

Granite State Arts Academy
Board of Trustees Meeting
January 31, 2017

Attendance: Amy Sevigny, Kate Russell, Judy David, Leah Rogers (guest- potential board member), Don Erdbrink, Rob Solomons, Deidre Smith, Alicia Nelson, Sheri Callahan (staff), Anthony Polito, Jason Swift (on the phone), Renia R (partial meeting), Kelli Twiss (partial meeting), Bill Viau (staff, partial meeting)

Excused: Ken Dunne

-Call to order: 6:09 pm

-Public Comment : None

-Approval of Minutes from Last meeting- 12/9/16. Tabled until the next meeting when more of the board has had a chance to review

-Introduction -- New Board Member: Leah Rogers introduced herself and expressed her interest to join the board. Leah is an employee at Enterprise Bank.

-Chair's Report

-Games of Chance fundraiser - \$22,836 for 7 days worth of gambling days. Kate mentioned that there is a new poker room opening in Salem, NH (this is a possibility for future opportunities). Kate will pass this information onto Renia.

- "Discovery" discussion – Sheri Callahan presented that we have been using a trial period with Discovery Education. This is the curriculum being used in current health class as a supplement to create lesson plans (health streaming and supplemental) but trial membership has ended. The membership would be available to staff and students in all classes as supplement to current curriculum. She is suggesting that we buy a membership as the trial membership has completed. Includes information on National Standards for the topics. Price proposal - \$1,500/year- no restrictions- this is a school subscription. Kate made a motion to approve \$1,500 for a membership to Discovery Education, seconded by Rob and approved by all. Health supplement also available for an additional \$700- Sheri will research this further. Mr. Polito does not recommend this piece at this time. Mr. Polito feels all staff can benefit from this.

- Sheri Callahan discussed health content letter that is sent to the parents in the health class. These topics are required by the State of NH for the health class graduation requirements.

- Sheri Callahan discussed injury prevention portion of health class this does not include CPR certification. The NHS would like to get CPR certified. Sheri participated in the Salem, NH fire department class American Heart Association (\$15 for 2 year certification)- this is recommended as an after school class. Salem Fire Department has offered to come in to teach this class.

- IBCP discussion- staff has had 2-3 meetings. Deidre Smith and Mr. Polito presented feedback

from the staff. A Pro and Con listed was developed and discussed. The faculty meet with a staff member from Bedford High school as they are currently using this program. Mr. Caletri (IB consultant) is meeting with the staff on Friday. The staff voted - agree (9), disagree (1) and are looking forward to meeting with Mr. Caletri on Friday. The BoT will continue to explore and wait for further feedback from the staff and administration. Alicia suggested that this should be incorporated into current working strategic plan

-School 5 Year Review delay- review was due to be completed during the 2017/2018 school year- state Department of Education has delayed this by 1 year d/t staffing at the State level. Our staff and administration will continue to prepare for this as we a constantly evaluating and strengthening our processes.

-Student Population Increase- Our current charter is approved for 160 students. The State has asked us if we would like to expand the school. We are in active enrollment period with an upcoming deadline. Don suggested that we increase our charter to 180 students. We have enough interested applicants for a lottery opportunity for the freshman and sophomore classes. The building and staffing would accommodate this. Mr. Polito suggests creating attrition bubbles in the 9th and 10th grade when working these numbers. This would allow GSAA to accept more interested students. This has the potential to increase class sizes slightly. More staff would potentially be needed to meet these increased numbers. Alicia made a motion that we put a request into the NH DOE to increase our charter to 180 students, seconded by Kate and approved by all.

- Honorarium – Music Performance from India Week. Peter Hazard requested a small monetary payment for the music performer that performed at the music performance during the India immersion week. Kelli made a motion to pay this performer \$200, seconded by Rob and approved by all

- Space - usage and fees- Don suggested that we have a sub committee that looks at this and works out the details to this (application, fee, contract, master calendar etc.) Alicia and Don will work on this.

-Internet Issues at the school - There has been issues- system crashing etc... Michael Smith has a contact who has offered his time to analyze this.

- Bill Viau- discussed lighting console that is needed. He will need to rent one for \$120 for the upcoming show. Bill would like a petty cash budget for the theatre program, perhaps funded by the previous shows. Judy made a motion to provide the theatre department with a petty cash up to \$500 per show that the theatre coordinator will track for auditing purposes seconded by Kate and approved by all.

- Financial update: current bank numbers presented. No current issues. Art fees- collected approx. from ½ student body- reminders have gone out. Renia and administration staff is working on the language for these requests. Art fees and MA tuition is essential to the backbone of financial stability.

- Gala- upcoming Friday March 24th. Please share!

-Lottery Rules - Rob and Don are working on the wording to present at next BoT meetings. Renia and Tony and admissions staff in conjunction with with Rob, Kelli and Don are working on the admission process wording for the website and future publications.

- Head of School- Mr. Polito presented
 - Mr. Polito discussed events and happenings of GSAA at the halfway point of 2016/17. General comments, academics, student life and school highlights including upcoming events. Staff and administration are working hard to make GSAA strong and viable for years to come.

Closed Session- Kate made a motion to go into closed session based on RSA 91 A:3 (A-J) @ 8:24 pm, seconded by Rob

Returned to open session @8:45 pm

- a motion was made to approve Leah Rogers to join the board during closed session- Don will contact her

Next meeting date

- Strategic planning 2/7 @ 6pm
- BoT meeting- 2/21 @ 6pm

Meeting adjourned: 8:50 pm