

**American Renaissance School
Board of Directors Meeting
January 8, 2020 5:30pm**

Mission:

To ensure a standard of academic excellence by providing a nurturing environment that allows each child to reach their fullest potential as students and citizens.

Board Members Present: Michele Knapp, Kameron Brown, Jonathan Bell, Frank DiGangi, Tracy Sain, Danny Carpenter, Caity Gordon

Board Members Not Present: Raphael Weeks

Administrative Staff Present: Jim Duffey, Andrea Leluika, Jessica Duncan, Danielle Cusick, Tai McMiller

Call to Order Michele Knapp

Called to order at 5:33pm

Approval of Agenda Michele Knapp

Kameron moved to approve. Frank seconded.

Recognition

- Wells Fargo and Frank DiGangi Jim Duffey
 - Thank you for the book donation.
- Sarah Rogers and Brad Rashley, holiday concerts Andrea Leluika
 - Holiday concerts and partnership/coordination
- Sheena Worley, holiday store Jessica Duncan
 - Kids really enjoyed shopping for others
 - Made \$5688 and school received \$
- Amanda Drum, Staples donation Jessica Duncan
 - Tubs full of school supplies were donated (about \$1000 worth)
- Terry Johnson, Best Buddies Program and Hoops Program Danielle Cusick
 - New this year and we are so grateful to have him on board.
 - Best Buddies Program
 - Nationwide program - from elementary up to college level
 - Engages kids to come together in partnership, particularly those with severe disabilities.
 - “Be a friend, make a friend”
 - Brought in a lot of kids from the general population to learn how to engage students with disabilities.
 - Pushing to get more students involved.
 - After School Hoops Program
 - From a company in VA (basketball)

Closed Session- Policy Discussion

- Get kids active after school, learn leadership, team building, confidence, as well as basketball skills.
 - Already started with K-5, and offer t-shirts, wristbands etc as incentives.
 - Looking to start at middle school in February.
 - Travel is also involved; Terry is the regional director of this program and is using Statesville as the growth point.
- Nan's Goodwill Bears and Friends Ministry Tai McMiller
 - Has donated 30 teddy bears and incorporated them into an illustrated story for Christmas donations
 - First bears went to Iredell Emergency Department in 2011.
- The Mayhew Family/Marshall Steam Plant, Backpack Program Tai McMiller
 - Pantry is fully stocked (about \$1000 worth was donated)
 - We were able to give a number of children food to take home over winter break
 - Discussing making a monthly donation to this program
- Yours Truly Boutique, donation Christina Zanotti
 - Donated goodies for teachers and classrooms.

Approval of Minutes

Michele Knapp

- Will get these approvals in writing.

Public Comments

Michele Knapp

- None

Committee Reports

- Personnel
 - Introduction Mrs. Brittany Broome Jessica Duncan
 - Already has a great rapport with students and she is fitting in great with leadership team.
 - Resignation Jim Duffey
 - Mr. John Mairs is accepting a position elsewhere.
 - Starts new job after January
 - Had a crisis management meeting with leadership team to find replacement
 - Transition plan is in place for the interim
 - John took on entire communications piece in addition to general IT
- Governance
 - Scheduling interviews with candidates. Sent out notifications and waiting to hear back.
 - Putting some policies in place
 - Meeting tonight
- Finance Frank DiGangi
 - Monthly Financials
 - November 30
 - Revenue over \$627k
 - Expenses stayed the same
 - Showing surplus of over \$200k

- Surplus YTD \$233k
 - Promising that we haven't pulled out a lot of federal funds; state and local projections are on track.
 - EC count is over 80 (higher than usual) - correlates to number of students as well as implementation of interventions
 - EC funding comes in around February
 - Projecting surplus of \$180k by end of year, but this will be diminished by filling open positions.
 - Reviewing expenses with Charter on a monthly basis
 - *Jonathan - Motion to accept October and November financials. Kam seconded. Approved.*
- MPP Budget Analysis John Mairs
 - Included instructions on how to analyze My Payments Plus without him.
 - Frank requested John to provide projections for budgeting purposes.
- Teacher Bonuses
 - Only a select number are eligible, in top 25% of peers in the state.
 - Several of our teachers qualified in this bracket.
 - Bonus they get is unbudgeted money because it depends on state approved funding. (Teacher pays taxes on bonus. Retirement is covered by state.)
- Fundraising Caity Gordon
Gretchen
 - RAP Report
 - Gala
 - Gala donation/sponsor form has been distributed
 - Sponsor spreadsheet has been created and shared with board
 - Adding tab to spreadsheet for new asks (company and contact, yes/no)
 - Preferable to make donations through FlipCause, but can also accept checks.
 - Uniforms
 - Made a profit on sales this year.
 - Some inventory left over.
- Facilities Tracy Sain and Jim
 - New Campus Update
 - Executed contract with GL Wilson for preconstruction services
 - Expect Geotech survey this week
 - TIA survey is a little delayed but we did get some feedback today (waiting on department of bicycles and pedestrians)
 - Once we get that feedback, we can start the program phase
 - Still in good shape in terms of schedule
 - Easements on the property
 - Started working on an outline for the proposal to P&C and Record & Landmark
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 - Facilities stakeholder survey went out, about 200 responses were received
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 - Access Grant Update
 - Approved moving forward last month
 - Craig is writing the grant
 - Letter of intent goes out by January 15

- Intends to have a draft of the grant by January 27
- Grant is due on March 1

School Reports

- **Elementary** - see written report
 - Istation is the evaluation of student progress over the course of the year
 - Level 1 is far below grade level
 - Level 2 is below
 - Levels 3-5 are at or above grade level
 - Teacher-Student Basketball Game is coming up
 - Feb 5 Invention Convention Ratings
- **Middle** - see written report
- **Student Services**- see written report
- **Counseling**- see written report
- **Technology & Communications**
 - 2020-2021 Lottery Applications NOW AVAILABLE online! (Share numbers thus far / compared to pace last year.)
- **Calendar Committee Meeting**
 - 12 staff and 5 parents showed up to participate
 - Reviewed 6 different models for a year-round calendar
 - Reviewed other local public and charter schools with more traditional calendars
 - Everyone took those home to review further
 - Starting after ISS is not beneficial

Jonathan moved to go into closed session. Kam seconded.

- Back in open session -

Frank moved to close. Kam seconded.