



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 4/14/16**

### **Agenda 6:00 PM**

#### **Palmetto Scholars Academy's Mission**

**Palmetto Scholars Academy (PSA) will provide a differentiated program designed to meet the educational needs of intellectually gifted learners, address their distinctive social and emotional needs, promote individual character development and instill a life-long love of learning. Our students will engage with leading innovative organizations in higher education, business and science in order to empower them to make original and impactful contributions toward the elevation of South Carolina in the areas of education, commerce, arts, and science.**

- **Call to Order and Reading of the Mission Statement – 1 minute**
- **Open Session – Public Comment– 5 minutes**
- **PSA Band presentation –Potential TBD**
- **Reading of the Mission Statement**
- **Approval of Board minutes for March 15th and March 29th – 1 minute  
– ACTION ITEM: Vote to approve the March 15 and March 29th Board minutes.**
- **Board Policy Committee Update- Jean Chandler - 5 minutes – ACTION ITEM: Vote to approve amendment to Conflict of Interest Policy**
- **Charter Committee Update – Dr. Frank Budd, Ralph E. Taylor, and Shirley Hinson – 2 minutes**
- **Social Media Policy Update – Ms. Stacey Lindbergh – 2 minutes**
- **Budget Final Review – All – 15 minutes – ACTION ITEM: Vote to Approve PSA 2016- 2017 Budget**
- **Academic Excellence Committee Report- 5 minutes- Mr. Ken Ryan and Ms. Victoria Gamble**

- **Update regarding additional Land Acquisition –Ms. Stacey Lindbergh – 2 minutes**
- **Growth Analysis Committee Update – Ms. Shirley Hinson – 2 minutes**
- **Marketing Committee Update – Mr. David Diana – 1 minute**
- **Principal’s Report- Dr. Tim Gott**
- **Executive Session – Re: Personnel Issues**
- **Adjournment**



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 4/14/2016  
PSA Board Meeting  
6:00 PM**

**Palmetto Scholars Academy’s Mission**

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**Palmetto Scholars Academy Board Members**

**Dr. Frank Budd, Director, Counseling and Substance Abuse Services at the College of Charleston; Mr. David Diana, Co-founder, Diana Marketing & Design, Community Education Director, Charleston Dorchester Mental Health Center, and PSA Parent; Mr. Rob Fifield, President, Bauer International; Ms. Victoria Gamble, Academic Interventionist at Moultrie**

**Middle Schools in Charleston County School District; Dr. Tim Gott, PSA Principal and Ex-Officio Member of the Board; Ms. Shirley Hinson, Director of Government Relations, College of Charleston, former member of the SC House of Representatives, former Berkeley County School District Board Member; Ms. Stacey Lindbergh, PSA Founder; Mr. J. Keith McElveen, President, Wave Sciences Corporation and PSA Parent; Mr. Jack Moore, Principal of Applied Thought Consulting; Captain Ken Ryan, Chief Creative Officer for KRyan Creative, LLC, President of the PSA Booster Club and PSA Parent; Dr. Marilyn Schaffner, Chief Nursing Executive and Administrator for Clinical Services, Medical University of South Carolina; Lt. Colonel Ralph E. Taylor, Deputy Commander, 628<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Squadron Group, Joint Base Charleston; and Dr. Jean Chandler, Gifted and Talented Specialist and SC Consortium for Gifted Education Board Member.**

### **Meeting Attendees**

**The meeting was attended by a packed house of parents, students, teachers, and community leaders.**

### **Absent Members of Board of Directors**

**Rob Fifield**

### **Members Present Through Conference Call**

**No member called in to the meeting.**

**I. Call to Order – Ms. Stacey Lindbergh called the meeting to order.**

**II. A quorum was present.**

**III. Mr. Brad Mea, PSA Band Director, conducted the students in several renditions for the annual band concert for the board and family members.**

**IV. Q&A Session with the Palmetto Scholars Academy Board of Directors**

- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh called the meeting to order.**
- **Trey Lewis, a PSA student in grade 6 read the mission statement.**
- **All board members introduced themselves.**

- The audience had several presenters with questions or comments to the board.
- Former PSA Principal Dr. Marty Hale’s husband spoke in support of his wife.
- Mr. Win Gasperson talked about the research on “Founders Syndrome”.
- Ms. Susan Durand presented signed petitions of parents to the board calling for an annual meeting to elect officers; creating and operating functional committees; and updating the charter and bylaws.
- After the Q& A Session, the board gathered for the regular board meeting.

