

BREVARD ACADEMY – A CHALLENGE FOUNDATION ACADEMY

Board of Directors Regular Meeting

March 17, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

Conference Room, Brevard Academy Campus

Vice Chair/Treasurer: Warren Alston, present

Secretary: Zia McConnell, present

Members present: Stewart Marshall, Cheryl Reinstadler, Nick Iosue

Administration present: Tony Helton, Ben Butler

 Guests: Jennifer McCluney (Acadia NorthStar), John Lanier (Transylvania Times)

The regular meeting of the Brevard Academy Board of Directors was called to order by the Vice-chair at 6:35 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion: A motion was made by Cheryl to approve the agenda. Warren seconded. Unanimous vote -- **Motion carried.**

Consideration and approval of minutes:

Motion: A motion was made by Nick to approve the January 13, 2014 regular meeting minutes and the February 5, 2014 special meeting minutes. Cheryl seconded. Unanimous vote -- **Motion carried.**

Public comment:

None

Financial Report – Jennifer McCluney (see attached)

There were several budget amendments suggested for approval:

- Line 1, Salaries & Bonuses: Decrease the EC teacher salary line by \$1610; we got more EC060 monies to be used toward this, so the salary line can be decreased.
- Line 2, Benefits: Decrease the Unemployment line by \$4500
- Line 7, Staff Development: Some of these workshop expenses will move to EC workshop expenses
- Line 8, Audit services: Decrease this line by \$1460
- Line 8, Financial Services: Increase this by \$3450. We budgeted for less students when we laid out our budget for this school year. We have 30 more students that we have expenses for and need to increase this line.
- Line 8, SIMS/NC WISE services: Again we have 30 more students than originally budgeted for. Need to increase this line \$1200
- Line 8, General Administration: This is a catch-all type category, and we should be able to decrease it by \$2000.
- Line 10, Rents & Debt Services, Debt Service Principal: Need to increase this \$1250. This relates to the copy machine

- Line 10, Debt Service – Interest, We can decrease this by \$2000.
- Line 10, Building rent: Tony budgeted for a 3% increase that did not occur this year.
- Line 12, Utilities: Electricity – Increase this by \$3000. We have had a harder and longer winter. We may need to increase this again, but we will see what the weather does.

Motion: A motion was made by Zia to approve the budget item amendments as listed. Warren seconded. Unanimous vote -- **Motion carried.**

PTO report: Zia from an email from Faith Stamey

- Valentine's dance 2/21 Middle grades (lower grades had theirs already)
- Thinking about a Spring Fling – collaborating with Derek Gardner; possibly April 12th.

Warren mentioned that we need to acknowledge the hard work of the PTO. Almost all the money goes into the classrooms. We need to show them how much we appreciate what they do.

Teacher report: Camy Stirling

Before the next Board meeting on 3/17, K-2 will hold their Core Knowledge program, hopefully in Straus. Searcy will still have books from the Book Fair, so it could be a bit cramped.

Presenting teachers: Middle School Science, Dana York and Middle School Grammar, Sonja Jenkins

We are studying the state common core items. The students have chosen a subject they are interested in and for the 8th graders it has been ecology. They have to teach the class on a topic they have chosen. They have a rubric they are following. Sony Jenkins (grammar) is helping them prepare their work for a research paper, and working on thesis statements. They are in the preliminary week of writing their thesis. They are learning to document their sources, making an outline, and a bibliography.

Some of the students changed their thesis statements realizing that their thesis statements were not going to work. This is one example of how the Core Knowledge curriculum can cross subjects and specials in such a successful way.

Cheryl wants to use BA-CFA teachers for a session for the whole conference to showcase how they use CK across subjects.

Could we attach Camy's teacher report to FaceBook so that more parents/people could see what is going on at our school across the various grade levels?

Also for 8th grade, Tony Helton has been reading Animal Farm aloud to the students. Middle school teachers are plumbing the depths of the rigor of the students course work.

It is so important for us as a Board (as the people approving budgets and governing the school) to hear what our teachers are doing in their classrooms.

Director's report – (see attached)

The MAP testing discussion will happen with Kristen on 3/17.

The reading growth has surpassed what we did the WHOLE year last year. The staff met and decided we cannot just coast on the numbers we have, but we must keep moving ahead.

7th & 8th graders are taking Latin and their scores on the reading have gone out of the roof. There definitely seems to be a correlation here.

The question was asked, in the 5-year plan, could we see if we should start Latin sooner?

Mr. Helton feels certain that the substitute teacher budget line may need to be increased, but we will address it each month as the year progresses.

The permanent tag decision: We have received a letter from the state attorney general stating that by March 3rd we must turn in our permanent tags on the buses. To get a new tag will cost us ~\$200 per bus. However, the procedure is just to go to the Tag Office to get the new tag.

We initially had four staff members trained as bus drivers. But seven more staff members are now trained.

Vandalism: We have had trouble with vandalism again – this time a window in one of our buildings.

Cheryl mentioned that Peter Boyle might be able to be of help with MAP testing. Kristen will be working to help train others to help teachers be able to better use the data from MAPs.

Etowah golf course may be able to work with us on finding a course for our golf team.

Sow day- We have been out 3 days: we made up one day on President's Day, and have added May 28th & 29th to the calendar. We have to be out by 6/4. We can't really use May 30th, because we need that time to pack out & clean.

Hope everyone got to see the Spotlight on Carolina bit on WLOS about our school. Alyssa Lefler was a great student representative!

Team CFA report: Cheryl Reinstadler

All is going well with the planning of the summer conference that will be held in Phoenix, AZ.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Warren & Zia

- None

Fund Development & Public Outreach

- None

Long Range Planning and Visioning: Zia

- Nothing new to report at this time.

Personnel: Zia

- Nothing new to report at this time.

Board Development, Policies and Procedures: Stewart

- None

Facilities

- None at this time

Old Business

Tracy Banker, the person in charge of the Team CFA Governance Committee, is putting together a Board training for BA-CFA and New Dimensions. Considering April 12th as the date, but learned tonight that that might be the date of the Spring Fling... We will keep everyone posted on when that date and location will be.

New Business:

Cheryl Reinstadler has been appointed Director of Operations for Team CFA. Congratulations to Cheryl! She will remain on our Board.

Next Regular Meeting:

March 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the BA-CFA Conference Room.

Short Break**Closed Session:**

Motion: Warren made a motion from the floor to enter into a closed session to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential information under the NC general Statutes 143.318.11 (a) (1) to discuss items related to property acquisition. Cheryl seconded.

Motion carried. The Board entered into Closed Session at 7:25 p.m.

Motion: Zia made a motion to come out of Closed Session. Warren seconded.

Motion carried. Time: 7:45 p.m. **No action was taken.**

Adjourn:

Motion: Zia made a motion to adjourn. Warren seconded.

Vote was unanimous. **Motion carried.**