



A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on November 28th, 2017 at 6:00PM.

I. Administrative

A. The meeting was called to order by Alys Campaigne at 6:02pm. Alys noted that this is an Annual Meeting of the board. Annual Meetings follow the board elections and are the meeting at which new officers are elected.

B. Board Members Roll Call: Mark Bowden, William Quantz, Jack Moore (*by phone*), Alys Campaigne, John McFarlane, Dr. Jennifer Albert, Keith McElveen, Ex-officio: Dr. Tim Gott, Absent: Walter Loiselle

II. New Business

A. Welcome new board member Morgan Futch and open Annual Meeting

Keith introduced Morgan Futch and welcomed him to the board.

B. Financial update and review of September 2017 financials – William Quantz

The September financials were approved by email. In order to address the deposit balances above the FDIC insured amount noted in the most recent audit (section II. A.), a sweep account was opened with South State effective November 17, 2017 that will sweep all balances above \$250,000 into repurchase agreements in order to collateralize the deposits. Gross income is projected at \$200 per month. William is finalizing the continuing disclosure requirement for the bond. It will be completed in the next week.

III. Principal's report – Dr. Tim Gott

A. Status of Learning Cottages and General Update

Spectrum who is building the cottages is ready to go - the hold up is still with the architect and plan approval by OSF. The board and Tim will push OSF to move the review along to avoid further delays.

News 2 Cool Schools is coming back to recognize PSA after getting a Blue Ribbon designation. It is unusual to get the recognition twice.

The flooring installer came and looked at the condition of the floors and agreed that the system failed. Moisture monitors were installed and the contractor will redo them this summer under his insurance plan. Mark mentioned that John Pharris had raised the question as to whether the vapor barrier is adequately installed and to make sure that the repair encompasses a barrier solution.

Tim discussed the electric lighting issues – lighting costs are roughly \$7,000 a month. He has talked with people about replacing the lights with LED fixtures to improve efficiency and save money. A parent who works with Helios gave an estimate of \$40,000 that includes a service package. Watson, the original installer, gave an estimate of \$67,582. There is also an SCEG rebate of \$12,000. The monthly savings would be about \$900 a month so it is a 33 month break even. Keith asked whether the lights were enclosed or free form where there is free air flow due to higher failure rates among the former systems. There is a test lighting package installed in the nurse's office now. Tim is going to ask about the failure rate issue and sustainability of the system and report back to the board.

Tim talked about an opportunity for PSA to be a screening site for a new documentary, American Teen, exploring the current experience of a high school teen. The film company is interested in following students in a diverse, high achieving school. Morgan raised some concerns about control having worked on films in the past. Alys and Keith raised additional issues on privacy and time distraction. Tim is going to review the trailer and talk with the company to determine more details. It would only be of interest if the emphasis is on the educational philosophy.

Tim is representing the US on an educational trip to China in December with a contingent of international schools.

IV. Updates

A. Policy & Human Resources– Keith McElveen/ Alys Campaigne

Alys provided an update on the mission statement revision discussions with the SCPCSD. The current proposed language is *Palmetto Scholars Academy (PSA) exists to meet the distinctive academic, social, and emotional needs of students by utilizing best practices of gifted education*. If this is approved by the district we will circulate the language for a formal board approval.

Keith discussed Officer and Committee elections. The officers were kept as they were in the past year: Chair – Jack Moore, Vice Chair – Keith McElveen, Secretary – Alys Campaigne, Treasurer – William Quantz. Committee membership was also similar: Development and Fundraising- Walter Loiselle, Academic Excellence – Jennifer Albert, Policy and Human Resources – Alys Campaigne/Keith McElveen, Communications – Morgan Futch, and Facilities – Mark Bowden.

Grievance Committee members – The board discussed making the 4 representative board members non-executive members with Ms. Corrigan serving as the administrative representative.

Nominating Committee – The Committee will be selected at the next meeting. It will include three parents and two administrators or faculty. Alys offered to serve on the Committee.

B. Development & Fundraising – Walter Loiselle

Tabled.

C. Military – John McFarlane

John noted that Tim sent a letter to JBCO. It has been received but no reply has been sent as of yet. John will be leaving the base in late spring but the exact timing is uncertain. The services commander is working to get a shuttle service in place between PSA and the Base Youth Center.

D. Facilities –Mark Bowden

Mark talked further about the flooring issues. He spoke with Patrick McDonald, a construction lawyer, to understand liability related to the flooring contractor. The statute of repose extends eight years. The issue is that we are at the mercy of the contractor's word at this point in saying that a fix is planned. We need dates included in writing and a structural engineer's report to provide an independent second opinion. Miles Glick is the engineer that was recommended. The attorney can work on an hourly or contingency basis if we need legal assistance. Jim Garvey, a former parent and board member, worked closely on the building and may be a resource in reviewing the details of the original installation. Mark is reaching out to Jim and getting a copy of the building contract to review. They will work out a plan to get Miles on site to generate a report.

Update on ad hoc committee for building expansion – tabled beyond what is noted above related to trailers.

E. Communications – Jack Moore

Tabled.

F. Academic Excellence – Tim Gott

The school report card is out.

V. Action Items

- A.** Elect new Board Officers – Keith made a motion to keep the executive committee in tact. Chair – Jack Moore, Vice Chair – Keith McElveen, Secretary – Alys Campaigne, Treasurer – William Quantz. William seconded. All in favor.
- B.** Keith made a motion to appoint the following Committee Members: Development and Fundraising- Walter Loiselle, Academic Excellence – Jennifer Albert, Policy and Human Resources – Alys Campaigne/Keith McElveen, Communications – Morgan Futch, and Facilities – Mark Bowden.
- C.** Grievance Committee. Alys made a motion to nominate John McFarlane, William Quantz, Morgan Futch, Jennifer Albert and Ms. Corrigan Rutherford to the grievance committee. Seconded by Keith. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm. The December 19, 2017 board meeting was cancelled and business will be conducted by email as the date falls over break.

Your Governing Board
