



Association for the Advancement of Education, DBA, The Hawbridge School
Hawbridge School
1735 Saxapahaw-Bethlehem Church Road
Saxapahaw, NC 27340
(336) 376-1122

BOARD MINUTES

Date: January 18, 2017

Location: Hawbridge School

Attending Board Members: Todd Nicolet (Chairperson), Rowena Khot (Vice Chairperson), James Cajka (Treasurer), Karamarie Fecho (Secretary), Liz Sullivan

Excused Board Members: Rick Morse, Jonathan Romm,

Attending Executive Director and Faculty/Staff: Kenny Moles (Executive Director), Jonathan Farmer (Faculty Representative to the Board), Daryl Feldman (co-Assistant Director and Faculty Member), Jennifer Shelton (co-Assistant Director and Faculty Member), Emily Martin (Guidance Counselor)

- I. Call to Order
 - 6:16 pm.
- II. Roll Call
 - 6:17 pm
- III. Approval of Agenda
 - Motion to approve. Seconded. Unanimously supported. 6:17 pm.
- IV. Recognitions
 - No recognitions.
- V. Public Comment
 - None present, none offered.
- VI. Consent Items
 - A. Approval of previous meeting's minutes
 - Secretary highlighted the board's estimated expenditures for the first employee under the new parental leave policy; these estimates were added *post hoc* to the December minutes for comparison with the actual expenditures reported by the Director during the December meeting. The estimated expenditures were close to accurate.



- Motion to approve. Seconded. Unanimously supported. 6:18 pm.

B. Future Meetings/Events:

1. Board Meeting: 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 15, 2017
 - Motion to approve. Seconded. Unanimously supported. 6:19 pm.

VII. Reports

A. Board

- None offered.

B. Director

1. 2017-2018 Lottery Update
 - 223 applications received to date; most applications are for 9th grade, followed by 5th grade, then 4th grade.
 - Lottery will be held at 4:00 pm on March 1, 2017.

C. Treasurer

- Treasurer presented the budget report. No major changes in budget projections since December meeting. Revenue is at roughly 50% of the estimate for the year. Expenditures are lagging behind a bit, at approximately 46% of the annual estimate. School expansion expenditures are slightly below the estimate and may lead to a surplus by end of year. No large unbudgeted expenses are expected. Overall, the budget is on track at the half-way point for the calendar year.
- Treasurer inquired about the school's arrangements for clearing the parking lot and walkways in the event of snow/ice. Director explained that the school is a full-fledged paying member of the River Mill Association. Membership fees include services such as landscaping, snow plowing, etc. Upper student parking lot does not get plowed because it is a gravel lot, so students are directed to park in the lower parking lot in the event of snow/ice.

VIII. Unfinished Business

A. Hawbridge Expansion Update

- Director provided an update on the school expansion. Director and Board Member Romm met with Mr. Jordan last week to provide him with an update on where things stand. No further updates to report.

B. School Resource Officer Proposal

- Board discussed the December meeting presentation by the Alamance County Sheriff's department. Board agreed that the presentation was clear and in depth. Board discussed the pros and cons related to an SRO,



including whether there exists a real need, what the risks are, what the benefits are, what the overall risk-benefit ratio is, what the cultural impact(s) of an armed and uniformed on-site SRO might be, whether the school can provide enough activities to keep the SRO busy, etc. Vice Chairperson noted that the Alamance Juvenile Justice Department has no reports on file for Hawbridge students, in terms of drugs, burglary, etc.

- Director clarified that there are ways to keep an SRO occupied, for example, by providing monitoring of the front entrance to the school and through programs such as D.A.R.E.
- Director also clarified his opinion regarding the current security risks to the school, specifically in relation to the three 'serious' (two 'significant') security events that have taken place under his tenure. Board and Director discussed the security risks. Director explained the role of faculty/administration vs the role of an SRO when security events arise. Director later emphasized that the school is a public school and has grown significantly in the recent past, so consideration of an SRO is warranted.
- Board asked Faculty Representative to provide insight into the perspective(s) of school faculty regarding an SRO; however, the faculty's point of view hasn't been fully determined.
- School Guidance Counselor expressed her opinions regarding the pros/cons of an SRO and her own experience working with one, including the SRO's ability to provide services to support the counselor and counseling team.
- In general, the Board expressed conflicted opinions regarding an SRO, with members recognizing both the risks and benefits. Board discussed the next steps in information-gathering regarding a potential SRO: (1) contact Clover Garden Charter School Board to learn from their experience with an SRO; (2) initiate a broader discussion among Hawbridge faculty; and (3) investigate the possibility of cost sharing with the River Mill Association and/or local businesses.

IX. New Business

A. School Attendance Policy/Procedures

- Director and Assistant Director presented data on student tardies and absences, as well as the new policy/procedure regarding attendance. Board reviewed the tardy/absence report and the new policy/procedure. Board and Director discussed a few open questions. Board recommended changes in wording to indicate that: (1) the new policy/procedure is flexible in terms of absences related to educational opportunities (but only with Director approval); (2) school check-in/check-out times for essential absences such as doctor appointments will not be calculated as part of the total number of absences; and (3) excuse notes for absences can be



submitted electronically (i.e., email). A few other minor word changes were also suggested.

- Vice Chairperson will provide the Director with recommendations regarding the school's legal obligations regarding tardies/absences and the judicial filing of reports and complaints.

B. Employee Compensation Committee

- Director requested Board volunteers to help draft a compensation schedule for faculty members. Board members Cajka, Khot, and Fecho volunteered. Director will follow up with the board subcommittee.

X. Closed Session

A. To Consider Confidential Matters Pursuant to NC G.S. §143-318.11

1. Subsection (a) - (5), (8)

- Motion to move to closed session. Seconded. Unanimously supported. 7:42 pm.
- Motion to move to open session and adjourn. Seconded. Unanimously supported. 8:10 pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by Karamarie Fecho, Board member and Secretary.