## **Regular Business of the Board**

### **V. Consent Agenda:**

- The board approved the Agenda for the April 14, 2015 meeting.
- Ms. Shirley Hinson made a motion to approve the March 15, 2016 board minutes, and Captain Ken Ryan seconded the motion. The following board members voted to approve the February 8, 2016 PSA Board Meeting Minutes: Dr. Frank Budd, Mr. David Diana, Ms. Victoria Gamble, Ms. Shirley Hinson, Ms. Stacey Lindbergh, Mr. Jack Moore, Mr. Ken Ryan, Dr. Marilyn Schaffner, and Lt. Colonel Ralph E. Taylor, and Dr. Jean Chandler.

### **VI. Policy and Procedure Committee- Dr. Jean Chandler**

- The Policy and Procedure Committee is asking for an amendment to the PSA Board Conflict of Interest Policy stating,

*No member of the Board of Directors of the Palmetto Scholars Academy can knowingly engage in, or obtain for himself, a family member, an individual with whom he is associated, or, a business with whom he is associated, an economic relationship with the Palmetto Scholars Academy at any time during the Board member’s term of service on the Board, or, for a period of 3 years following the conclusion of the Board member’s term of service on the Board. For the purpose of this*

*policy, a family member includes a spouse, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, sibling and/or any other person residing in the same household as the Board member and who is a dependent of the Board member or of whom the Board member is a dependent. An economic relationship includes a relationship involving the promise or receipt of actual or potential compensation, remuneration and/or a thing of value.*

- **Ms. Shirley Hinson made a motion to approve the PSA Board Conflict of Interest item and Captain Ken Ryan seconded it.**
- **The following members of the board voted to approve the conflict of interest amendment to PSA Policy and Procedures: Dr. Frank Budd, Mr. David Diana, Ms. Victoria Gamble, Ms. Shirley Hinson, Ms. Stacey Lindbergh, Mr. Jack Moore, Mr. Ken Ryan, Dr. Marilyn Schaffner, and Lt. Colonel Taylor , and Dr. Jean Chandler.**

## **VII. PSA Charter Committee Update-Dr. Frank Budd**

- **Dr. Frank Budd reported that the PSA Charter Committee is working on updating the mission statement and the goals and objectives in the original charter including addressing some human resource or personnel issues.**
- **The committee will be reporting back to the board with goals and objectives with measurements for success.**
- **Captain Ken Ryan asked if the Academic Excellence Committee goals were the same as those in the charter goals in order that there may be coordination of objectives.**
- **Ms. Victoria stated that the AEC was working on academic goals and the charter goals were working on operational goals.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh indicated that the charter committee had goals when the school was formed and the academic excellence committee would be working with Dr. Gott to create academic goals.**

- **Mr. Jack Moore asked that parents be included in work on the committees.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh stated notices are put out when we need volunteers for committees on Facebook page or Dr. Tim Gott's Newsletter for parents to let us know if they are interested in being on a committee. Parents may reach out to chair of the committees and get involved.**

#### **VIII. Social Media- Ms. Stacey Lindbergh**

- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh said that the PSA Families and Parents Group is not an official website for the school, which is managed by Ms. Sherry Glaab and Ms. Adrienne Trubey.**
- **Ms. Shirley Hinson asked if the tweet section on the principal's newsletter was an official instrument of the school because the Tweet link took an individual to the official petition that was being circulated by parents.**
- **Ms. Shirley Hinson wanted to know if the Tweet link represents an official and administrative school action?**
- **Dr. Marilyn Schaffner asked that we review the media policy in order to get everyone on the same page and what is official and what is not with our Social Media Policy.**

