

PVPA Charter Public School
Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2016

Present: Mary Ahlstrom, James Barnhill, Keith Black, Will Decherd,
Rachel Dionne, Iris Ethier, Gary Huggett, Noah Hornick, Alison Noyes,
Zevey Steinitz, Geoff Sumi, Stephen Therrien, Melinda Winter

Staff Present: Marcy Conner, Scott Goldman, Llama Maynard

Next meeting: November 8, 2016; 6:00pm; Library

Meeting called to order at 6:09pm with quorum.

Mission Statement:

- Read by Geoff Sumi

Public Comment:

- No public comment

Approval of Minutes:

- September 2016 Minutes were approved as presented by consensus

President's Business:

- The board contracted with NCCJ last spring. Board officers met with NCCJ representatives on September 19, 2016 to discuss their findings and decide how to move forward. Many of the points that came up during the discussions with NCCJ are already being addressed in the Strategic Action Plan 2021, such as protocols and training around technology, staff performance reviews, and guidelines on communication. (It was indicated that an outside communication plan was developed by Lisa Cappello that was posted on Friday Notes and the PVPA Facebook Page.) There was also discussion about hiring a mediator or board consultant to advise the Board on communication with the community as well as grievance procedures.
- Recommended Action Item was to have the governance committee discuss the feasibility of hiring a mediator or Board consultant and make a recommendation to the full board.
- **Board Membership Update** - Melinda Winters and Zevey Steinitz were approved by DESE for the board.

Appointment of members to Salary Task Force Ad hoc Committee

- Gary Huggett (who will chair the committee), Sean Moore, and Marcy Conner were appointed by the Board President
- Data will be identified prior to moving forward
- Committee should be prepared to present a preliminary report during the January 2017 Board Meeting
- Committee must document methodology and collection of information. Information gathered must include factors that affect salaries such as required hours in the teacher work week, benefits packages, employer contributions.

Finance:

- Marcy Conner presented the results from the Audit performed by Moriarty and Primack. Audit was approved as presented by consensus.

Governance: (presented by Geoff Sumi and James Barnhill)

Vote to approve By-Laws Revision:

- Prospective changes were reviewed and discussed briefly. By-Laws Revision was approved by consensus.

Strategic Action Plan (SAP) Matrix & Implementation: (presented by Llama Maynard and Will Decherd)

- The matrix is still being review and updated. The full administration team will review the matrix and adjust for timeline goals.
- A draft should be available for review at the November Board Meeting.

Development / Head of School:

- By December 2017, DESE wants PVPA to demonstrate academic success. It has been decided to utilize half of the day during Paideia to provide Math Support to Middle School students while the second half of the day will be for a Paideia class.
- Llama Maynard spoke on how faculty members are utilizing the MCAS data to improve teaching strategies for students' benefit.
- Scott indicated that the MAPS score results are better than the MCAS scores.
- MAPS is an accepted reporting tool with regards to DESE and will provide a secondary source of progression to present to DESE moving forward.
- Scott expressed the need for additional technical support as more technology is adopted at the school. Melinda Winters offered her expertise and support with regards to technology.
- The potential dissolution of The Friends of PVPA and transfer of assets to PVPA was briefly discussed. Scott will provide a pros and cons list for the transfer and dissolution.

Students:

- Noah Hornick, 11th Grade Student Representative, stated that Octoberfest went well. The Off-Campus Privilege Reform is still being reviewed.
- Mary Ahlstrom and Iris Ethier, 10th Grade Student Representatives, indicated how they are working to provide healthier vending machine options for the PVPA community. They have been in contact with the vending machine representative and are trying to find a happy medium between price and healthier selections.

Staff: (presented by Will Decherd and Gary Huggett)

- No items to present.

Open Session:

- Scott Goldman acknowledged the work performed by Trendera Loftin for coordinating the GLSEN Conference

Public Comment:

- Llama Maynard discussed how she, Erin Feldman, Jeanne Powers, and Mike Hayes hosted fourteen educators from area schools who came to PVPA to take part in educational workshops for their professional development. The day was very successful.

Geoff Sumi requested that an executive session be called to order: *To discuss strategy regarding litigation.*

In a roll call vote each Board Member present voted to go into Executive session.

Regular session adjourned and Executive Session called to order at 7:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rachel D. Dionne, Board Secretary