



Granite State Arts Academy

Board of Trustees Meeting

June 11, 2019

6pm @ GSAA

Attendance: Don Erdbrink, Tony Polito, Jeff Marquis, Alison Gangler, Renia, Paula Trout, Michelle Barrow, Leah Rogers, Frank Sharlow, Jaimie McFarland

Called to order: 6:00 pm

Public Comment:

- Approval of minutes from last meeting
- Ms. Trout made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting from May 14th. Mr. Marquis 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.

- All seniors graduated, failures are down
- Possible hiring of SPED position
- Head of School would like to discuss Goals at the Fall meeting

Treasurer's Report:

- For the 19-20 School Year: Adequacy figures:
 - Per pupil = \$7188.00 per student
 - Additional funding to be voted on in the House over the summer
 - Potential for more per pupil: \$370
 - And Rent aid for up to 30% or 30K annually
- Enrollments: 106 scheduled plus possible 15 students who are in the process of enrolling. Starting with 121 students which could increase in September.

Teachers Representative:

- Dental Plan - 3 options were discussed, Mr. Sharlow mentioned that he is paying less on his own, no feedback from staff,
- Mr. Erdbrink suggested a HSA account to help teachers.
- Update on Computers: faculty computers will be purchased, older laptops will be refurbished and added with Linux and donated laptops will be requested from Autodesk.

Chair's Report:

- Terms for Board / New Board members: Robin and Leah's terms have expired. The board extends heartfelt thanks to both for their wonderful help and time on the board. Conversations have been held about expanding the board to 11 people to help with sub-committees. New recruits for the board are needed: parents, teachers, and educators; maybe have a meeting over the summer to discuss this further.
- The bylaws mention also having a student rep (student gov rep), art teacher and another academic teacher representative. Mr. Marquis asked if it could be a past student.
- Lead Testing: Required by state to do lead testing. Quotes \$400 fee + per faucet or \$25 per faucet, no fee. Cost will be \$210.
- Marketing Update: Film has been shot for the PR video including scenes from: graduation, interviews, dance program, survey, all ready to go. Currently the video is being edited. We'll receive 6 short (social media) and one long for website. Thurs, 2pm, a reporter from Union Leader will be coming to interview about the renewal.

Committees for next year:

- Facilities committee, list of other committees, suggested having reports from groups at each meeting. Members can be on more than one committee. Ms. Rogers mentioned that it's important to include all kinds of members from the school community, parents, students, etc., so that the committees have a wide range of participation and experiences. The committees should report to the head of Board prior to board meetings to be prepared.
- Mr. Polito also reminded that the DOE suggested involving the Superintendent of schools in Salem to be included in committees. Current work with staff in Salem is going well.
- Summer Facilities Committee – Work to be done this summer: will send email out to discuss payment to Ms. Richards. Board agreed to pay her.
- Board training – fall retreat - to hold a training session in the fall, set the tone in the year. Mr. E. suggested a weekend, 6 hours a day on a weekend after the first meeting. Bring in a trainer/facilitator. Mr. E. and Ms. Rogers suggested holding the training off-site.

- Insurance: Currently using Liberty Mutual. Working with Fred C. Cross who is experienced with Charter Schools across NH and received quotes from Hanover. Recommended to have an Umbrella policy and still save money on the yearly premium. Will be Paying about 5K in deductible; still saving money. Ms. Rogers suggested asking about the deductible which seems high. Also suggested asking for comparisons of rates/deductible to weigh which would be advantageous to select.
- Ms. Rogers made a motion to allow Mr. Erdbrink to negotiate the new insurance with Hanover, comparing a 5K deduction. with a 2.5K deduction. and which would be advantageous, negotiate up to the current premium cost. Ms. Trout seconded the motion, all in favor. The motion carried.

Closed session:

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

Going into Closed session as per RSA 91A:3(A-J) 7:13pm

Discussing staff contracts and conditions of the contracts.

Going back to Open Session:

Motion to accept addendum to contracts as presented in closed session. Mr. McFarland seconded the motion, all in favor, motion was carried.

New Business *

Members were asked to suggest new board members; update by email by end of July and August.

Wrap Up and Adjourn:

Wrap Up and Adjourn: 7:20 pm closed meeting.

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