#### **IX. Budget Review Items- Ms. Stacey Lindbergh**

- **Mr. Stacey Lindbergh suggested postponing and tabling the budget committees until Mr. Rob Fifield, PSA Treasurer is present to help review items.**
- **Ms. Shirley Hinson asked to "adjourn debate" on the final approval of the 2016-2017 PSA Budget until we have Mr. Rob Fifield present and made a motion to do so with a second by Mr. Jack Moore.**
- **The following members of the board voted to "adjourn debate" on the budget review : Dr. Frank Budd, Mr. David Diana, Ms. Victoria Gamble, Ms. Shirley Hinson, Ms. Stacey Lindbergh, Mr. Jack Moore,**

**Mr. Ken Ryan, Dr. Marilyn Schaffner, and Lt. Colonel Ralph Taylor ,  
and Dr. Jean Chandler.**

#### **X. Academic Excellence Committee-Captain Ken Ryan and Ms. Victoria Gamble**

- **Captain Ken Ryan reported that the AEC Committee met on April 5, 2016 with 13 participants including parents, faculty, school administration, and board leadership through teleconferencing.**
- **Dr. Tim Gott led the committee through an agenda that reviewed the committee's prior work on *Goals and Objectives* and *Curriculum Review* with a September deadline.**
- **For ACE draft documents, the committee is tasked to research and recommend changes for consideration at the next meeting scheduled tentatively for May 3<sup>rd</sup>.**
- **The committee agreed the inputs should be a mix of inspirational (what we want to do, unconstrained) and rational (what we can do, with some constraints.)**
- **The committee also agreed to a one to three year time horizon applied to the school's goals and objectives with tasks assigned and deadlines set.**
- **Ms. Melissa McCants has made source material available on Google Docs.**
- **Ms. Becky Dale has volunteered to draft a survey to capture feedback of graduates as an assessment tool to improve our school.**
- **The Citadel representatives were in attendance and offered to collaborate on educational matters of mutual benefit.**
- **AEC wants to know what benefits would be gained by working with the Citadel Team such as costs/benefit analysis.**
- **The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 21 at 4:00 p.m. with the Citadel team.**

#### **XI. Update Additional Land Acquisition JBC- Ms. Stacey Lindbergh**

- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh talked about the four year journey to get the 10 acre site for the new school, which took a lot of hard work to go through the federal requirements and approval process.**
- **Originally, JBC wanted to give us 25 acres instead of the 10 acre parcel that the school building occupies.**

- **The issue happened that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB ) would not allow the JBC to lease this land to us until we got the fair market value assessment of the 25 acres of land.**
- **PSA decided to go for the 10 acres parcel which is the footprint of the current building PSA occupies today.**
- **PSA got the lease for the smaller parcel and is being charged rent of approximately \$64,000 this year.**
- **PSA got the lease paying fair market value minus the “in kind consideration” for allowing JBC to use this building.**
- **PSA is responsible for all operational and management of the land including appraisals, land surveys, environmental reports, utilities, etc.**
- **At this time, Senator Tim Scott proposed an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act that just passed in January and was signed by President Obama that allowed the Secretary of the Air Force to lease land to charter schools and other schools if enrollment consideration was given to military children.**
- **In the process, a school would not be held responsible to the high market value standard.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh stated that she was thrilled that JBC may be able now to provide land to us without having to stick to the fair market value standard.**
- **So PSA could potentially get the next 15 acres free, which is a huge accomplishment by Senator Tim Scott, the Senate, the Congress, and President Obama’s signature.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh has talked to JBC and they are going back to rebuild our annual lease that we have now, which will have a huge impact on our expenses, on what we can provide at PSA and what we can afford to accomplish as PSA begins its Growth Analysis Committee headed by Ms. Shirley Hinson.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh stated that schools across the nation may now have access to military property if they agree to enroll military children.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh asked all to thank Senator Tim Scott for his hard work on behalf of PSA and his accomplishment in getting the amendment passed.**
- **Dr. Marilyn Schaffner asked that a letter from the board be sent to thank Senator Scott for his hard work and loyal commitment to PSA.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh said the policy would kick in only if PSA has the military set aside of 20% in each grade including children of active duty and civilians, then PSA may benefit from the rent free property on JBC.**



