

Minutes
Granite State Arts Academy Board Meeting
April 23,2015
6:00 p.m.
16 Route 111, Building 4, Derry NH 03038

Meeting Come to Order: 6:14 pm

Attendance: Amy Sevigny, Kate Russell, Jennifer Minicucci, Scott Mullane, Mark Bograd,

Guest: Matt Southerton, Sheri Torosian (staff), Henry Minicucci (student), Rebecca Stewart (student), Paul Sevigny (parent)

Excused: Stephanie Libby, Don Erdbrink, Melanie Holden

Public Comment: none at this time

- Kate made a motion to approve minutes from April 16, 2015
- Jennifer discussed board roles and terms
- Scott made a motion to take a two year term and be interim treasurer – seconded by Kate and approved by all
- Kate Russell is 2 year term- as outreach and communications
- Jennifer Minicucci offered to do 1 year term and offered to do interim vice chair- motion by Kate- seconded by Scott and approved by all
- School mission reviewed and read by Jennifer
- Matt Southerton introduced- discussed that he will be taking a look at our books and to give advice
- Treasurer’s Report- per Scott non available- new updates below by Mr. Bograd
- Fundraising Report (10 mins)- Stephanie not here at this time
- Head of School’s Report –inserted with additions during meeting

***** Mr. Mark Bograd*****

Board of Trustees Meeting

April 23, 2015

Head of School Report

- Students and Staff are continuing to follow the vision and mission and continuing stay positive.
- Bianca is facilitating the Graduation Committee to organize our first graduation event for Saturday, June 6th

Curriculum

- Based on time and financial issues, we have postponed work with Kim Carter and Competency Based Learning. Depending on our situation we will start up again this summer. We hadn't signed a contract with her yet, so we are not obligated to pay until we re-visit our professional development work ** Mark discussed Mc2 has offered possible merger*****
- Bianca will be training on Powerschool during school vacation. Once she goes through that, we will begin the transition from ALMA to Powerschool with all of our administrative and scheduling needs.
- Juniors did a great job with our first Smarter Balanced testing. That you to Bonnie for proctoring the entire testing process. We will get the results in October. NECAP Science testing will be in the middle of May.

Facilities

- Copier- will be replaced (2 weeks)- on return from vacation- being paid from grant

Staff

- Mark got an email from parent Jessica Purdy- spoke with governor today- She was told our early ending of May 29th has been approved- Mark has not received official word. Governor also shared with this parent that the teachers may not volunteer their time.
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Enrollment and Outreach

- Current number of students is 53. 15 Confirmed attending in the fall. Many of those who are waiting to commit are asking if we are going to be open. 27 including the 15 applications.
- As of Monday April 20, 2015 we do not have a business manager- Mark, Bianca, Renia and Matt will work on this segment as of now
- >21,000 in donations since Thursday
- Only bills that have been paid propane (partial), phone and electric (partial), visiting artist has been paid through payball. Many other outstanding bills- all contacts have been reached by Mark and staff and outreach continues- no money in budget at this time- all will go to salaries

*****End insert*****

- A. Teacher Contracts- Jennifer discussed we are not able to commit to this until a clear picture of financial status. Mark discussed staff would like an answer. Board would like to give answer asap but until more donation income comes in we are not able to answer this
- Old Business (15 mins)
 - A. Status of Lease Agreement- Mark has spoke with Joe F. twice this week- update not available at this time- many options are on the

table-still waiting for an answer. Kate discussed a real-estate attorney contact. Matt suggested that this was a good idea to explain the current situation. Possible church location in Derry- Scott will explore this further. Kate will pass on her information she has gathered.

- B. School Code- for donation matching – the state does this and NCES approves and will not be given until this summer (need for matching and grants)
- New Business
 - A. Future Families- this question was asked by Bianca- Mark stated calls are coming in daily, discussion on action plan. It is obviously our goal to be open in the fall. Still awaiting donations as outlined in last weeks meeting to complete this year- Mark will communicate update with current families on Friday and weekly.
 - B. Deadline for Confirming SY '15-16- Mark discussed we should have an answer no later than mid June (June 15th) – hopefully before
 1. What does this hinge on? - Lease info (situation), we need to know gap – per Mark enough in bank to pay salary for next week and a few bills. More bills coming in daily. 10,000/month in bills average plus rent. Per contract June 13th last day for teachers. More donations will become available if we can guarantee if we will be open, enrollment numbers, how much money will we need over the summer. Budget for next year based on current 68 + students.
 2. Discussed communication with families- we need at least 10,000 more just to cover salary. We need to communicate when we get the official notification of closing early, we are not able to get 20,000 (grant) back from professional development, we are still waiting for answer from landlord, teachers can not work for free and we need more money now. Amy and Mark will work on this.
 3. Determine who will take responsibility for various tasks
 - a. Matt will look for attorney to negotiate lease- Kate will email contacts and information she has gathered to him – Jennifer will discuss negotiations
 - b. Matt will continue with communication with the state for us
 - c. Scott will be researching other locations, get copy of the lease
 - d. Stephanie will continue to work on fundraising
 - e. Mark will send out email update tomorrow
 - f. Kate will be crafting a new video
 - g. Continue to work on enrollment- all

- h. Matt will provide projections with reasonable numbers
- Public comment- Paul Sevigny- suggested that the board is being to gentle with the parents, need to be more black and white with request, tell them if we do not get donations then the school will possibly close? This was outlined at last weeks meeting that \$47,000 was needed- not even half of that has been raised
 - Ms. Torosian suggested it be positive
 - Henry -has heard from other students- that parents are willing to donate if we can give them an answer about next year
- I. Wrap Up and Adjourn
 - A. Review of Action Items- as above
 - B. Next meeting date/time/location confirmation- Thursday April 30th @ 6pm
- Kate made a motion to adjourn – seconded by Amy and approved by all

Adjournment: 7:39 pm