of study lists 20 credits plus six arts credits (26 total). This needs to be reworded for clarification and adjusted for transfers. The focus on all classes will remain integrating the arts. Melanie made a motion to revise the current program of studies to reflect graduation requirements to read: The minimum graduation requirement is 20 credits as per NH State requirements plus 1 art credit per semester that the student attends GSAA- seconded by Kate approved by all. Ken Dunne abstained
  - Perhaps an idea of a capstone project was discussed as a potential graduation requirement as well (Tony and Jason Swift will continue to research this idea).
- HOS Report/Update from Don
  - Early Dismissal policy- Discussed. Mr. Politio is working on a revised schedule that will move the extension period (so that this time is better utilized for learning- faculty is working on additional ideas for this time) to avoid excessive early dismissals for unnecessary reasons. Mr. Politio would like to support senior students leaving for employment and arriving late (if study period) and if schedule allows and they are in good academic standing. Any policy/schedule change must meet time in learning per the NH DOE.
  - Drivers Education- Some students are leaving early for this class. Discussed. Mr. Politio will review these on a case by case basis. Every effort should be made to take these classes on the weekends and evenings if possible.
  - Senior Privilege- Amy made a motion to approve the following: Seniors that are academically/disciplinary eligible and passing their classes with a quarterly review may petition the head of school to leave during the last period of the day or arrive for 2nd period if their schedules allows, they must be present for at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the academic day. The discretion of any decisions regarding eligibility will be decided by the head of school in collaboration of the faculty. Seconded by Melanie and approved by all. Mr. Politio will develop this form and require parental permission.
  - Enrollment promotion- Enrollment currently at 137. 139 on the first day (was projected at 144, a few did not arrive on first day). Conservative budget was based on 150 students. Renia discussed promotion ideas. Next adequacy is 11/1- need to increase enrollment #'s by then. A formal open house will be planned (?10/2). Renia will create another facebook ad. A chamber ribbon cutting for new building will be planned. ? Monthly open houses. Melanie will research secondary school fairs. REach out to Birches academy.

- Patrick O'Day (legal advisor)- will plan additional board training to strengthen the knowledge of current and future members.
- Strategic planning meeting- plan prior to Thanksgiving. Melanie will create a moodle to assess board availability.
- Budget Report
  - Bank accounts have been transferred to Enterprise Bank for the most part.
  - Grant will be submitted for September
  - Adequacy should be deposited soon.
  - No current issues with budget
- Head of school- Updates and feedback re: opening of school
  - "ship going out to see analogy"- 3 phases. Reshaping culture
  - Scheduling issues- schedule made in the spring has been fragile. Over 100 schedule changes have been made.
    - Curriculum review process to review all classes (what meets requirements and what will work into schedule)
  - New culture regarding structure ongoing and will take time
  - Attendance 97.2%- tardies are running stable 10-12 per day. Mr. Politio has called all absent students.
  - Teachers are working extremely hard. Students are ramping up.
- PSAT and SAT results- good scores for year 2- efforts to increase these ongoing.
  - SAT at GSAA 969 (NH 1027)
  - PSAT at GSAA 958 (NH 992)
- Extension block scheduling- will be changed to better utilize this time for "learning hours"
- Advisor- Advisee planning- Areas of mission will addressed to gather data to share with community and DOE. Student/ staff feedback and collaboration during extension and advisory time. Staff is embracing this.
- Melanie asked plans for SAT prep class. Mr. Politio thought this was a good idea- practice will be done during the school day and perhaps a class after school. A way of community outreach as well. Mr. Politio will reach out to staff to express interest.
- Melanie discussed volunteer efforts- Mr. Politio suggested co-chairs (1 employee and 1 staff member). Mr. Politio will work on this.
- Public comment: Paul Sevigny- would like to thank Renia, Deb and Deidre for their countless hours and dedication to the opening of the new building.
  - Music room discussion- the board should look at current room status if more classrooms are needed in the future. Will be discussed at strategic planning meeting.
  - Paul asked a question about graduation requirements- discussed
  - Melanie would like to acknowledge Paul's volunteer efforts
- Rob made a motion to go into closed session based on RSA 91 A:3 (A-J) 8:40pm
- Returned to open session- 8:53 pm
- Closed Session vote: · Ken Dunne made a motion to pay legal \$2500 for services rendered- seconded by Rob and approved by all

- New school logo discussed- Kate Russell will work with marketing company to improve current design proposals of the new logo. Thank you Kate. Kate will reports results to board for review.
- 2 candidates for BoT- Kelly Twiss and Alica Nelson. Discussed. Rob made a motion to approve Kelly Twiss and Alicia Nelson to the GSAA board of trustees, seconded by Judy and approved by all. Don will reach out to both candidates.
- Melanie Holden has resigned from the board of trustees effective the end of this meeting
- Adjourned: 9:00 pm
- Next Meeting date: September 27th @ 6pm