

Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy: CFA
Board Meeting
October 14, 2014

Location: High School Media Center

Present: Paul Foley, Andy Francis, Jeff Powell, Paula Staley, Phillip Byers, Sally Harbin, Jason Ruff, Donna Trimble

Not Present: Ted Bell, Ronda Alexander, Nick Longerbeam, Jerald DeLaGarza

Others Present: Jason Cole, Joe Maimone, Edith Shumate, Jeff Ziegler

OPENING:

The meeting opened at 5:45 PM.

Pledge

Prayer

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

SIXTH GRADE PRESENTATION:

The sixth grade team (Elizabeth Deaton, Matt Daigle, and Jonathan Foust) presented the work of the sixth grade. The mimeo presentation was fantastic.

MAP/EOG TESTING a Teacher's Perspective:

Georgia Maimone presented the teacher's perspective on Map/EOG testing. See the attachment. Mrs. Maimone explained how the testing challenges teachers. How the tests help and how they do not help. Sample test forms were distributed. The sample reports were review. The Reading Lexil score refers to reading, vocabulary. The Lexil helps the teacher assign books that will help improve the child's reading. All tests are limited in what they can measure. Students can have a bad testing date. Students will show a drop in test scores at different time. However the testing can be used as a measure to help the student improve. Classroom achievement must be used along with test scores. The EOG focuses on one or two concepts or a very small slice of what is actually covered. The test is being reworked again. The lack of consistency in curriculum such as eliminating common core and the constant test and scoring changes prevent the EOG from being a useful tool. However the EVAAS measurement of the teacher is linked to the EOG test score. Testing data is useful but cannot be the only measure. EOG a narrow slice. MAP is a broad spectrum test. Map Tests cover three areas – Reading, Math and Language. The Reading test covers – literature, vocabulary and informational text recognition. The Map Math Test covers – numbers, geometry, algebraic thinking and measurement. Map provides a much broader spectrum the EOG. Testing is one measure used by teachers to point out weaknesses, but cannot be the only measure.

Compass Learning links to the MAP Scores providing personalized modules connected to the MAP Test Score weaknesses.

This information explained to the board is individualized by Mrs. Maimone and explained one on one with the parents of students in her classroom. Some parents are receptive to the information. Some

parents are not receptive. TJCA website links are available for parents to use to understand the test scores.

The State of North Carolina is meeting to reevaluate the testing system for North Carolina. Currently the EOG is used to evaluate the teacher and the school.

Chairman's Moment:

Andy Francis noted that Phil Byers had a birthday. Happy Birthday Philip. Second, Heidi Cole was presented a plaque, a vacation and an orchid for her achievement as runner up NC State Teacher of the year.

MINUTES:

The September Board Minutes were presented. Philip Byers made the motion to accept the minutes. Sally Harbin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Paul Foley stated that the financial report will be presented under the Finance Committee meeting update.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

TEAMCFA Report: Paul Foley presented the report. Twelve schools are in the network. Two schools have approved charters and will open in 1025. One school has a charter pending. The annual board dinner for the western TeamCFA schools was recently held in Asheville.

FORUM Report:

The Forum report is included in the packet. The Fall Festival is scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2014 at the grammar school. The new K-12 Forum Structure is beneficial.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Joe Maimone presented the Director's Report. The actual ADM is 1303. October is a busy testing month for TJCA Students. The PSAT test will be taken tomorrow. The SAT is scheduled for October as well. TJCA pays for the PSAT test at a cost of \$12,000 per year. Map Test cost \$12,000 per year. ACT does not cost the school any expense. This Friday is a teacher workday. Joe Maimone will be meeting with the Polk County Superintendent on the workday.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: No report.

Community Relations Committee: no report.

Curriculum Committee: The committee met and discussed Singapore Math and the need for books for some grades. Jason Cole will be working on creating books for some areas. The debate about having a classroom set as opposed to a take home set of books is being discussed.

