



## **Granite State Arts Academy**

Board of Trustees Meeting

October 8th, 2019

6pm @ GSAA

**Attendance: Don Erdbrink, Tony Polito, Alison Gangler, Michelle Barrow, Frank Sharlow, Jeff Marquis, Mary-Jo Conlon, Jaimie MacFarland**

Called to order: 6:00 pm

Public Comment:

- Approval of Minutes from Last meeting
- Mr. Marquis made a motion to approve the minutes of September 10. Ms. Conlon seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

### **HoS Report:**

- Mr. Polito discussed his proposal to add the 8th grade, starting with 20 students.
- Specifically, this proposal would attract 8th grade students from parochial and private schools who could benefit from the program at GSAA. This would give them additional time to ramp up to High School level academics with support in the 8th grade program. This would allow the school to increase the value of the curriculum for students as they progress through the school, adding additional honors classes in the upper class levels.
- Specific classes to be offered: English, Math, Science and study skills/computer skills, broad topic arts class (overview of art, theater, music and dance, every quarter)
- With the additional grade level, it would be possible to increase the pool of students for extracurricular activities, for shows, dance proposals etc.
- Remediation courses would be available where needed and resource materials might need to be purchased for these classes. This would improve the quality of the 9th grade and improve the math and science levels of the school.
- No additional staff needed at this point. Future additions would be made to staff numbers as more honors courses would be added.

Mr. MacFarland made a motion to revise the charter to add the 8th grade pending faculty approval as put forth by HoS, Mr. Polito. Ms. Conlon seconded the motion, all approved and the motion was carried.

- Mr. Polito also discussed the School Procedures for attendance and other policies

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Mr. Marquis provided a summary of the Treasurer's report. See attached link to the report [here](#).
- ACH and Paid in full are helping to reduce the deficit.

### **Teachers Representative:**

No new items to discuss.

### **Chair's Report:**

- Busing letter response: Response from Mr. Delahanty and the school qualifies for Salem students. The hours are dependent on the Salem bus schedules, 6:20 am and ending 2:15pm. The logistics are to be worked out with parents contacting the Salem school district. This can now be publicized at the Open House, on 10/15/19.
- Salem Festival / Chamber Dinner: Mr. Erdbrink attended both events and was able to give interviews with the cable TV for Salem at the Salem Festival. Parents, Ms. Conlon and Ms. Gangler also gave short interviews with the cable TV.
- Mr. Erdbrink also connected with a local Subaru dealership to discuss a possible sponsorship. Met with regional rep from Eagle Tribune; met the director of Manchester Airport who offered to accept artwork for a display at the airport.
- 8th Grade: Discussed above in the HoS report above.

### **Fundraising Events Update / Board Member Goals for Year:**

- The suggestion was made that board members each get a table with 10 people to attend. Board members to search for sponsorships at local businesses.
- Mr. Marquis suggested special pricing for parents of students attending as opposed to other coming from the outside.

### **Fall Festival:**

- The students decided to cancel the event, but to make an in-school event. The students would like to propose a Spring-Fling with a road race and the landlord has already approved. Also, they proposed a Winter Festival, with an art work theme for art, jewelry, etc.
- Mr. Sharlow suggested hosting a student art show, inviting students from other schools. Ms. Barrows suggested holding this in the spring instead of winter. The group discussed the advantages of holding the Spring Fling/road race together with the Art Festival inviting schools.

### **Art fee waiver:**

- Ms. Barrows asked about waiving the art fee for out of state students who already pay tuition. Mr. Polito and Mr. Erdbrink suggested increasing tuition to \$7500 and having the fee be included. This would apply to new MA students starting in September 2020.
- Ms. Barrows suggested offering a discount for students who bring in an additional student who stays at the school. The group suggested increasing the tuition. To be discussed at the next meeting.
- Mr. Polito suggested offering a reduced tuition if a student comes in from out of state for the 8th grade.

Mary Ann's Diner Advert:

- This advertisement would cost \$1395 for 3 years and the school ad would be laminated on 24 tables in the Salem restaurant. The group was concerned that people might not pay attention to the ad. Mr. Marquis suggested asking whether they could offer any other advertising options.

Board training – fall retreat dates:

- Mr Erdbrink suggested sending out a Sign-up Genius for possible board training dates. Mr. Polito will contact a colleague to come and give training for board members on a Saturday, 6-8 hours. Ms. Friend will setup the signup Genius and Mr. Polito will contact his friend.

**Closed session:**

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

Going into Closed session as per RSA 91A:3(A-J) 7:39 pm

Going back to Open Session:

**New Business \***

**Wrap Up and Adjourn:**

Wrap Up and Adjourn: 7:57 pm closed meeting.

Mr. MacFarland 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

