

School Board Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2015

Board Members Present: Richard Hyotte, Kimberly Lavallee, Lenka Steiger, Kim Whitworth, Sarah Frischknecht, Kevin Ahern

Ex-Officio Board Members Present: Ms. Maureen Mooney, Maria Bechis

Absent: Patty Humphrey

Public Attendance: Mrs. Bernard,

The meeting was called to order at 4.12 PM.

1) Public Comments

Mrs. Bernard: Would like to see The Founders participate in local parades with marching band and the school's banner, maybe a float. She suggested it would be good for our school to be visible in Manchester.

2) Review and Approval of Minutes from September Board Meeting

Mr. Ahern motioned to approve the September 2015 minutes. Mrs. Frischknecht seconded. All voted in favor.

3) Board Business:

New Board Member Candidate: NH State Senator Sharon Carson was introduced to the board.

** Ms. Whitworth motioned to have state Senator Sharon Carson to join the Founders Academy board of directors. Mrs. Lavallee second. All voted in favor. Introductions, we would like to ask her join the TFA board. **

Mrs. Carson was asked to join the board at the table.

4) **Dean's Report**

1. **Admissions:** To date, Founders has doubled the number of applications in progress it had last year at this time. The next Admissions Information Night is October 21, 2015 at 6pm. The agenda includes Mrs. Decowski and her daughter Kylie as speakers. The application deadline is January 29, 2016. See letter dated September 25, 2015 attached.
2. **Math Long-Term Substitute:** Mrs. Lopez will soon be on maternity leave. Mrs. Steiger has been retained as the long-term substitute.
3. **Teacher Resignation:** Mr. Greene has tendered his resignation due to a pending move out of state. Interview for a new science teacher are in progress.
4. **Teacher Trustee:** The teachers will need to elect a new faculty trustee soon. Ms. Mooney suggested accepting Mrs. Bechis resignation.

** Mrs. Carson motioned to accept Mrs. Bechis resignation. Mrs. Lavallee seconded. All voted in favor. **

5. **Policies:** The policies have been changed to reflect “Dean” instead of “Director.” The online policy folder links have been updated.

6. **Field Trips:** Tour of Freedom Trail on October 23, 2015; Museum of Science for “Animation in Action” on November 18, 2015.

7. **Safety Committee:** To date, there have been two fire drills, and two Shelter-in-Place lock down drills. More drills are scheduled throughout the school year.

8. **Curriculum Committee:** The Committee has started to plan for the next school year.

9. **Department Chairmen:** The Chairmen meet every two weeks to review procedures and practices interdepartmentally. The meeting is chaired by the Dean.

10. **Visit from Heather Gage:** Heather Gage the Chief of Staff for the Division of Educational Improvement Director at the NH DOE will visit Founders on October 29.

11. **Visit from Gov. Jeb Bush:** A visit from Gov. Bush to Founders is scheduled for November 4 at 10 am.

12. **Accountability Report:** Replaces the Annual Report and is due to the NH DOE on October 30, 2015.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Mrs. L. submitted reports to NH DOE.

The school's loan is coming due. We are waiting for the state money coming in November. We will have the money to pay off the loan. The school is applying for an extension for 990.

Updated financial information will be emailed to the board members soon. The finance committee will try to meet next week.

Ms. Whitworth found a foundation that gives grants to charter schools in Manchester for projects. Their applications are due in December. She has asked that teachers review the information and she is happy to review their proposals prior to sending them in.

6. Faculty Report Outline:

Mrs. Bechis

The teachers are teaching 6 courses each, study halls, lunch duties. Faculty is happy to be teaching but they don't have enough hours during the day. The students are allowed to retake tests. That adds work for the students. Teachers need parents to help out during the day. Another "Donors Choose" project was funded. Mrs. Lavallee asked if the teachers like the Founders community and Mrs. Bechis replied with a positive answer. The board congratulated Mrs. Bechis for being a part of planning curriculum committee.

7) Committee Reports:

a. Outreach

Several outreach projects are in motion: Tiny Owl, will run all year. Mr. Bartlett is in charge. We are happy to announce they have custom snow shovels for the Founders community. They are made in Maine and soon will be available for purchase. Snow shovels, custom made in Maine, signup sheet

Annual fund letter is in progress. Barnes and Noble fund was successful.

****Mrs. Lavalley motioned to adjourn. Mr. Ahern seconded. All voted in favor.****

Motion to adjourn at 5:54PM