Finance Committee Report:

The Finance Committee recommends the acceptance of the 9/1/2014- 10/2/2014 budget. Jeff Powell made the motion to accept the current budget. Sally Harbin seconded the motion. The budget passed unanimously.

Facilities Resources Report: Jason Ruff presented the report. Please see the attachment. Several heating units are currently being repaired. The Facility Committee is hoping for energy conservation with the new units. The boiler will not be used this year. The Window units are currently being removed. The power line from the school to the transformer that was replaced after a transformer fire must be upgraded. The power line repair is the school's responsibility rather than the responsibility of Duke Power.

Fundraising Committee:

The Fundraising Committee report was presented by Joe Maimone. See attached report. The Gala brought in a funds totaling \$20,663.64 for the capital campaign. A \$50,000 grant from Stone Cutter has also been received for the capital campaign. The Fundraising Committee needs the vision nailed down in order to continue the fundraising momentum.

- The Fundraising Committee requests that a Vision Committee be established to develop the details of the Vision by January 2015.
- The Fundraising Committee asked that the board request that the TJCEF Board to release a portion of the money collected for the capital campaign to help in the development of the vision.
- The Fundraising Committee suggested that a smaller fundraising event take place in 2015 and that another GALA be planned for 2016.

Paul Foley made the motion to approve the establishment of a standing Vision Committee. Sally Harbin seconded the motion. Andy Francis will get with Jerald DeLaGarza to establish the committee. The motion was approved unanimously. The committee once established is asked to come up with the vision by January of 2015.

Legal Affairs Committee:

Due to new legislation, the By-Laws need to be revised. Teacher representative cannot be voting members of a board. The By-Laws must also incorporate an ethics statement to meet accreditation requirements. See attachment for By-law revisions. Paul Foley made the motion to accept the By-Law changes. Sally Harbin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Personnel Committee:

Paula Staley presented the report. The headmaster's review took place this past month. Joe Maimone received a glowing review. The Headmaster and Principal could use help in reviewing Policies and Procedures. The committee will assist Joe Maimone and Jason Cole in drafting and updating policies and procedure. Each Committee is encouraged to develop a mission statement and list the committee responsibilities. The Personnel Committee has completed this task. The mission statements and responsibilities will help with school accreditation renewal.

NEW BUSINESS:

NEXT MEETINGS:

Tuesday, December 2, 2014 - Grammar School – 5:45 PM

Board Training on Saturday, December 6, 2014 at the Grammar School.

Tuesday, January 6, 2014 - Upper Campus – 5: 45 PM

Tuesday, February 3, 2014 - Grammar – 5:45 PM

Tuesday, March 3, 2014 - Upper Campus – 5:45 PM

Revised By-Laws:

Voted on under Legal Affairs Committee.

EOG/EOC Testing Reports:

Jeff Ziegler presented the report. See attachment. Last December there was a dramatic drop in the testing scores. The state wide rise was due to the statutory requirements of an 11% increase across the state. In fear of the rise and the cost of remediation, the scoring of the test was altered and the test was simplified.

The SAT results were presented. See attachment. Likely to be around 6th in the state among public schools in critical reading and math.

STUDENT WORK WAIVER:

The Analysis of Student Work Waiver was presented by Joe Maimone. Teachers will have to download on the computer samples of student work. TJCA has applied for the waiver. Paula Staley made the motion to accept the waiver nunc pro tuc. Sally Harbin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CONTRACTS:

No contracts were presented:

CLOSED SESSION:

Jeff Powell made the motion to move into closed session to discuss privileged matters as set out in NCGS Section 143-318.11(a)(7). Sally Harbin seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The board moved into closed session at 7:22 PM.

The Board Moved back into open session at 8:10 PM.

No action was taken during closed session.

No further business was discussed.

Sally Harbin made the motion to adjourn. Paula Staley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board Adjourned at 8:10 PM