

**American Renaissance School  
Board of Directors Meeting  
August 7, 2019 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 in Attendance:** Raphael Weeks, Michele Knapp, Tracy Sain, Danny Carpenter, Caity Gordon

**Board Members Not Present:** Tori Cearlock, Frank DiGangi, Jonathan Bell

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

**Call to Order**

*Called to order at 5:33pm.*

Michele Knapp

**Approval of Agenda**

*Motion to approve by Tracy. Seconded by Kam.*

Michele Knapp

**Recognition**

Administration

- ARSYAA: Jason Green - Coach) *Boys Track team won the Conf Championship, the Girls track team took 2nd Place in the Conf. Championship, and we had an undefeated soccer team that also won a regional tournament runner up*
  - Soccer: Won with flying colors!
  - Track: Came in 2nd place. Beat 2 travel teams and one of the rec teams.
  - Growth of track team: 57 students on the track team this year. Boys' team outscored 2nd place by 84 points (scored 410 points). Girls' team finished in 2nd place, despite being a smaller team (20 students); outscored 3rd place by 187 points.
  - Sprint coach passed away halfway through the season. Team wore red wristbands in her honor.
  - Several team members finished in the top 3 for their competition category, and many others came very close.
  - 106 medals won overall (54 from the girls team, 52 from the boys team)
  - Competed against about 8 teams.
  - Tracy: thank you to Jason (Jason thanked assistant James)
- ARS Summer Care Staff
  - 2nd year of full time summer camp (in addition to PT enrichment camps)
  - Tina and Beth present (many more staff members)
  - Did so many activities and trips
  - Kids' favorites: the rec pool!
  - Tina's favorite: [cool] park in Hickory

- Email Feedback sent to Jim by parent, thanking for the incredible summer camp staff, and their ability and willingness to include
- New ARS family member: Marrett Elizabeth Leluika

## Approval of Minutes

Michele Knapp

*Motion to approve by Kam. 2nd by Raphael*

## Public Comments

[none]

## Committee Reports

- Personnel
  - Introduce New Elementary Staff Members (Jessica)
    - **Christina Zanotti, 3rd Grade Teacher** - Came to ARS from Lakeshore Elementary. Will be the Girls on the Run coach. Has administrative license and has been involved in developing STEAM programs in the past.
    - **Melissa Johnson, 3rd Grade Teacher** - ARS parent. Very devoted to education. Daughter is in 2nd grade, son is going into K. Masters in Literacy.
    - **Janet Spicer, 3rd Grade Teacher** - Came back to ARS from Statesville Middle and . Well-rounded and has already stepped up to get involved with staff via email.
    - **Kelli Reining, 5th Grade Science & Social Studies** - subbed for ARS a lot in the past.
    - **Madeleine Matthews, Kindergarten Teacher** - former ARS student. Worked at Statesville Montessori and Statesville Middle.
  - Some returning staff have rotated to different roles.
  - EC Staff Recommendation (Andrea)
    - **Dana Dandurand** - from Langtree Charter and Iredell Charter. 10+ years of experience in education. Most recently got certified as an EC teacher. Has already re-envisioned the EC space and working well with other EC teacher, Heather.
      - *Tracy moved to approve the new hire. Caity 2nd motion. Approved.*
- Governance
  - No report
- Finance
  - Monthly Financial Statements (Jim reporting on behalf of Frank)
    - Michele: Discrepancy between Charter Financial report and the report dropped in by Frank?
    - Working off of report from Charter Financial:
      - We are still awaiting some items to be processed from this summer.
      - EC services 30% over budget due to testing
      - Clubs and Activities 24% over budget. Jim believes this is due to miscoding. (About \$9k worth of supplies was coded here.)
      - Administrative overages come from My Payments Plus Fees - Revenue is spread to various categories, but expense is listed all in one category.
        - John M has an idea to resolve how this is categorized.
      - Annual Fund discrepancies are a result of the Book Fair. Jim didn't realize that this revenue comes in the form of scholastic dollars. These

were spent on needed classroom items, but couldn't be factored into the budget as revenue.

- Frank noted that Expenses came to 101.19% and Revenue came to 99.87%.
- Only 63% of students paid their sports fees last year. Solution for this year: student gets uniform/jersey only when they've paid their fees. (Exception for students who can't afford the program.)
- Only about 63% of revenue from tech fees was paid. Students will still get their laptop/tech delivered at the same time as every other student.
- *Jim will get answers on some of these items.*
- *Kam moved to approve the June report. Danny 2nd motion. Approved.*
- EC Contracts (Danielle)
  - Invision Services - for visually impaired
  - Audiologist
  - Pediatric Advanced Therapy
  - *Tracy moved to approve. Caity 2nd motion. Approved.*
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- Facilities
  - Parent constructed walls in old board room to create new classrooms for \$3k.
  - Purchased several items to improve EC classrooms (e.g. lamps, etc.).
  - Need tracks and drapes for Donovan Cook Center.
  - Closed Session
- Fundraising
  - RAP Report (Jim)
    - Not much to report in terms of fundraising, but discount cards are planned for the next several weeks.
    - First Day of School
      - RAP brought in breakfast for the teachers today.
      - Energy was very positive.
      - JD's lunches were wonderful.
- School Reports
  - Annual Dan Nicholas Field Trip (next Friday 8/16) - encouraged BOD to attend
    - First half of day - 8th graders lead the team building activities for younger students.
    - Individuals can sponsor students' trips on My Payments Plus.
  - No further reports for Elementary and Middle Schools.
  - Small EC Report from Jim: Kay Johnson was not invited back this year. Danielle Cusick was asked to step into that role and has done a great job so far. Handed out EC Handbook and Staff Handbook.
  - Notebooks with core values on cover
    - Part of a cultural shift
    - Gave one to each staff member.
    - Want to instill these values in staff and students on a daily basis.
    - Will utilize these during staff meetings to keep everyone on task.

***Raphael moved to enter closed session, Tracy 2nd motion.***

**[Closed Session - personnel, negotiated contracts]**

***Motion to adjourn by Kam. Seconded by Raphael.***

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Signed by officer Caity Gordon