

GFA Board Meeting

Date: February 13, 2017; 6:30 pm

Location: GFA

Attendees: Michelle Arnold, Steve Hepburn, Loren Pankratz, Brittany Bekins, Brent Petersen

Guests: Matt Lovell, Clint Bessinger, Adrien Ben

Taking Minutes: Michelle Arnold

Prayer: At 6:37 Loren Pankratz opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of Minutes: Brittany Bekins motioned to approve the minutes from January's meeting. Loren Pankratz seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion approved.

Open Forum/Updates

Business Administration

- Clint Bessinger explained investment grade and the state moral obligation bonding program in Utah. Also, explained his perspective on GFA being borderline on being able to qualify for the moral obligation program. He suggested that everything GFA can control is financially good, but typically six or seven years of business would be required for qualifying for the higher bond rating. He offered to be GFAs FA and put together a more in depth analysis. The board has decided to look at the other FA option in the state before making a decision. Red Apple will arrange to have a representative attend the next board meeting (Dave Robertson).
- Budget/Red Apple/Treasurer Report: Matt Lovell went over the status of the budget with the board. As of January 31st the Operating Margin is now at 3.0%, Debt Service Coverage is 1.24, Days Cash on Hand at 111. Ratios are down and cash on hand is up. Matt Lovell suggested a new budget be approved next month, and then approve final budget at the end of the year. Increase in local rental – facility rental and lunch sales. Special education expenses being watched and may exceed budget.
- Michelle Arnold explained how Stepping Stones had been affected by the reopening of Refuge Academy. Michelle Arnold motioned that the monthly rent for Stepping Stones be reduced to 50% of its current value, grandfathering in February through the end of the year (June, 2017). Brittany seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Administrative Update

- Director Report: Brent Petersen emailed his report to the board earlier in the week. He went over any questions or concerns that the board had. Brent Petersen highlighted the fifth grade service project, and other efforts and focus within the school based on the Leader in Me program to empower students to be involved in their school. Brent Petersen has been doing teacher observations and teaching lessons to various grade levels. Brent Petersen and the board discussed ideas regarding alumni tracking processes and purpose. Brent Petersen and the board discussed large first and second grade classes, and the attention those age children require.

- Volunteer Coordinating Committee: Nothing to report.
- Dibels data presented by Brent Petersen.
- Enrollment (current, addition/losses, reasons): There are currently 474 students enrolled. 6 students left.
- STAR 360 Progress Update: Aimee Hall provided Brent Petersen with some data on the progress. The charts show that the school is scoring above the nation's average and growing at a good rate. The assessments will be taking place once a month until it's time for the Sage test.
- School Culture Report: Covered during the Director's Report.
- Events: See Director's Report.
- Ends Policy #4-Progress Report: Alumni tracking, covered in Director's Report.

Policy/Strategic

- Policies will be postponed until next month due to the board spending a fair bit of time on the Executive Director search process.

School Environment

- Board member walkthrough (Tom-Jan/Steve-Feb): Tom was not present at the meeting. Steve will be performing his walkthrough later this month.

Board Annual Calendar

- See Policies

Other

- New Board Member Update: Adrien Ben was asked if he had any questions for the board as he is considered as a potential future board member. It was suggested that he choose a board member to act as a mentor.
- 2017-18 School Calendar: Brent Petersen emailed calendar options to the board and presented them to the staff in January. The staff voted for option 2. Steve Hepburn made a motion to accept calendar option 2 and Loren Pankratz seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Loren Pankratz motioned to close the open portion of the meeting and go into closed session. Steve Hepburn seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion approved.

Closed Session

CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board will consider a motion to close the meeting to hold a strategy session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation, and/or the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual in conformance with § 524204 and 524205 et. seq., Utah Code Ann.