

**Joint Meeting of  
Tempe Preparatory Academy  
and Tempe Preparatory Junior Academy  
Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
December 16, 2014**

The meeting of the Tempe Preparatory Academies Board of Directors was called to order by President Chad Sampson, at 6:05 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, at the Student Union of Tempe Preparatory Academy, 1251 East Southern Avenue, Tempe, AZ, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02, notice having been duly given.

**Roll Call**

**Voting Board Members Present**

Chad Sampson, President  
Dr. Stuart Newfeld, Secretary  
Richard Foreman, Vice President  
Dr. Rebecca Cryder  
Roberta Fischer

**Voting Board Members Absent**

Trevor Bush, Treasurer  
Lisa Borowski

**Non-Voting Board Members Present**

Andrea Guiney, Parent Organization Representative  
Michelle Tripoli, Faculty Representative

**Non-Voting Board Members Absent**

**Staff Present**

Dr. David Baum, Headmaster  
Jeff Veenstra, Provost  
Linda Sale, Business Administrator

**Call to the Public**

Melissa Brittain addressed the board with the PAC Report. Dr. Baum met with the PAC and discussed the role and relationship of PAC to the Headmaster. Mrs. Brittain conveyed the PACS intention to re-structure and build a stronger community with parents.

Tracy Bryant expressed her disappointment in the survey that was sent to parents. She referenced Great Hearts survey that fosters more parent feedback. Dr. Baum clarified that the survey was one that was mandated by TPA Accreditors, but is amenable to development of a new survey. Mr. Sampson directed board members, Dr. Cryder and Mrs. Fischer to convene a later meeting with Mr. Veenstra and Dr. Baum to explore another survey.

## **Consent Agenda**

Chad Sampson called for approval of the Consent Agenda items. Dr. Newfeld seconded. Motion carried.

## **Regular Agenda**

### **Headmaster's Report**

*Health Care Increase:* TPA experienced a surprise 38% increase to medical health benefits at renewal for December 2014. However, by some faculty going off the plan and allocating more cost to the employee for additional family coverage, the school was able to keep the increase to 6%. Dr. Baum expresses the urgency to re-address employee costs next spring.

*Science Curriculum:* Dr. Baum introduced Mr. James Atkinson and asked him to share his recommendation to change the science curriculum by resequencing required courses. Mr. Sampson commended Dr. Baum and those instrumental in working the details of this. The proposal was tabled for a subsequent board meeting.

*Tax Credit Drive:* Dr. Baum announced we are at \$51,000 as of today. The phone drive begins Thursday night and encouraged others to help. The Coaches campaign for fundraising is moving forward.

*Proposed Expansion of 6th Grade:* Dr. Baum proposed addition of a 4th section to 6th grade. High School is only at 85% capacity. We must do something to counter attrition. We are losing students ready to transition from 8th to 9th grade. We must do more than the 'in place endeavors' to bolster their math skills making the transition less intimidating and providing a more conducive environment for student camaraderie and bonding. An additional section would add 22 students, thereby offsetting our normal attrition. TPJA would net approximately \$70,000 after adding 1.5 teachers. Chad Sampson made a motion that the board accept Dr. Baum's proposal for the 6th grade expansion. Richard Foreman seconded with stipulation that proper press and community being informed. Motion passed. President Sampson directed Dr. Baum to work with Lisa Borawski on more robust planning.

### **Motion from President Sampson**

Chad Sampson put before the board that a policy should be drafted to have an informal review of assignments for the Headmaster. He will write a draft policy over spring break.

### **Board Communication**

Chad re-iterates that 'two reads' must take place prior to making major decisions. We need to give the community time to ask questions and be informed of items on the table for possible action. He welcomes the community to talk with board members and is instating a "Coffee with the Board" after each meeting. This will be done without violating Open Meeting Law. He would like to establish a blog or newsletter, in addition to minutes, that will keep people informed and in tune.

### **Faculty Report**

Michelle Tripoli reported that the faculty are busy preparing their narrative for student evaluations.

### **Parent Organization Report**

Andrea Guiney reported that Snowstorm resulted in a 20% participation.

Movie night lacked volunteers and general attendance. Not income producing.

Raffle Tree did well, with the Hernandez family winning ticket to Barrett Jackson Auto Show.

The Phone Drive for Tax Credits was manned by Dr. Baum, Dr. Cryder, Mrs. Guiney and a couple of others. Seventy calls were made.

Mrs. Guiney conveyed that the PO must have more participation from volunteers or events will not move forward. Events will be cancelled if she does not have a 75% participation rate for volunteers by a to be determined date.

### **Announcements**

President Sampson announced the Faculty/Staff/Board Christmas Party to be held Friday evening, December 19, 2014 at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Borowski.

Next Board Meeting will be held on January 20th, 2015

### **Adjournment**

The Chair moved to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Dr. Cryder and Roberta Fischer. Meeting adjourned at 9:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Linda Sale, Business Administrator