- **The Secretary of the Air Force, Deborah Lee James and her Deputy Jennifer L. Miller, SES reviewed their policy in how they applied the leases to provide land to us without fair market value standard.**
- **PSA could potentially get the next 15 acres of land for free, which is a huge accomplishment.**
- **Dr. Jean Chandler asked that a letter be sent to the PSA Family and Friends announcing this good news.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh said she would draft a letter to Senator Scott for everyone to sign thanking him for this impactful, important piece of legislature to benefit PSA in order for every board member to sign.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh expressed the desire to show how thankful we are to have an opportunity to get this beautiful piece of land.**

#### **XI. Growth Analysis Committee Update – Ms. Shirley Hinson**

- **Ms. Shirley Hinson announced that Senator Tim Scott is going to be at the College of Charleston Commencement, so she will have an opportunity to thank him.**
- **Ms. Shirley Hinson said she had sent an e-mail asking any board member including the principal to join the Growth Analysis Committee as PSA moves forward to grow and expand.**
- **Ms. Shirley Hinson will extend the same invitation to parents and community members, faculty, staff, and students, who may wish to work on this committee.**
- **Ms. Shirley Hinson said it is going to be a huge undertaking from all angles of the committee work.**
- **The first organizational meeting will take place on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 5 p.m. at the school with Dr. Marilyn Schaffner and Mr. Jack Moore agreeing to serve on this committee as well.**

#### **XII. Marketing Committee Update – Mr. David Diana**

- **Mr. David Diana announced plans for organizing the marketing committee about getting information out to potential parents concerning what PSA stands for in its vision and mission for serving gifted and talented students.**
- **Mr. David Diana is reaching out to staff, parents, and the community to help with the committee and a notice will be going out shortly announcing a time and place to get organized.**

- **Mr. David Diana said items in the budget will be determined next month in order to support the activities of Mr. Bill Henley, our school marketing consultant and other marketing activities.**
- **Mr. David Diana has set up a qualitative analysis in the community with the goal of getting a plan for school identity issues such as, “What kind of school is PSA and is it a fit for your child?”**

### **XIII. Principal’s Report- Dr. Tim Gott**

- **Dr. Tim Gott celebrated the naming of PSA as “Cool School” by Channel 2, which will feature PSA on the early news and throughout the other news spots this week.**
- **PSA qualified one team for the VEX IQ World Championship in Louisville, Kentucky for April 20-23 competition.**
- **PSA qualified one team to the TSA Vex Nationals in Nashville, Tennessee for June 28-July 2.**
- **PSA qualified 5 teams for the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals in Ames, Iowa for May 15-28, 2016.**
- **PSA qualified 10 for the National History Day State Competition on April 23.**
- **PSA won First Place for the second year in a row at the Palmetto Cyber Defense Competition on April 9, 2016.**
- **PSA successfully sent our second Student Space Experiment Program (SSEP) Project designed by Ms. Rachel Lindbergh and Mr. Joseph Garvey into space on April 9, 2016 after two prior explosions.**
- **PSA will be sending our third Student Space Experiment Program in the fall.**
- **PSA has 3 National Winners for Cubes in Space with experiments being launched on a Sounding Rocket on June 23, 2016.**
- **PSA was named the top charter school in South Carolina and the second best high school in the state by Niche.com this year.**
- **PSA ranks in the top 5 schools in the state in both SAT and ACT scores.**
- **PSA had 702 students applying on the day of the lottery for enrollment with a total of approximately 110- 115 openings.**
- **Since the lottery deadline, applications have climbed to 857 students wishing to attend PSA.**
- **Currently PSA has 96 students enrolled in Grade 6.**
- **PSA has 97 students enrolled in Grade 7.**
- **PSA has 75 students enrolled in Grade 8**

