

BREVARD ACADEMY – A CHALLENGE FOUNDATION ACADEMY

Board of Directors Regular Meeting

September 16, 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

Administration present: Tony Helton, Ben Butler

Guests: Jennifer McCluney (Acadia NorthStar), John Lanier (T-Times)

The regular meeting of the Brevard Academy Board of Directors was called to order by Chair, Frank Prince at 6:34 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Consideration and approval of minutes:

Motion: A motion was made by Cheryl to approve the meeting minutes from the August 19th regular Board of Directors meeting. Warren seconded. Unanimous vote -- **Motion carried.**

Public comment:

None

Financial Report – Krystal Powell (see attached)

There are no Board budget amendments needed this month. Everything is on target.

The state retirement figures are in and the new number is 14.69%. The figure the budget was based on was 14.23%. We want to wait and see what our 20th day numbers turn out to be before we request any amendment to cover this increase. We budgeted on 213 students, and will have 230 from our 20 day student headcount.

Krystal is our account representative has had heart surgery. Zia will send her a card on behalf of the Board.

PTO Report:

None

Director’s report – (see attached)

We received a check (minus our \$500 deductible) for our printers that were hit by lightning.

Enrollment: We currently have 230 students; one Kindergartner moved away since last month’s report.

Denial of Participation: Our sports teams had played other Transylvania County School teams last year, but when asked this year, we were told their teams would not be playing BA-CFA. This of course is very disappointing.

Stewart said that he wonders if it is the powers at the top that are generally prejudiced against charter schools. Warren said he would like to find out what the official word on this is from the Transylvania County Schools Superintendent.

Mr. Helton said that he knows that schools are free to choose who they play in sports. Mr. Helton will write asking if we have done anything wrong that would have lead to this decision.

MAPs will be the end of this week. They must be finished by next Friday. Moving computers in and out of the school is really hard on the equipment, and we ran into to some technical problems for MAPs.

PowerSchool: we had an internet non-compatibility issue on our end that took a full 2 weeks to fix. It is completed now, but consistent access is still an issue.

Singapore Math: The transition to Singapore Math is underway in grades K-2. All materials are in place and the teachers are working well with the program as are the students.

Core Knowledge Language Arts: The transition to CKLA is also underway in grades K-3. All materials are in place and going very well in the classroom with our students.

Staff shout-out goes to Mr. Gardner for spearheading the Patriot's Day celebration. The students participated and were very well-behaved – it was a meaningful ceremony.

Cheryl asked if anyone videoed the ceremony – She said that things like this need to be on our website so that prospective parents and frankly, everyone can see what we are doing at BA-CFA. Mr. Helton mentioned that getting video on the website is really a trick. Mrs. Best spoke up and said that you have to load it through YouTube and link it back to the website.

Preschool: Mr. Helton said that he is looking into the possibility of having a Core Knowledge-based preschool. It would have to be a totally separate school from BA-CFA, due to the fact that payment would be made to the pre-school. Steve from Turning West helps develop preschools all across the nation. He has a business model with all the regulations required. He has been helping us look into this. It seems to fit that having a Core Knowledge based preschool would help as students prepare for a Core Knowledge K-8 education. As far as we know, nothing like this is being done any where else in the network.

Teacher report: Camy Stirling & Katie Campbell

1st grade received a tablet with the new Core Knowledge Language Arts program. The teachers had one day of training from Amplify. It would have been better if the company had had a trained Core Knowledge (CK) person to do the training on the tablet.

There is a 2-part program: Decoding & Oral (language/vocabulary)

New part K-3 got the skill-strand. Science and Social Studies vocabulary for CK is built into the reading program which helps with continuity and understanding.

As E.D. Hirsh says, it is that building block learning that is so important – the background knowledge is key to truly understanding various subjects.

First grade MAPs test back...the teachers swap kids out who have issues and need more help, and also those who need more of a challenge. MAPs help to individualize the material the teachers cover with each student.

Katie Campbell is the lead teacher on licensure – helping teachers understand MAPs is a goal for every BA-CFA teacher. As this knowledge is gained by the teachers, cooperation across grade levels becomes easier. And cooperation across those levels is KEY to helping our students learn to their full potential.

There will be a Core Knowledge presentation by 5th-8th graders just before our October meeting. It will be at 5:00 or 5:30 – this is so all Board members can attend and see Core Knowledge in action at our school.

Also, the Christmas concert or a preview will be before our December 16th meeting. 3rd & 4th graders will give a Core Knowledge presentation on Feb 10th, and K-2 will give their CK presentation on March 17th. This gives the Board a chance to really see our school and our students showcase what they have learned....

Cheryl said she might bring the videographer for this.

Team CFA report: Cheryl Reinstadler

The Team CFA training in Portland has been cancelled.

Every Team CFA school signs an affiliate agreement as part of the deal with being linked to Team CFA. There is a scoring rubric being designed so that each school can be measured on how they are doing based on what is listed in the exhibits of that agreement. Cheryl and Stewart will be sitting down to work on this rubric and will have it ready by December so that a dry run of how that tool will be used can be shared with us.

The annual Team CFA dinner invitations have been sent out, and we hope all Board members will be able to attend. It is on Friday, October 4th.

The Governance Board has developed a Director's evaluation tool that has measurable/tangible items to use throughout the year, so that it isn't May, and people are suddenly realizing they need to do a director evaluation. We need to begin to use this tool, and also update the Director evaluation that the staff uses. Zia will work on this updating the staff eval tool to be more BA-CFA specific.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Warren & Zia

- None

Fund Development & Public Outreach

- None

Long Range Planning and Visioning: Zia

- None.

Personnel: Zia

- Mr. Helton reported that Heather Corn has been hired to work with one of our students one-on-one.

Board Development, Policies and Procedures: Stewart

- Zia will work on the staff evaluation tool.

Facilities

- Information in Closed Session.

Old Business

Last meeting, the staff said they would present something to the Board to address those students in need of money for field trips, coats, uniforms, etc. At this point in time, these cases are being handled individually, and it is the goal of the school and the Board that NO CHILD will go without the proper uniform, or money for a field trip, or anything that would keep them from participating in our sports programs.

New Business:

Motion: A motion was made by Warren to approve Nick Iosue as a new Board member. Zia seconded the motion. Unanimous vote -- **Motion carried.**

Nick Iosue was welcomed onto the Board.

Next Meeting:

October 21st, 6:30 p.m., BA-CFA Conference Room

Short Break – 10 minutes**Closed Session:**

Motion: Zia 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 7:53 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. Warren seconded. Vote was unanimous. **Motion carried.**