

BREVARD ACADEMY

Board of Directors Special Meeting

March 23, 2009

6:00 p.m.

Searcy Hall, Brevard Academy Campus, Brevard, NC

Chair: Joe Castro, present

Secretary: Sara Freeman, present

Members present: Joan Barham, Joe Castro, Pat Clow, Ray Fisher, Sara Freeman, Wendy Jones, Zia McConnell, Seyl Park, Frank Prince, Melissa Stewart.

Administration present: Dr. Jan Welsh, Laura Williams

Guests: Alexis Morini, Lori Park

The special meeting of the Brevard Academy Board of Directors was called to order by Joe Castro at 6:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

Motion: A motion was made by Ray Fisher to adopt the agenda. Zia McConnell made a motion to amend the agenda to include public comment. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Alexis Morini suggested that the board have a parent liaison or create a Parent Advisory Board in order to help advise Board and keep parents informed. Joe Castro inquired if Alexis Morini had also approached the PTO with this proposal. Alexis Morini had not. Joe Castro invited Alexis Morini to present a letter to the Board further explaining her proposal. This letter will be presented at the April 6th regular meeting.

Chairman's Remarks:

Thank you to Board members and Administration for responding to the need for a special meeting.

Principal's Report:

After the Board's regular March meeting, Dr. Welsh and Laura Williams developed a letter for the Brevard Academy community explaining the reduction in force. Dr. Welsh and Laura Williams met with all of the

individuals affected by this reduction. The administration stressed the importance of picking criteria that could be applied uniformly across the board. When names became involved, it became difficult. The teachers affected are very valuable. These teachers are currently working toward obtaining licensure. The program for next year requires all teachers to be highly qualified and licensed in North Carolina for the subject and grade level they will be teaching.

Dr. Welsh suggested the Board look into Connect CFA, a foundation to support charter schools.

Finance Officer's Report:

At last meeting, the Board decided to terminate the contract with Acadia and have the Academy's Administrative Assistant be responsible for this data management. Upon further inquiry into this change, it was discovered that the Administrative Assistant would require a great deal of training to handle this new responsibility. The savings from terminating contract with Acadia may be spent on training costs for Administrative Assistant. Joe Castro asked permission of the Board to have Acadia present details on costs. Pat Clow suggested seeking other contracts for comparative analysis. Laura Williams suggested the Academy may be able to find a free lance data manager.

At the regular March meeting, the Board decided not to apply for Title 1 funds because the amount of paperwork required to administer the program was too prohibitive for the amount of funds granted. Laura Williams presented the Board with a summary of Brevard Academy's funding through Title 1 since SY 2003-2004. Funding has declined by about 15% a year since that year (see hand out). It is unclear if the Academy will even qualify for this funding next school year. As of January, 2009, only 20% of the current population is considered low income. The Academy will be monitored on April 21st by DPI, Laura Williams will find out more about Title 1 funds at that time.

Laura Williams has received a planning per student allotment from the state, \$4,870.70. At this time, the Academy has not received a planning allotment from Transylvania County.

Motion: Pat Clow moved to go into closed session to consider privileged information. Motion carried. Session closed session at 6:50 p.m.

Motion: Pat Clow moved to come out of closed session. Motion carried. Session opened at 9:15 p.m.

Motion: Melissa Stewart moved to accept the resignation of Joe Castro from the Board.

Motion: Sara Freeman moved to table the motion to accept the resignation of Joe Castro until the Board is contacted by Joe Castro via email. Wendy Jones amended this motion to provide for immediate contact of Melissa Stewart concerning the tabling of the previous motion. Motion carried.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Brevard Academy Board of Directors will be held on Monday, April 6, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at Searcy Hall, Brevard Academy.

Motion: Pat Clow moved to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 p.m.