

BREVARD ACADEMY – A CHALLENGE FOUNDATION ACADEMY

Board of Directors Regular Meeting

December 14, 2015, 5:47 p.m.

Searcy Hall

Chair: Warren Alston

Secretary: Zia McConnell

Members present: Warren Alston, Laura Thomas, Amy Knight, Nick Iosue, Ashleigh Dalton, and Stewart Marshall.

Administration present: Barbara Grimm.

The regular meeting of the Brevard Academy Board of Directors was called to order by the Chair at 5:47 p.m. A quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Warren Alston.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion: A motion was made by Nick to approve the agenda. Laura seconded. Unanimous vote -- **Motion carried.**

Consideration and approval of minutes:

Motion: A motion was made by Nick to approve past minutes for November 16, 2015, meeting. Amy Knight seconded. Unanimous vote -- **Motion carried.**

Public Comment: None.

PTO Report:

No PTO report was given. A financial report was provided.

Booster Club Report:

No report was given. A financial report was handed out.

Teachers' report:

Teacher report was provided by the third grade teachers who were Ms. Bronwyn Flood and Mrs. Jenny Greer-Hardwick. This year in the third grade class they have divided the class out for reading and math sections within the class. Ms. Flood and Ms. Bronwyn are both teaching reading and math and they are tailoring the reading and math programs depending on where the students are specifically. They are able to push the students that are able to move forward and are able to spend a little extra time with students if needed.

Financial report from Nick and the board action requested, there are four:

1. Line 1 salary for teacher, it is requested to be reduced by \$20,000.
2. Line 1 salary, which is for teacher's assistant and the request is to add \$20,000.

3. Line 1 salary substitute, request to add \$10,000.
4. Line 1 salary assistant principal, request to add \$30,928.

If all recommendations are approved, the expense will increase by \$40,928. That change will decrease net surplus by \$40,928 and the net surplus is \$205,991.37.

Motion: A motion was made by Zia to approve the budget amendments as amended to as presented. Nick seconded. Unanimous vote -- **Motion carried.**

Director report: Barbara Grimm

PERSONNEL

We are pleased to welcome Christina Cison, our new Kindergarten teacher, who is shadowing Ms. Greene and Ms. Kicklighter the week of December 14th, and will start full time on January 4th.

ENROLLMENT

Three new students will be starting in January. This will increase our enrollment back to 289.

Current Total – 286

ADVERTISING

New Billboards – We will be placing billboards in 4 locations beginning December 14th.

White Squirrel: Our December radio spot was Tuesday, December 8th at 9:15. I discussed the upcoming school wide informational events and gave an update on the new property.

Twilight Tour

We had over 50 students, parents and teachers involved in the parade. The Casey's created an amazing dog house to showcase our new mascot, Brutus. We handed out candy and PTO provided hot chocolate and cookies at the end of the parade. Amy Winston headed up our Holiday Craft at the Elf's Workshop and several teachers helped kids make Elf's hats. The travel band and chorus performed on stage and the chorus caroled through the streets. Finally, we had an informational booth that highlighted our video and upcoming events.

EC – RELATED SERVICES

Heather, Kate and attended the 65th Conference on Exceptional Children on November 18-20, the Nuts and Bolts Training on Monday, November 30th and the EC Director's meeting on Friday, December 4th to ensure that we are prepared to respond to the EC Audit, complete the LEA self-assessment and, most importantly, serve our students appropriately. These trainings have been invaluable for us to fully understand compliance issues and how to serve students in the least restrictive environment.

ATHLETICS

The boys are currently 4-3 and 3-1 in conference and girls are 1-6 and 1-3 in conference. Both teams are showing signs of improvements and really battling hard. We have three more games before Christmas break. We will be honoring our 8th graders at the next home game on Monday, December 14th.

SCHOOL SAFETY COMMITTEE:

We have completed a school safety report and will send it to Morrow Insurance Company and begin training teachers on protocol. Our teachers have been given training on Sexual Misconduct and Signs of Sexual Abuse and necessary statements have been added to the employment forms. Six teachers have completed CPR training and another teacher is already certified. Lisa Malaquin-Prey will be attending CPI training in January.

IMPORTANT DATES

December 14th Home Basketball game – 8th grade night

December 18 - 12:30 - Christmas Luncheon at Quixotes

January 19th 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Whole School Open House. Our Kindergarten - 8th grade classrooms will be open for visitors to stop in and see our classes in action.

February 18th 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Kindergarten Readiness Night. Kindergarten teachers will be available to discuss the upcoming 2016-2017 Kindergarten program and answer questions about "Kindergarten Readiness."