- **PSA has 78 students enrolled in Grade 9.**
- **PSA has 73 students enrolled in Grade 10.**
- **PSA has 46 students enrolled in Grade 11.**
- **PSA has 40 students enrolled in Grade 12.**
- **Dr. Tim Gott said we have space for 600 students in this building as a full house, which would be very tight.**
- **Dr. Tim Gott indicated that he had interviewed some really outstanding candidates to fill 4 positions, where people are leaving for different reasons.**
- **Dr. Tim Gott said that there three additional positions added to the proposed budget, and the proposed budget has not been approved.**
- **Dr. Tim Gott stated that he could not delay much longer offering contracts to his outstanding candidates, or he was going to lose them to the competing counties.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh commented that technically the board would need to approve positions before hiring anyone.**
- **Dr. Tim Gott asked to move forward with the three new positions and offer contracts as soon as possible for the four teachers who are leaving.**
- **With the four leaving, the money is already in the budget for their replacements.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh said that since the budget approval was on the meeting agenda, the board could approve those three positions.**
- **Mr. Jack Moore asked if the three new positions were critical.**
- **Dr. Tim Gott stated that he was looking for a new social studies teacher and English teacher for expansion of students in grades 6 and 7.**
- **He stated that PSA needs to replace a foreign language teacher and a computer science teacher in order to keep up with the school's growth in these areas.**
- **Ms. Shirley Hinson made a motion to approve the three new positions staying in the acceptable salary ranges in order for Dr. Tim Gott to offer contracts to his outstanding candidates.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh pointed out that the proposed budget did not cover the \$64,000 rent money for JBC for what the potential expense could be next year if PSA does not have 20% military in each grade.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh recommended cutting some expenses in order to have the potential rent money if needed due to the lack of the 20% enrollment in each class.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh stated that JBC would be rebuilding our lease at the end of the school year.**

- **Dr. Jean Chandler made a motion to approve the PSA Proposed Budget amount allocated to teacher and staff salaries in order for Dr. Tim Gott to offer contracts in filling 4 positions of teachers leaving and the 3 new positions needed for next school year, and Dr. Frank Budd seconded the motion.**
- **The following board members voted to approve the PSA Proposed Budget for staff salaries including 4 vacant positions and 3 new positions: Dr. Frank Budd, Mr. David Diana, Ms. Victoria Gamble, Ms. Shirley Hinson, Ms. Stacey Lindbergh, Mr. Jack Moore, Mr. Ken Ryan, Dr. Marilyn Schaffner, and Lt. Colonel Ralph Taylor , and Dr. Jean Chandler.**
- **Ms. Shirley Hinson said The General Assembly and the Senate Finance Committee discussed today that teachers would receive a 2% raise for next year.**
- **Captain Ken Ryan asked for board discussion about filling a vacancy with one recent resignation.**
- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh stated that the new Bylaws adopted in 2012 state that a board “may” call for an election in 15 days; however the board does not have to since the board has 11 current members and the charter school law only requires 7 members.**
- **Dr. Marilyn Schaffner asked that the board ask the staff, parents, community leaders what the best way might be in order to recruit members to serve on committees.**
- **Dr. Marilyn Schaffner suggested having all board meetings in a larger space like the gym for stakeholders to attend the board meetings.**

#### **XIII. Executive Session – Re: Personnel Issues**

- **Ms. Stacey Lindbergh suggested that considering the late hour of 8:30, that the executive session may be scheduled for a later date.**

#### **XIV. Adjournment**

- **Ms. Shirley Hinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Colonel Ralph Taylor seconded the motion. The following board members voted to adjourn the meeting: Dr. Frank Budd, Mr. David Diana, Ms. Victoria Gamble, Ms. Shirley Hinson, Ms. Stacey Lindbergh, Mr. Jack Moore, Mr. Ken Ryan, Dr. Marilyn Schaffner, and Lt. Colonel Ralph Taylor , and Dr. Jean Chandler.**

#### **Follow Up/Who**

- 1. Committees will continue to meet and work on goals and objectives.**
- 2. Mr. Rob Fifield will present the remaining budget for 2016-2017 at the next board meeting for full approval.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Dr. Jean Chandler**