

**JOINT MEETING OF TEMPE PREPARATORY ACADEMY AND TEMPE
PREPARATORY JUNIOR ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
August 18, 2015**

The meeting of the Tempe Preparatory Academies Board of Directors was called to order by President Chad Sampson, at 6:03 p.m. on Tuesday, August 18, 2015, 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, Vice President
Dr. Rebecca Cryder, Secretary
Roberta Fischer, Treasurer
Richard Foreman
Trevor Bush
Lisa Borawski-Picard

Voting Board Members Absent

None

Non-Voting Board Members Present

Andrea Guiney, Parent Organization Representative
Mitch Sweet, Faculty Representative

Non-Voting Board Members Absent

None

Staff Present

Dr. Wayne Porter

Call to the Public

Arturo Urias addressed the Board as the new PAC President. Mr. Urias indicated that the format of the PAC meetings has changed to add a question-and-answer session after the meeting and thanked Dr. Porter for attending to answer questions. Mr. Urias indicated that the parents appreciated the chance to have an open dialogue with Dr. Porter. Mr. Urias advised that the PAC was exploring the school's mission statement to deepen its understanding of Truth, Beauty and Goodness. Mr. Urias reported that Dr.

Wolf lectured on the issue of Beauty and that Dr. Evans and Ms. Drake were scheduled to lecture on the issues of Truth and Goodness, respectively.

Consent Agenda

Reading/Approval of the minutes of previous meetings

Trevor Bush made a Motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2015 Regular Meeting. Dr. Stuart Newfeld seconded the Motion. Vote passed.

Regular Agenda

Headmaster's Report

Dr. Porter reported that during the first two weeks of school, spirits were up and the students were energized.

Dr. Porter also reported that he was working on the financials and would report to the Board at the next meeting.

ADA/ADM Reports

Dr. Porter addressed the Average Daily Membership and the Average Daily Attendance ("ADA/ADM") Report. Dr. Porter reported that the numbers had changed due to the addition of a couple of new students after the report was prepared.

Dr. Stuart Newfeld questioned whether there had been any discussion with the leadership team to adding a third section to 8th grade and 9th grade due to the declining numbers in 10th – 12th grade and the lack of a waiting list at those grade levels. Dr. Newfeld also suggested the administration talk to the parents of students that did not return to determine the reason for their departure from the school.

Science Textbooks

Dr. Porter addressed the concern from members of the community that donations were made to purchase additional textbooks for students to take home but that the textbooks had not been purchased. Dr. Porter indicated that due to staff members being out of town, the school did not have a count of what was needed. Dr. Porter advised that the school was now in the position to order the additional textbooks.

Andrea Guiney expressed her concern that donations were made for a specific purpose but that the funds were not immediately used for that purpose.

Chad Sampson advised that the school would get the books ordered and that if any of the donors wanted their money back, the school would issue a check immediately.

Dr. Stuart Newfeld suggested the books be ordered immediately so that the students would have access to those books as soon as possible.

Announcements

None

Hot Lunch Program

President Chad Sampson reported that the Hot Lunch Program was put on the agenda after receiving comments at the July meeting. Mr. Sampson advised that PO President Andrea Guiney, parent volunteer Charissa McGraw, and Dr. Porter met to discuss how best to proceed. Mr. Sampson indicated that they could report to the Board or continue to work through the issue and come back to the Board in the September meeting.

Andrea Guiney reported that they discussed using a survey to assess the need for free and reduced lunch services. She reported that the PO was still working with the current vendor and that they were waiting for direction from the administration as to whether to terminate that vendor and start a new program.

Dr. Porter indicated that the survey was not to determine need, but to determine the community's interest in participating in a program, whether it was the NSLP or a less expensive version of the current PO program. Dr. Porter reported that additional discussion was needed and that they were not ready to move forward at this time.

Mr. Sampson indicated that the Board could call a special meeting before the regular meeting in September to further discuss the issue if necessary.

Richard Foreman offered to put the administration in touch with an organization that he works with that runs food distribution programs.

Charissa McGraw offered to assist with drafting a survey. She also reminded the Board that participation in the NSLP opens up more federal grant opportunities for the school.