March 22nd

Kindergarten Q & A Sessions & Classroom Visits. ~

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Kindergarten Q & A Session with the teachers 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Visit the Kindergarten Classrooms~

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Kindergarten Q & A Session with the teachers.

April 14th 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.~

Kindergarten & First Grade Core Knowledge Night. The Kindergarten and First Grade classes will present a program highlighting their Core Knowledge Studies. The program begins at 5:30 p.m. with a dinner to follow at 6:15 p.m.

SERVICE AND COMMUNITY

Community Outreach

Shoes for Area Families

The first grade collected 100 pairs of shoes to be given to area agencies for families in need.

Blankets

Over 100 blankets were collected by the Beta Club and given to the Sharing House.

Travel Band performances in December

Twilight Tour

College Walk

Transylvania County Hospital Lobby

Partnerships

Brevard Community Church was incredibly generous in allowing us the use of their fellowship hall and the use of a van when our field trip was rescheduled. Use of the facility for our Christmas performance only cost us \$50.

Back Pack Buddies

We are able to provide Backpack Buddies for our neediest students for about \$3.00 per child per week. We are currently looking for benefactors to help us with this expense. We are sending home letters and hope to begin the program in January.

Barbara is interested in starting a program called the BackPack Buddies and it is to support students and families within our Brevard Academy community that may need a little extra help for food through the weekend. Barbara suspects that there are 10 to 15 students that may need assistance. Barbara has been speaking with a particular mother within the Brevard Academy School to help start this initiative for our school, looks like there will be different support from different programs within our community including Anchor Baptist Church, the Hunger Coalition, but there still will need to be some financial funding for this program. Barbara is expecting this to cost \$12 per month per child and she is expecting roughly maybe 10 to 15 students that may need this help or support. If anybody is interested in giving to this, Barbara said to give to Brevard Academy with BackPack Buddies in the memo line. Warren stated that he wanted this to be a new topic to add to monthly lunch meetings with Barbara to continue to be updated about this program.

Volunteer Opportunities

Trudy is preparing about 56 thank you gifts for our volunteers as a mid year thank you to all our volunteers for their help and will be handing them out to classroom teachers this Thursday.

BUS

The gas used for October was \$237.75. Brian Bullock, our EC assistant, will be completing the driving portion of his CDL in January.

Professional Development

Technology

Kimberly attended the VSTE conference, Virginia Society for Technology in Education, on December 7-8. This will help greatly to inform the direction of our technology curriculum.

Action Items

Bonus Item

Team CFA Report: Laura Thomas

Laura Thomas stated that former BA director, Tony Helton will be the chief operating officer of team CFA.

Committee Reports:

Facilities: Amy Knight

- ! Amy stated that there is no new business and that she is trying to find a good way to touch base with Mark Bebee to get occasional updates on the new property and how things are progressing.

Fund development/Marketing & Outreach

- ! Nick stated that he is going to have to wait until the first of year to proceed with fund raising. Barbara stated she has spoken with a lady that is interested to help Brevard Academy fund raise. This lady is interested in a live auction.

Long Range Planning and Visioning: Zia

- ! Zia stated that we will table this for now and reassess it in January.

Personnel: Laura/Warren

- ! There is a new kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Christina Cison. She is a seasoned kindergarten teacher. She comes to us with a lot of experience. She is coming from Florida and she has been shadowing with the kids for the last week of school and will begin full-time kindergarten teacher, replacing Ms. Malaquin-Prey on January 4.

Board Development, Policies and Procedures: Stewart

- ! No report.

Old Business:

Board training is scheduled for January 30 in Charlotte and this should be an annual training for board members.

New Business:

- ! Warren and Nick met with a lady with Prudential about a 401k opportunity for our staff members. This will be an opportunity for staff members to participate. At this time, there will be no matching and that will be re-visited each year. This is a voluntary opportunity and the staff does not have to participate.
- ! **Motion** was made to approve offering the 401k to staff members, which was made by Nick, Stewart seconded the motion. Unanimous vote- **Motion carried**.
- ! Barbara Grimm had information from 35 Degrees North which had a new proposal for the same type of project as Muddy Sneakers.
- ! **Motion** was made to accept this proposal from 35 Degrees North. The motion was made from Nick, it was seconded by Laura. Unanimous vote-motioned carried.
- ! Amy stated that she applied for a grant through Lowe's for outdoor education space and we will find out about that grant in January.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will take place on January 11th, 2016 at 5:45 p.m. in the Searcy Hall.

Other meeting dates:

- February 8, 2016
- March 21, 2016
- April 18, 2016
- May 16, 2016
- June 13, 2016
- June 22-26th, 2016 - Team CFA Conference
- July retreat will be set at a later date

Adjourn:

Motion: Nick made a motion to adjourn. Zia seconded. Vote was unanimous.
Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.