

**The Greene School
BOD Meeting Minutes
94 John Potter Rd
West Greenwich, RI
January 21st, 2015 at 7 PM**

Open Session:

Call to Order- meeting began at 7:03PM

Members present: Amy, Paul, Jen, Kelly, Dick, Gayle, Christa and Laura

Non members present: Dee Duncan (Head of School), Lisa Cash (Business Manager)

Reading of the Mission Statement by Paul Morse

Public Comment (15 minute limit)

Approval of the 12/17/14 open and closed meeting minutes

Jen made a motion to approve both the open and closed meeting minutes from 12/17/14. Paul 2nd the motion. All approved unanimously.

It was suggested to add a more elaborate account of public comments into the minutes

Old Business:

1. Head of School Update

- a. We have 2 math classes for lower grades due to our changing demographics and may need a remedial ELA class for 9th grade for next year. Many students are from homes where the parents do not speak English at all.
- b. One student is in a ESL program and was in this last year as well
- c. ASVAB testing- we decided to give this test to use as assessment data since NECAP is no longer available
- d. The nurse had 30 students qualify and receive both dental and vision screening
- e. Open houses for prospective students have been full
- f. The school has been struggling with students passing passage portfolio- they are finding that students transferring from other schools haven't met this requirement. Ms. Hoaglund has been helping students with this and it's working.
- g. GIS- TGS has been asked to be presenters at the GIS Educator's day. TGS and the senior project of 2013-2014 were nominated to be a "Lighthouse" on the map of successful GIS initiatives across the country.
- h. Ms. Duncan has been trying to contact Drew Allsop from RIDE charter school office - has a phone call appointment scheduled for Friday. She wants to touch base about our renewal condition and our expansion request.
- i. *The Special House Commission to Study and Assess Rhode Islands "Fair Funding Formula"* meeting regarding the funding formula for charter schools is coming up soon with the committee that was formed last month
- j. TGS is going to do some advertising on the radio.

2. Finance Committee Update
 - a. Audit update
 - i. Moving more smoothly, background information has been collected, needs a functional expense report by Friday. Lisa Cash thinks it will be done soon.
 - b. Status of budget for school year 2015-2016
 - ii. Will start working on the budget
3. Academic Standards Update
 - a. Update on RIDE expansion request: Both Dee and Amy have been in contact with Drew Allsop weekly. The request has not moved forward while the new governor rearranges the Board of Education and RIDE.
4. Facilities Committee Update
 - a. Update on East Greenwich property, not eligible
 - i. This cannot be financed by a USDA rural loan as it is a business park/condo place with a brownfield history
 - b. Update on West Greenwich lot
 - i. Maybe able to subdivide, Paul Morse has contacted the owner to see if he is looking for a charitable donation for the year
 - ii. Will need an engineer to look at the property to see how it could be subdivided.
 - c. Update on Exeter lot
 - i. Not too far from current location, 50 acres
Paul and Amy continue to investigate multiple sites in communities which qualify for the USDA Rural Development Loan program
 - c. Update on current lease with Lifespan/Gateway
We owe Lifespan \$30,000.00 for past utilities according to them. We will ask for the actual bills before we pay. Gateway never presented us bills when they were due, but Lifespan has acquired Gateway and is reading the lease more closely. Utilities are approximately \$2,000.00/month which we did not budget for and we will need to include. We are in discussion about the past due utility bills.
5. Fundraising Committee Update
 - a. Cow Golf May 2nd
 - b. Next fundraising meeting is Thursday at 6PM, we will discuss golf and silent auction
Paul said need to look to foundations and grant monies more- lists are available on-line, Amy said Betsy Grenier has formulated a grant plan for TGS and she will forward that list.
 - c. 100 mile radius dinner Kelly and Dan Spano have been working on a new venue
 - d. Capital campaign discussion Amy and Betsy Grenier have discussed a campaign to augment borrowing for construction.

6. Governance Committee update

- a. Board expectations and evaluation process
Christa, Kelly and Laura will meet and continue to work on this
- b. Recruitment of new board members
Try to invite any interested new board members to an already scheduled open house since presentations are already being done well at that level
- c. Committee assignments
Laura will review what committees everyone is on and will report at the next meeting
- d. Conflict of interest paperwork signed at this meeting and the policy was circulated prior to the meeting for review

New Business:

1. Lottery update- lottery is March 2nd, 2015
 - a. The school is going through the process to prepare for the lottery

At 8:30PM ,Laura made a motion to enter into executive session: Pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(5) ((litigation) dispute with a vendor. Paul 2nd. All agreed unanimously.

At 8:44PM, Laura made a motion to return to open session. Dick 2nd . All agreed unanimously.

It was announced that no votes were taken in executive session.

At 8:45PM- Paul made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kelly 2nd. All agreed unanimously. Paul made a motion to seal the minutes from executive session. Jen 2nd . All agreed unanimously.

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