



LA ACADEMIA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MONTHLY MEETING

January 26, 2022

AGENDA:

I. Call to Order / Roll Call: 4:01 called to order C. Wagner

Voting Members Present

Ted Darcus (officer), Jessica Gehman, Carlos Graupera, Guy Kingree III, Victor Ramos, James Rovito, Leonel Silva, Colleen Wagner (officer)

Voting Members Not Present

Chris Boyd (officer)

Administration and Non-Voting Members Present

Amy Ferg, Tracy Jones, Nicole Garress, Joey Bertrand, Aidalis Lopez, Brittany Smith, Steve Rally

Guest: Emily Marks

II. Approval of November Minutes: Motion by J. Gehman; seconded by V.Ramos approved unanimously (with the attendance of J. Gehman fixed - this is done SJR).

III. Reports and Action Items

A. School Management (Mrs. Amy Ferg, Principal/CEO & Mr. Tracy Jones, CFOO)

- Action Item: Update Health & Safety Plan
- Enrollment: 198
- Vacancies:
 - ELD Teacher (10/28)
- Hires: 2 Building Aides, Special Education Teacher, Math Teacher
- AP Positions - Interviews being conducted
- Lexile Level Report
 - Scholars took test in October & retested in January
 - Analyzing for Growth
 - Interventions put in place based on data
 - Stories
 - 9th Grade is most of our ELD scholars, so them not growing above “Beginning Reader” is not surprising

- Senioritis
- 6th Grade - small sample (10% is one scholar)
- New scholars were only tested for the first time and not included in this data

Intervention Plan

- Entire 7th, 8th, and 12th Grade will spend one hour a week using an intervention software
- Targeted high schoolers and that one sixth grader will use the targeted intervention software
- Re-testing for the intervention scholars will occur March 7th, and we will see rates of growth which will inform our next steps
- Teachers will begin a new cycle of Professional Development and coaching with the support of our state team around text-based planning

Comments:

V. Ramos asked how students reacted to the results and if they understood the importance of the interventions. E. Marks responded that: middle schoolers appear apathetic, so we are aiming to build up self esteem, while highschool is more resilient. E. Marks further explained that we are taking the challenge to get their scores higher in an attempt to get them excited. Also, a letter is going out to parents on Friday and we gave out grade level books and sent information home for parents to engage their scholars with their books.

T. Darcus asked how this may affect the recharter and E. Marks said that SDoL is focusing on literacy so we are aligned with the same goal.

E. Marks also explained how the new PD came from the state team to focus on literacy using text research and strategy based methods with a proven curriculum. Even though scholars are reading more, there is a need for finding meaning in text

Covid 19

January 3 - 7

- Switched to virtual instruction due to 42% of Staff being isolated or quarantined as a result of a positive test or household exposure.

January 10 - 14

- 19 Positive Cases
- 124 Close Contacts
- Provided both staff and scholars rapid test on 1/13 following notification of two positive staff members.

January 17 - 21

- 9 Positive Cases
- 46 Close Contacts
- Testing continued to be provided to staff and scholars as needed (symptoms or exposure) on weekly basis.
 - Required when there are significant updates to CDC recommendations Updated Masking Requirement to specify that LAPCS will require all to wear masks
- LAPCS Mask Update: masks required and at-home tests available for scholars
- V. Ramos motioned for approval of the current mask mandate; G. Kingree seconded; motion approved unanimously.

B. Finance Committee (Ted Darcus, Treasurer)

Discussed enrollment, revenue for third quarter in report.

- Finance Report: RFPs - Vended Meals, Accounting Services (expiring 6/30/22)
- Van - Purchase Vs. Lease (discussed)

Comments:

A. Ferg explained that students want to have a different lunch vendor (petition) and A. Lopez said pictures on Instagram page of the school lunches and food doesn't look good. This has been discussed.

C. Graupera asked about having our own kitchen and A. Ferg explained that we do not have the facilities and the vendor handles all of the nutritional compliance analysis required by PDE for us. We would need to hire someone. T. Jones further explained that SDoL used to provide us with food, but we had no bids for our contract.

C. Planning and Development Committee (Colleen Wagner)

- Discussions: Fundraiser - ExtraGive (Raised over \$9000)
- New Position: Fundraiser and Public Relations Director (job description was circulated to board members for feedback)

D. Governance Committee (Colleen Wagner, President)

- Action Items: Staff Hires: Motioned by T. Darcus; seconded by C. Graupera; Motion approved unanimously. Resignation: L. Silva motioned; seconded by T. Darcus; approved unanimously. Board Resignation of Kenneth Hammel: C. Graupera motioned; V. Ramos seconded; motion approved unanimously.
- Nomination to the Board: Gloria Nyutu-Blackman V. Ramos motioned, J Gehman seconded; motion approved unanimously.
- Off Campus Lunch Policy: N. Garress explained the policy, which is also in the Board folder. Discussion ended with policy changed to high academic standing for all 11th and 12th graders to be eligible (no F's) and a renewal each school year. L. Silva motioned, J. Gehman seconded; motion approved unanimously.

IV. New Business

C. Wagner; Financial disclosure forms are due in May, so look for reminders in email.

V. Public Comments

None

VI. Adjournment: 4:58pm by C. Wagner

Next Meeting: February 23, 2022