

Granite State Arts Academy
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 7, 2015

Granite State Arts Academy nurtures creative thinkers, active citizens, and independent learners with a curriculum that integrates the arts and academics. Our Vision is a high school that is dedicated to the arts. It will appeal to a broad cross section of students who are looking to discover the joy and transformational power of the arts and those interested in pursuing the arts in a professional setting. Our academic courses will strive to instill a sincere lifelong desire to learn. Students will explore real world problems, simultaneously developing cross-curriculum skills while working in small collaborative groups. During their time at GSAA students will attend art classes each day and will study at least two of the following studies: Dance, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts. This will allow for personalized learning, creating conditions where students' talents can flourish. This positive approach to educating will empower students to dream and create every day.

ATTENDANCE: AMY SEVIGNY, STEPHANIE LIBBY, MELANIE HOLDEN, MARK BOGRAD, DON ERDBRINK, KATE RUSSELL, SCOTT MULLANE, JENNIFER M

GUEST: BARBARA DESAHAIES (PARENT), KEITH WENTWORTH (PARENT), MARY JO CONLON (PARENT) RENE MARTINEZ (STAFF), RENIA R

EXCUSED: NONE

- Meeting called to order by Mr. Erdbrink- 6:08pm- school mission read by Don
- Public Comment
 - Barbara Desahaies- would like to observe meeting and then ask questions
- Approval of April 30th, 2015 Minutes- Scott made a motion to approve meeting minutes from 4/30/2015 – seconded by Melanie and approved by all
- Chair's Report
 - Letter from commissioner received – to end the school year May 29,2015
 - Meeting with landlord- Don and Mark meet with Joe F- he would like more of a projection. He did indicate that he would like to work with us and wanted to know at what point (year) to meet full rent- Don replied unknown based on admission numbers. CAM fees not addressed at this meeting. Don asked him to suspend or credit arrears on the rent- no answer on that yet. Next step- reach out to Matt to get projections
 - We need projections from Matt Sutherland (he has provided a number of \$85,000 for rent- what we can afford).
 - Discussed other possible locations still an option if one is found and is affordable.
 - Don will reach out to Joe again in the am.

- Projections for next year- 15 confirmed students- 50 + applicants waiting on confirmation- we have a new electronic registration system (6 new applications since this in 24 hours)
- Letter from Commissioner- as above (we have this on file) End date of May 29,2015.
- Meeting with the Landlord Representative- as above
- Summer at GSAA – Schedule / Days open
 - Possible summer camps/programs
 - Mark suggested that July school will close- registration and guidance – possibly 1 day/week. August scheduling and registration. This is tbd. Yard sales etc. can coordinate with open houses/tours.
- Status of Allowable Grant Expenditures Discussion /Alternatives?
 - Don spoke with Michelle about expenditures – staff for curriculum development (? would this be June or August to prep for upcoming school year). Federal grant can not be used to pay salary.
- Year ending May 29- need 14 more hours- Monday – Thursday ending at 4:15 and Friday’s now ending at 3:30 with more instructional time. This eliminates the need for Saturday session. This change starts this Friday.
- Graduation June 6, 2015- committee is working on this
- Fundraising Report – per Stephanie on GSAA Facebook family page- GSAA family match challenge. Fidelity charitable check came in for \$250- Stephanie will follow up. Grant proposals sent out last week (no response yet). Stephanie will try Northeastern credit union. School number will come in July for matching. Charitable thank you letters have been sent out. 20 families that have not contributed money (38%). A parent at the meeting (would like to remain anonymous) will pledge up to \$1,000 to match the donations to the families who have not donated yet. Donor kits have been sent out- and follow-ups are ongoing- some have been resent. Upcoming event- ice-cream/art auction. Mother’s day raffle, fathers day raffle, fisher cats tickets, Stephanie will explore debt reduction grant she saw on another schools page. 99-meal night (June 3rd)- ticket no up front costs.
- Head of School’s Report: \$13, 152.88 in (need \$16,250) for next payroll – \$2,000 in donations just given by member of the board (Kate and Jennifer) to go to the 22nd of May payroll. Additional \$1000 from a board members family will be coming in this week (Amy) Need \$8,125 to get through the 29th of and additional \$8,125 to complete that payroll.
- Next meeting date/time/location confirmation: Thursday May 14 at 6 pm.
- Scott made a motion to go into closed session- seconded by Melanie and approved by all by roll call- per RSA laws to discuss contracts.
- Returned to open session- Scott made a motion to adjourn meeting: 9:00pm