



RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

One Corliss Park

Providence, RI 02908

MEETING MINUTES – General Meeting

Date: April 7, 2015

Time: Minutes recorded by: Helen Edwards

Minutes approved on: June 2, 2015

Interpreters: Carol Fay, Maureen McEntee

Cart: Shelly Deming

Call to Order:

a. Board Chairperson Amanda Montgomery called the meeting of the RI School for the Deaf Board of Trustees to order at 6:05 pm in the Cafeteria of the School for the Deaf.

- **Roll Call of Board of Trustees**

b. In Attendance: Amanda Montgomery, Jonathan Henner, Joseph Fischgrund, Jane Newkirk, Danielle Loughlin, Heather Niedbala, Nora Meah

c. **Excused:** Lindsey Medeiros

Public Comment: None

- **Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

Postponed

- **Reports:**

- Report of the Board of Trustees Chair:

- Board Member Recruitment

Chairperson Montgomery gave a brief update on the Board Recruitment. There is one person who is interested. Chairperson Montgomery asked for one or two volunteers from the Board to interview this person with her.

- Board Training

Chairperson Montgomery notified the Board that the training should be scheduled for April. Joseph Fischgrund asked whether the training would take place during the week or on the weekend. It was stated that it would probably be on a Saturday.

- Reports of the Director and Assistant Director of Finance:

- PARCC

Director Maguire Heath gave a brief PowerPoint description on PARCC. (A copy of the presentation is attached). There was also a previous presentation to parents and families. Director Maguire Heath noted that the students were very calm and reasonably positive about the test, and handled the technology well.

- Director Maguire Heath congratulated one student's participation in the Miss Amazing Pageant. One of our students Cecelia Mamjo was a contestant and earned the title of First Runner Up.
- Recent Family newsletter was included in the April Board packet. April 29th is the Kick-off to the School's birthday celebration. Board members are urged to attend.
- Four middle school students will be attending the Math Bowl in Rochester, NY and will compete against other deaf schools.
- The Jr. NAD Regional Conference will be here at the school. The School has recently revived the Jr. NAD chapter, which was dormant for many years. There are 6 other schools, which will be participating. Friday night will be primarily social with opportunities for students to meet each other. On Saturday, three presenters will be discussing advocacy and rights issues for the Deaf followed by "hands-on" activities to emphasize positive citizen participation in government. Our students have learned how to plan a conference, how to select presenters, and how to create a budget.
- The administration of the Stanford Achievement Test -10 (SAT-10) was completed last week. The SATs have norms for deaf and hard of hearing students and are used as an academic growth measure.
- Five (5) students have been accepted to college. Ten are scheduled to graduate.
- May 27th is our Arts Night. There will be ASL presentations, displays from our art program and some of our drama students from *Shakespeare in the City* doing a scene from Romeo and Juliet.
- Our new troop (Girl Scouts) have sold over 800 boxes of cookies thus far. They will be involved in the Kick-Off Celebration by leading the pledge to the flag.
- Track season has begun.
- Director Maguire Heath also informed the Board that there are a few job openings at the school. We are posting for a new Building and Grounds Lead Maintenance person, two Audio Test Technicians, a Secretary for Director Maguire Heath and a custodian.
- Vehicle Approval
Assistant Director Wu announced that the Budget Office has approved the 15-passenger activity bus and the 8-passenger vehicle that we requested for safety reasons. She stated that we should have the 8-passenger vehicle before the end of the fiscal year. It is on the state master price agreement. The 15-passenger activity bus will have to go out to bid. We are hoping to have it by mid-summer or by the beginning of the school year. We will be converting the 2012 passenger van into a cargo van. We will be turning in the 1993 van and the 2010 passenger van. We will end up with three good vehicles - a good solution for students.

