Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Date: March 14, 2016

Held at: The Birches Academy
419 South Broadway, Salem NH

Present: Kara Christesen (Chair), Alyssa Ross (Secretary), Dael Angelico-Hart (HOS), Dianne Wright (Co-Treasurer), Christine Miele, Jody Ronayne (Co-Treasurer), Andy Ducharme, Nicole Charest (Teacher Representative), Erin McArdle (Teacher Representative)

Regrets: Jessica Wachsman, Christie Storniolo, Alexa Stewart

Public: John Griffin

KC called meeting to order at 6:36 PM

1. John Griffin in attendance to consider joining as a public board member
2. Student Share. Cameron Madden from Seedlings 1. Extension of the biography project, done via sculpture time, on Neil Armstrong.
3. Meeting Minutes from 2/15/16
    - AR motions to approve minutes, DW seconds. All in favor. None opposed.
4. No correspondence.
5. Finance Update
    - Reviewed Fiscal YTD expenses
        i. Looked at overages, especially technology. Expect that we will have more technology expenses forthcoming as the original laptops are getting old. Furniture was higher due to K expenses. Property insurance was much higher than expected; out of our control.
        ii. Noticed some other overages. DW took the notes to share with JW to get clarifications; JW will review and we will approve the Jan/Feb actuals in the next meeting.
    - Reviewed first pass at 2016-17 budget. No major questions but will move the approval to the next meeting.
6. Head of School Update
    - No change to enrollment numbers (221)

- Ran the Middle School Spotlight tour on March 10; only 3 families attended but one decided to start now. Will do a specific Middle School Spotlight tour next year as well.
- Scheduled a drug awareness program for the 7th/8th graders but it has to get rescheduled. We were not told of the cancelation and SPD have not replied, which DW feels may be a sign of a bigger issue in getting them to recognize that we need equal attention.
- 3 teams competed in Destination Imagination on March 12. Teams did well but did not advance, though they ranked well in several areas like Instant Challenge.
- Rescheduled vision testing took place today by the Lion's Club. Parents whose kids need further evaluation will get letters.
- Started practice testing for Smarter Balanced in Saplings then Sprouts. Technology is improved from last year.
- Charter School Day is this Friday, March 18.
- Salem Public School released the calendar and we continue to follow as closely as possible. First day of school is a Tuesday, August 30. Will look to do a Welcome Back picnic on Monday, August 29. Reconsidering the schedule for November as the week of Nov 7 has 3 days off (teacher in service M, election day T, Veteran's Day F). Also need to look at the June dates to confirm number of school days. DAH to update.

7. No Outreach update.
8. No Foundation update, except that AS will start to take over that role now that MM has resigned from the BBOT.
9. New Business.
    - Board members
        i. CM sent Mike Gendreau all the paperwork; he did confirm he is going to move forward with the process.
        ii. Former Salem teacher John Griffin is considering being a public member; working with KC.
        iii. Brian Baker is also being asked regarding his interest.
        iv. Enterprise Bank has also said that they may consider assigning someone.
    - June BBOT meeting will change from June 13 to June 21 (a Tuesday). KC to ask JW to add the next 3 meetings to the calendar.
    - Will add Succession Planning to the April agenda.
10. No public comment.

DW motions to approve minutes, AD seconds. All in favor. None opposed.
8:24 meeting adjourned**.**