

## BREVARD ACADEMY – A CHALLENGE FOUNDATION ACADEMY

## Board of Directors Regular Meeting

November 18, 2013, 6:30 p.m.

Conference Room, Brevard Academy Campus

Chair: Frank Prince

Secretary: Zia McConnell, present

Members present: Warren Alston (Vice-Chair/Treasurer), Stewart Marshall, Cheryl Reinstadler,  
Nick Iosue

Administration present: Tony Helton, Ben Butler

Guests: Jennifer McCluney (Acadia NorthStar), Steve Goodwin (Turning West)

The regular meeting of the Brevard Academy Board of Directors was called to order by the chair at 6:37 p.m. A quorum was present.

**Approval of Agenda:**

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

**Consideration and approval of minutes:**

**Motion:** A motion was made by Warren to approve the meeting minutes from the October 21<sup>st</sup> 2013 regular Board of Directors meeting. Cheryl seconded.  
Unanimous vote -- **Motion carried.**

**Public comment:**

None

**Financial Report – Jennifer McCluney (see attached)**

There was one budget amendment request:

Line 1 Salary – Coach stipend – add \$1800. Line 1: Salary – Supplemental Pay, reduce by \$1800.

Because the state has not yet calculated a 20-day head count, we need to take \$1800 from the Supplemental Pay line.

Brevard is no longer considered by the state to be categorized as rural. Therefore, ~\$26K will need to be removed from the budget.

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

**PTO report:**

Lisa Malaquin-Prey read the minutes from the PTO meeting.

Being considered:

- A float in the Brevard Christmas Parade
- A Joe Corbi fundraiser; info going to parents in the next few days
- A Middle School Winter Dance

**Teacher report: Lisa Malaquin-Prey, Katie Delizza**

The two Kindergarten teachers gave a thorough explanation and review of the new Core Knowledge Language Arts curriculum and Singapore Math being used in their classrooms now.

Core Knowledge (CK) Language Arts

This curriculum doesn't take the traditional approach to teaching letters, writing, and reading skills. The students start by learning the sounds of the letters, then the letters associated with those sounds. They practice listening, and learn environmental words, such as right, left, horizontal and vertical. They need these position words to help when they learn writing.

The curriculum is very kinesthetically based – There is lots of movement and other senses involved in the learning process. The students are even given mirrors so that they can see what their mouths are doing as they say the sounds.

Cheryl asked the teachers how the parents are doing with this new method, as sometimes change is hard. The teachers said they had prepared parents during the Open House that this Language Arts program was very different than how they may have learned their letters in school. So far the feedback from parents has been really positive, probably because they see the enthusiasm from their children, and see the progress being made.

Kids who already know their letters, and there are some in the class that can already read are still engaged because the curriculum is so physical and fun and engaging. Plus, they still need to learn the sounds of the letters, and the directional vocabulary for when they start to learn to write.

There are "decodable" books that are part of the curriculum – these are books based on the sounds that the students have learned and can de-code. The students finished the ones that came with the curriculum, so the teachers created some of their own books, because the students were ready for these sooner than the CK curriculum showed they would be. For these custom made books, the Kindergarten teachers enlisted the help of the 8<sup>th</sup> graders as illustrators – Great idea for collaboration!

Cheryl said that perhaps as these books get created, they could be shared on the Team CFA network so that other schools using the new curriculum might use them also.

Already Kindergarten has learned 21 of the necessary 44 sounds of the English language!

Singapore Math

Singapore Math, like CK, spirals up using building on information learned. So, there is learning number order, sorting and classifying, then number names, and geometric shapes.

As Kindergarten is just starting this type of math this year, it is thought that perhaps we will add Singapore math each grade a year as the current K moves up a grade. This way, those who have been taught Singapore math early on will continue in this new way of thinking of numbers.

Ms. Delizza showed the board some of the manipulatives used such as the number bands. The number bands consist of beads on pipe cleaners, and help students recognize all of the fact families that make up numbers. The students begin to see number relationships and groupings.