Marion Rhodes advised that in the past, the numbers never justified participation in the federal program.

Mr. Sampson thanked Ms. McGraw for the work she put toward exploring the issue. Mr. Sampson recognized the advantages of receiving federal assistance, but agreed that the school might not qualify and that compliance with the program could be difficult. Mr. Sampson also acknowledged that the current program raises funding for the PO and that the school would not want to give that up unless it was financially beneficial.

Faculty Report

Mitch Sweet reported that the year was off to a positive start from the faculty's perspective. He further reported that there were now projectors in all classrooms.

Mr. Sweet also addressed multiple issues concerning technology. He reported that there was some frustration from the faculty regarding the scheduling of standardized testing that was done on laptops as it was cutting into classroom time and the faculty felt they did not have adequate guidance on how to proctor the tests. Mr. Sweet advised that Mr. Nate Callahan authored a letter regarding various concerns for Dr. Porter's review so that the administration can consider implementing changes to improve the process.

Mr. Sweet also advised that Dr. Kelly sent out a letter sharing his proposal to write a grant to acquire computers for classroom use. Mr. Sweet indicated that the use of technology set forth a philosophical issue as to how much technology should be used at TPA.

Dr. Kelly indicated that in order to prepare a grant proposal, the school needs to have a strategic plan in place. Dr. Kelly indicated that a strategic plan was started last year and asked that it get back on track.

Dr. Porter indicated that he believes the school can use more technology and that getting a grant would be beneficial.

Dr. Stuart Newfeld indicated that there were accreditation issues to consider regarding the state's mandate concerning technology as expressed in the PMP and that the school should not ignore it.

Mr. Sweet indicated that the faculty concern was not that they don't want technology, but that they wanted to control it.

Lisa Borawski-Picard questioned whether the testing was a problem because it is mandated to be done on computer. She also requested that someone identify how many computers were needed as she may be able to acquire computers from her employer.

Dr. Porter responded that the school would need enough computers for the largest class plus a few extra.

Ms. Drake suggested that 69-70 computers would be needed for testing.

Chad Sampson indicated that the testing provided valuable data and that the school would work on the scheduling issues. With respect to the strategic plan, Mr. Sampson advised that he wanted to see if the community could move forward from the turmoil of the previous year before revising the plan and engaging in a robust discussion on what the school should look like. Mr. Sampson indicated he would like to open it up for discussion in October to meet Dr. Kelly's grant deadline of February.

Dr. Kelly indicated that he would be happy to contribute to the process in any way.

Parent Organization Report

Andrea Guiney reported on the PO's first meeting of the new school year. Ms. Guiney indicated that she was happy to see new parents that were excited and enthusiastic. Ms. Guiney indicated that the meeting included approval of the budget and a discussion about back-to-school night and the PO as support personnel.

Ms. Guiney expressed a concern about ensuring that Scrip rebates appear on the initial bills. She attempted to contact someone in the office to discuss the issue but did not know who to contact due to turnover in the office. She suggested Dr. Porter let the PO know who would be responsible for that function.

Dr. Stuart Newfeld asked whether it was possible to determine the date for the first bill and asked that Dr. Porter look into it.

Ms. Guiney also wanted to thank Lisa Hicks for her service to the school and PO. Ms. Guiney indicated that Ms. Hicks was indispensable in her work with the PO.

Executive Session

Roberta Fischer made a Motion to go into executive session. Lisa Borawski-Picard seconded the motion. Vote passed.

Executive session commenced at 6:48 p.m. The Board held discussions regarding contract negotiations and the review of assignments. Executive session ended at 8:30 p.m.

Regular Agenda Continued

None.

Motions from the Executive Session

Richard Foreman made a Motion to approve the amended and restated separation agreement and release dated August 19, 2015 between Dr. David Baum and the Tempe Preparatory Academies. Trevor Bush seconded the Motion. Vote passed.

Announcements

None.

Next Regular Board Meeting

Chad Sampson announced that the next Board meeting would take place on Tuesday, September 15, 2015, to begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Student Union.

Adjournment

Chad Sampson adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/Joel DeCiancio

By: Joel DeCiancio, Board Scribe