



## RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

One Corliss Park

Providence, RI 02908

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### MEETING MINUTES – General Meeting

**Date:** August 6, 2013

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Minutes recorded by:** Nancy Sousa

**Minutes approved on:** 9/10/13

**Interpreters:** Jon Henry and Maureen McEntee

Cart: Shelley Deming

RIDE:

Attorney:

#### Call to Order

- a. Chairperson Marie Lynch called the meeting of the RI School for the Deaf Board of Trustees to order at 6:01 p.m. in the Cafeteria of the RI School for the Deaf.

#### Roll Call of Board of Trustees

- b. **In Attendance:** Travis Zellner, Amy D Roche, Jodi Merryman, Westley Resendes
  - c. **Excused:** Julie Meyers – no longer member – left State.
- **Public Comment:** Todd Murano reported that the golf tournament earned \$3000; thanked Nancy Maguire Heath and Marie Lynch for their participation.
  - **Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes:**
    - May 21, 2013 - Work Session - Tabled** – Travis Zellner will provide next meeting
    - June 4, 2013 - General Meeting – approved by consensus**
    - July 16, 2013 - General Meeting – N/A**
    - July 16, 2013 – Work Session – N/A**
  - **Reports / Action Items:** (6:25 - 7:45pm)
    - Report of the Board of Trustees Chair: **Marie Lynch:**
      - Review of nominees – sent all three nominee’s information to attorney to review and want to forward all to Board of Education to approve as members to our Board.
      - Members read all bios and support the nominees – excited to see people able to give their time and expertise; grateful that they are committed and interested to help us better the school community.

**Consensus: All in favor to present these three nominees to the Board of Education.**

It was noted that the Board of Education will contact the nominees directly.

- 2013-2014 Board of Trustees meeting schedule – **Marie Lynch:** would like to meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month; we must post a schedule (can be changed). Nancy Sousa will provide a calendar at the next meeting – including school vacations and holidays.
- Report of the Director: **Nancy Maguire Heath:**
  - Reported that ESY was very successful
  - Could not post for Personnel Specialist position – all State RIDE positions frozen; we can't use union personnel; Maureen Wu will expand her position to include Personnel and Nancy Sousa will continue to do the payroll and assist Maureen Wu.
  - Teacher negotiations will begin in January.
  - We must designate a Health and Wellness Committee.
  - Board of Education will meet here on 9/9/13 at 5:30; will see the school for the first time.
  - Hired a 3-day/week Librarian – a former student; and a part-time ASL specialist
  - Met with RI-gov re the development of a template for our website – will take few months....but it's FREE.
  - We have professional development coming up – Responsive Classroom and Common Behavior Management Philosophy – for five days at the end of August.
  - Bidders have submitted their bids for our space – RIDE will select bidder for the Race money; one group is very excited to come here.
  - The PIP program is moving to a different room next to kindergarten.
  - We grew to 70 students
- Report of the Board of Trustees Policy Committee: **Jodi Merryman:**
  - Action Item: Handbook – will be up for Final Vote on 9/10/13
  - One small addition from Director – re Dress/Grooming policy – “distracting” items
  - Short discussion re the process of approving policies – with first two readings allowing for edits/changes and the final/approval at the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading/meeting on the policy.
- Report of the Board of Trustees Personnel Committee: **Marie Lynch**
  - Action Item: RI Deaf Director Evaluation Timeline was handed-out to members; feels should be included in By-Laws, but not as a policy;
  - Must decide who the evaluator actually is;
  - Members want more discussion re adopting the evaluator – should not be one person responsible, especially since the Board keeps changing; could be an appointed committee representative.

**Director** noted that she is in a very unique position – reports to the Board, the Commissioner and the Transformation Officer, re goals achieved; need real input with feedback – rating doesn't mean anything; adding the 360 on top = an intensive assessment.

**Members:** suggested getting feedback from representative constituents, re the Transformation Process; student performance is one of many pieces.

- Report of the Board of Trustees ByLaws Committee: **Travis Zellner**
  - My report will be ready for 1<sup>st</sup> reading at next meeting – one change to discuss is the time of meetings; we must meet every month; can do a general meeting, then a work session; to satisfy the law, could say we meet first Tuesday of every month.

- **Executive Session:** (7:45 – 8:15pm)
  - The Board may seek to convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing:
    - RISD Director, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(1)

**NOTE TAKER WAS DISMISSED AT 7:15 p.m.**

- **Adjournment:** (8:15pm)