Again, the students like sensory approach to learning, and it touches all learning styles.

**Preschool update information session - Steve Goodwin**

Mr. Goodwin presented the feasibility study that was made possible by approval from the Board .

For success to happen in the fall, parents look in Jan/Feb for a preschool for their children. Brevard appears to be a good solid market for a new preschool. This preschool would be an educational-based preschool instead of a developmental preschool as most in Brevard are now. However, be reminded that Core Knowledge Pre-K curriculum is not approved by the state of NC at this time.

Some facts:

71% of students in NC are on subsidies

Pre-K acts as transitional Kindergarten for those who need the extra boost for Kindergarten.

The state rates Pre-Ks in terms of “stars” with a 5-star rating being the highest.

Things that contribute to a 5-star rating:

- Smaller ratio of children to teacher
- Education level of teachers and staff
- Larger playground/safe playground area

The state is going to require curriculum for Pre Ks in this upcoming year (so all Pre Ks will be required to provide defined curriculums)

There is a facility that was a Day Care that is available right now in Brevard, and there are potential competitors looking at it.

There are challenges – mainly the timeline -- Must jump on this to roll this out for the upcoming school year.

It would be run as a IRC 501(c) (3) non-profit. The PK Board would be separate from the current BA-CFA Board, but would report to the BA-CFA Board.

It should be a revenue positive business.

The question was asked how the information for the study was obtained. Mr. Goodwin said that focus groups were run from the community, along with research(i.e., checking numbers, state statutes and regulations, etc.) to provide the information to show that there is a need and desire for such a preschool.

### **Director’s report – (see attached)**

#### *Enrollment*

Current student enrollment stands at 227.

#### *Audit Report*

The Audit Report from Petway, Mills, and Pearson distributed. No exceptions were found in our practices for the budget year of 2012-2013.

#### *Stolen Property*

The Brevard Police Department was very hard working in our recent break-in and theft. They recovered 3 computers and have made an arrest in the case. We will now file for insurance recovery and replace the stolen computers.

### **Team CFA report: Cheryl Reinstadler**

Team CFA representatives will be reviewing the affiliate agreements held with all of the CFA schools. There are several exhibits at the end of the agreements that allow Team CFA and the schools to see how the schools are doing with regard to the items listed in the agreements, and where Team CFA might be able to be of help for schools to stay on track.

**Committee Reports:***Finance Committee: Warren & Zia*

- T-shirts and sweatshirts have been very popular!

*Fund Development & Public Outreach*

- Warren invited Nick to be a part of this committee

*Long Range Planning and Visioning: Zia*

- We may need to set a goal of reviewing the 5-year plan twice a year instead of just once (currently this happens in July at the retreat) so that we can better see while school is in session where we are. The affiliate agreement checklist to be provided by Team CFA will be a good thing to add to this process.

*Personnel: Zia*

- None

*Board Development, Policies and Procedures: Stewart*

- None

*Facilities*

- None at this time

**Old Business**

Team CFA is looking at doing a joint Board Training of several North Carolina CFA schools in the spring.

**New Business:**

None

**Next Regular Meeting:**

December 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:15 p.m. in the BA-CFA Conference Room. The meeting is at a later time so that all may attend the Winter Concert at the Porter Center, which starts at 5:30 p.m.

**Closed Session:**

**Motion:** Nick made a motion from the floor to enter into a closed session to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential information under the NC general Statutes 143.318.11 (a) (1) to discuss items related to property acquisition. Warren seconded.

**Motion carried.** The Board entered into Closed Session at 8:22 p.m.

**Motion:** Warren made a motion to come out of Closed Session. Cheryl seconded.

**Motion carried.** Time: 8:55 p.m. **No action was taken.**

**Adjourn:**

**Motion:** Zia made a motion to adjourn. Cheryl seconded.

Vote was unanimous. **Motion carried.**