PVPA Charter Public School

Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

# **December 12, 2017**

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| Present: | Donovan Arthen, James Barnhill, Claire Bennett, Rachel Dionne, Noah Hornick, Gary Huggett, Deborah Jacobson, Marc Kenen, Sean Moore, Alison Noyes, Shubhada Rella-Brooks, Zevey Steinitz, Geoff Sumi, Stephen Therrien, Melinda Winter |
| Staff Present: | Marcy Conner, George Simpson |
| Next meeting: | January 9, 2017; 6:00pm; Library |

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm with quorum.

**Mission Statement:**

Read by Shubhada Rella-Brooks

**Public Comment:**

A member of the faculty steering committee discussed the current negotiations between staff/faculty and the administration in the process of certifying the union.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes of the November 14, 2017 meeting approved (11 in favor; no opposed; 1 abstention – Alison Noyes)

**President’s Business:** (presented by Geoff Sumi)

* Legal representation for PVPA in regards to the certification of the union.

Joseph Bartulis, Jr. from Fletcher Tilton will represent the school in the Collective Bargaining negotiations. The PVPA staff/faculty, represented by UAW Local 2322, has proposed to the Massachusetts state labor board that all PVPA staff/facult be included in one bargaining unit. School administration initially proposed three separate bargaining units based on the distinct communities of interest of staff/faculty in order to provide for more equitable outcome for each group. In subsequent negotiations the administration proposed two separate bargaining units – one comprised of teachers and the other group comprised of the remaining staff. Teachers have expressed concern that the administration and the board are opposed to union certification. Union representatives and administration will meet again on December 18 to resolve thee issues. Board liaisons (Marc Kenen and Melinda Winter) will be present at this meeting and can inform the board of the outcome.

* Proposal to revise immigration status policy.

A student representative, Iris Ethier, introduced a proposal drafted by students to revise the school’s immigration status policy. After a brief discussion, a motion was made to approve the adoption of the policy regarding student immigration status as presented. Motion approved (13 in favor, no opposed, no abstentions)

* Proposal to engage Global Round Table Leadership to advise on transition.

Global Round Table specializes in facilitating collaborative constructive process during a period of transition. It was proposed that Donovan obtain more information to give to Governance and Finance committees. Perhaps administration and faculty could be surveyed as to what their needs might be. There should also be thoughtful consideration as to what organization is contracted with the school should the proposal get that far. Perhaps a few different organizations should be identified to present proposals. Governance should devise the scope of the task and invite stakeholders to assist.

* Proposal to hire a part-time administrative support staff for the board.

There was discussion about hiring a part-time administrative support staff for the Board. It was decided that Governance should draft a job description for this position to distribute to the Finance Committee for budgetary discussion.

**Finance:** (presented by Marcy Conner)

* Finance committee met on December 5, 2017. The Finance committee recommends that Stephanie Burbine and Shubhada Rella-Brooks be appointed as Finance Committee members. Board President appoints the new members to the Finance Committee.
* Student Representative, Owen Sardillo, was elected by student council to sit as a non-voting member of the Finance Committee.
* The committee will begin to work on the salary matrix in the upcoming months with hopes to present the information at the May Board meeting.

**Governance**: (presented by James Barnhill)

* Election of Melinda Winter for a two-year term as Board President

 A motion was made and approved to nominate Melinda Winters through June 2019 as Board President (13 in favor, no opposed, no abstentions)

* Election of Marcus McLaurin for a two-year term as parent representative to the Board.

 A motion was made and approved to nominate Marcus McLaurin through June 2019 (13 in favor, no opposed, no abstentions)

**Head of School**: (presented by George Simpson)

* There were four candidates for the Interim Director of Academic Programs. The top candidate has been extended an offer.
* A Head of School Report was distributed and discussed.

**Students:** (presented by Claire Bennett and Noah Hornick)

* Student council submitted a survey to students in 9 – 10 grades relative to the school dance that is being planned for February 2018.
* Some students attend Bridges which went well.

**Staff:** (presented by Gary Huggett)

* Many people have been busy working on the upcoming play, Marie Antoinette.

**Open Session:**

* None

**Public Comment**:

* None

**Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made and approved by consensus at 8:48pm. (13 in favor; no opposed; no abstentions)

Respectfully submitted by,

Rachel D. Dionne, Board Secretary