



Granite State Arts Academy

Board of Trustees Meeting

April 9, 2019

6pm @ GSAA

Attendance: Don Erdbrink, Tony Polito, Jeff Marquis, Alison Gangler, Robin Calitri, Paula Trout, Michelle Barrow

Guests: Jim Hollingsworth and Karen Drago

Called to order: 6:05 pm

Public Comment:

- Ms. Drago asked for more details about the Instagram issue. Mr. Polito described the steps taken, contacting the Salem police, emails to parents of school, discussion with students, students were encouraged to let the issue go and the students were told to discontinue posting. Mr. Marquis asked whether this situation could lend itself to a policy in the future about social media.
- Approval of minutes from last meeting
- Ms. Barrows made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting from March 5th. Mr. Calitri seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

HoS Report:

DOE Report - Renewal date is Thursday, 4/11/19. Mr. Polito was asked to analyze the standardized testing over the last five years.

- Motility - The motility is high, about 55%. When the students take the test, many are students who come from elsewhere or haven't been at the school for all four years. The state is using the mean score of the SAT. The data showed the students doing above average in English but below in Math and Science. To show longitudinal growth, it would be necessary to test the students each year at the school.
- Standardized Testing - Mr. Polito would also like to have an entrance test to place entering 9th grade students.

Treasurer's Report:

- Projected Post Gala Budget - final from the gala is 34K which is a \$9763 increase over last year. The school still has five days at the Games of Chance and hoping this will bring in more funds. Discussion about Lines of Credit held by the school. Mr. Erdbrink suggested holding a budget meeting next week.
- ACH update – Funds Collection update - Funds Collection update: \$4070; outstanding funds to still be collected to be confirmed with Ms. Radziszewski. Ms. Barrows called the senior parents of students who still owe fees and the fees should be coming in.
- Enrollment - Enrollment for next year is projected to be 119. If that number maintains, the enrollment could grow. Currently enrolled at 120. The two heavy enrollment periods are in June and around Labor Day, beginning of the school year. Next year will be the school's fourth year in Salem which is helping the increase the school's branding in the community.

Current breakdown of students across the grades:

9th grade: 29

10th grade: 29

11th grade: 26

12th grade 36

Strong projections for next year's enrollment.

9th grade: 27

10th grade: 31

11th grade: 35

12th grade: 26

Other Business - none

Teachers Representative:

- Dental Plan - Mr. Erdbrink presented to staff a proposed dental plan but has not yet received feedback.

Chair's Report:

- DOE Renewal Visit - discussed earlier in the meeting. The team going to the renewal meeting is made up of Mr. Polito, Mr. Erdbrink, Ms. Radziszewski, Ms. Smith, and they will be in Concord on Thursday.
- Fees Policy - Ms. Drago met with Mr. Erdbrink to discuss the fees with proposed changes made in bold print on the GSAA Art Fee Policy. The changes are aimed to enforce the policy more strictly. The board amended the proposed document according to suggestions from the board. Mr. Polito mentioned that all new students need to sign the contract to pay the fees, arrange payment plans, or else the student is not allowed to attend the school.

- Mr. Calitri made a motion to accept the policy as amended. Ms. Trout seconded the motion, all approved and the motion was carried, discussion followed.
 - Mr. Erdbrink made suggestions to change the wording of the policy. The policy needs to be signed by both the parents and the students so show acknowledgement (student) and agreement (parent). The group discussed possible solutions in the case of financial hardship.
 - Mr. Marquis made a motion to accept the amendment to remove the volunteer hours from the policy. Mr. E. seconded the motion and all agreed, the motion was carried.
 - Mr. Erdbrink asked if there was any further discussion.
 - Mr. Erdbrink made a motion to accept the Art Fee Policy as amended. Ms. Trout seconded the motion, all approved and the motion was carried.
- Strategic Plan goals review – Timeline discussion was tabled.
 - Beatles Fundraiser - This is a fundraiser suggested by Mr. Hazzard who knows a group of musicians that put on a show of a Beatles revival. They will do two shows for \$1500 each show. This fundraising event would be held in October or November. The board voiced concern about the size of the venue and the ability to make money on the fundraiser. Mr. Polito suggested that the board needs more information and data to make a decision, whether the group can provide a video. The board suggested discussing this in a future meeting.

Closed session

A motion was made by Mr. Marquis to enter into closed session, and was seconded by Ms. Tout, the motion was carried and all approved.

Going into Closed session as per RSA 91A:3(A-J) 7:54pm

- The board discussed staffing and contracts for the next academic year.

Mr. Marquis made a motion to close out of close session. Ms. Barrow seconded the motion, all approved and the motion was carried.

New Business *

Wrap Up and Adjourn:

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:19. Ms. Trout made a motion to adjourn the meeting and this was seconded by Mr. Marquis, all approved and the motion was carried.

* All new business items will be put in the agenda for and discussed at the next meeting

