

Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy: CFA

Board Meeting

Aug. 2, 2016

Location: Leitner Auditorium in the Middle School

Present: Erina Byers, Jerald DeLaGarza, Paul Foley, Andy Francis, Sally Harbin, Steve Herndon, Nick Longerbeam, Ray Maxwell, Tony Robbins, Elizabeth Sabolovic, Paula Staley and Donna Trimble

Others Present: Joe Maimone, headmaster; Jason Cole, grammar school principal; Jeff Ziegler, academic dean; and Edith Shumate, finance officer/business manager

Opening:

The meeting opened at 5:45 p.m.

Pledge

Prayer

Public Comment:

No public comment

Chairman's Moment (att. 1a, 1b):

Paula Staley thanked Andy Francis for his service as board chair and welcomed new at-large member Ray Maxwell.

Minutes (att. 2):

The June board meeting minutes were presented. Andy Francis made the motion to accept the minutes, and Nick Longerbeam seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report (att. 3a-e):

Paul Foley noted the finance committee had met earlier in the day and reviewed expenditures through June 30 with a surplus of about \$143,000. He recommended accepting the enclosed budget for the upcoming school year pending approval of staff contracts by the personnel committee. Mr. Foley made the motion with a second from Andy Francis. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Foley also noted the upcoming budget is based on an ADM of 1,300 students. He noted funding will change if the numbers vary. He recognized the cafeteria staff's hard work in generating a surplus for the first time.

Continuing Business:

Team CFA Report:

Erina Byers noted that the TeamCFA conference back in June was the biggest news and thanked those who were able to attend. Paul Foley reported the CFA will sponsor a board training session at Lake Lure on Saturday, Nov. 5.

FORUM Report (att. 4a):

Steve Herndon noted the Forum did not meet in July but will at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3, at the grammar school.

Burgundy and Gold Committee

No report.

Director's Report (att. 4a, b):

Joe Maimone noted student numbers are very fluid for the first day of school. He said the office is calling those on the wait lists as soon as students withdraw. There are a large number of staff changes for the new year, and orientation schedules have been posted in several different places.

He also reported that over 100 tickets have been sold for the Gala coming up in a couple of weeks and encouraged those who have not done so to purchase their tickets soon.

Committee Reports: Paula Staley noted everyone should have received the updated committee lists.

Executive Report:

No report.

Community Relations:

Tony Robbins said although there had not been a recent Community Relations Committee meeting, he wanted the board to know the school had students participating in science and math camps at Gardner-Webb University along with other students from county schools. Gardner-Webb's marching band will be performing at one of our home football games' halftime shows, and TJ will hold fundraisers for Special Operations Foundation this year. Last year TJ raised money for the Wounded Warrior Project.

Curriculum (att. 6a, b):

Sally Harbin reported that the committee met recently. Two items she wanted to highlight from that meeting were the proposed "Educating American Citizens" curriculum for the high school and adding some North Carolina history into classes. Jeff Ziegler created the citizens curriculum to be included in classes grades 9-12. Mrs. Harbin made the motion to adopt this high school curriculum with a second by Steve Herndon. The motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Harbin noted that adding some North Carolina History at various points throughout the year will help the students become more knowledgeable about their own state.

Facilities:

Andy Francis reported a transformer at the upper campus was damaged during a recent storm and that the extent of the damage is still being determined. Insurance will help cover the cost of repairs after a \$5,000 deductible is met. Mr. Francis and Mike Caldwell also met recently with an engineer about the retaining wall at the stadium. Mr. Francis also reported the parking lot at the grammar school has been completed and that work on the parking lot at the upper campus is going well. When questioned about

speed bumps being added at the grammar school, both Mr. Francis and Jason Cole noted the contractor had said he would add them although the speed bumps were not included in the original quote. Steve Herndon asked about the basketball backboards being put up on the grammar school campus, and Mr. Cole assured him that they would be up before the start of school.

Fundraising:

Erina Byers reported that more than \$25,000 has been brought in by sales for the Gala so far, and that ticket sales continue.

Legal Affairs:

No report.

Personnel/Policy:

Although Paula Staley noted the committee has not met recently, they will meet tomorrow to finalize staff contracts.

Ad hoc Vision (att. 5a, b, c):

Paul Foley reported the committee had met twice that day and made good progress. He noted representatives from Challenge Foundation Properties will visit the Cone Mill site next week. Joe Maimone noted we will be presenting the “gold-plated” option at the Gala, making it clear that the funding must be available in order for this to happen. If not, changes will have to be made.

New Business:

Upcoming meetings: The next few board meetings are scheduled for 5:45 p.m. Sept. 6 (grammar school), Oct. 4 (upper campus), and Nov. 1 (grammar school).

Policy Updates (att. 7a-i): Joe Maimone explained that most of the policy updates pertain to the upper campus and that work has been done on these student policies so that they would be ready for the start of the new school year. Policies amended included Student Drivers, Tardy Policy, Grading Scale, Academic Accountability, Academic Probation, Academic Integrity, Uniform Policy, Code of Conduct, and Club Advisor Policy.

Mr. Maimone noted that state’s requirement for the GPA is flexible on the numerical scale but not on weights. He added it is being considered to adjust the grading scale so that instead of a 4.0 for all grades 90-100% that it would be 4.5 for 95-100% and reduce by .1 for each reduction down to a 1.0 for 60%. He emphasized the quality points can be adjusted for the numerical scales but not for the weighting of the class.

Nick Longerbeam asked if coaches will have access to PowerSchool to check if any players are on academic probation. Mr. Maimone assured him that coaches can provide Acadia Northstar with team rosters then contact them for up-to-date academic reports.

Andy Francis made a motion to accept the amended policies. Sally Harbin seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Contracts: K-12 staff contracts will go to the personnel committee tomorrow to finalize for payroll for the upcoming school year.

Andy Francis made the motion to adjourn. The board adjourned at 6:20 p.m.