



Apex Collegiate Academy Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

November 27, 2018

6:14 PM to 7:30 PM

Instruction Room / 9700 Scenic Hwy, Baton Rouge LA

TIME	Lead/Presenter	Report/Material	Actions	Outcomes
6:14 PM	<p>Board Chair, Eric Dexter, called the meeting to order and gave a welcome to all in attendance, thereafter, Don led the group in prayer.</p> <p>The Members in attendance: Board Chair, Eric Dexter, Todd E. Gaudin, Rebecca Norton, Aaron Gremillion, Stephanie and Don Ford.</p> <p>Eric Lewis was also present.</p> <p>Motion to defer approval of the October board meeting minutes made by Stephanie and Don Ford provided a second. Motion carried without objections or modifications.</p>			
6:20 PM	<p>The next agenda item was Academic Achievement Update. Eric Lewis opened this discussion, which included the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) He reviewed with the board the software being used now to help 2) Current enrollment is at 190-- 61 6th graders, 65 7th graders, 74 8th graders. 3) He expressed concern with adding additional students to close to state testing so as to avoid accepting them without enough time to prepare them adequately. 4) He also briefly stated there were restructuring within the leadership team so as to emphasize the sense of urgency about following and adhering to the school mission, its values, and demanding accountability, particularly as the Charter's expiration date is approaching. 			

	<p>5) Don Ford asked Mr. Lewis what kind of follow-up structure or plan is in place to ensure the restructuring is being effective. Mr. Lewis replied that he is monitoring it daily and they meet as a team weekly; he feels like the some teachers have seen a difference in the last 3 weeks, since the change was made, and he believes several students have noticed positive changes.</p> <p>6) Mr. Dexter then raised the issues contained in a letter from LDE dated 11/19/18 about the recent school testing results, (i.e., school graded F) the likely grave consequences and bleak outlook he understood from conversations from Mr. Peterson from LSE. He explained that a LSE “review” is expected to begin in or before February 2019.</p> <p>7) Mr. Lewis expressed that he knew and that Mr. Peterson is aware that many students have greatly advanced in socially, academically, etc. He is aware of the huge challenge facing the school and the pressure facing the school (elaborated its hard to find effective, teachers committed to the mission) and his proposal is to not quit, to continue to demand high standards from teachers, to pressure higher accountability, discipline, <i>school culture</i>, etc. and that he was committed to “seeing it through.”</p> <p>8) There was robust discussion (most board members) about the degree of improvement/growth with students overall for the first 2 years and how valuable this data is to LSE and BESE, whether it could be valuable to BESE if LSE does not give recommend an charter extension. Elements of discussion also included the poor academic and social histories of many of the students (and the related behavior problems and cultural challenges) and how these issues affect the probabilities to keep school open.</p> <p>9) Mr. Dexter continued to summarize and explain that the reality facing the school includes issues more than just academic standards/growth, like professional turnover, competition, political climate, etc.</p> <p>10)Mr. Ford asked whether there has been precedent for an F school that actually was granted an extension. . and Mr. Lewis explained there was one school that ended having to merge with another but still retained its charter.</p>
7:15 PM	<p>The next agenda item was the Financial Committee Update. Eric Dexter confirmed that the Finance Committee reviewed the numbers and approved them to the whole board.</p> <p>1) Mr. Ford disclosed that the school’s expenses for the past month were under budget (staff reduction, savings, etc.) but the income from MFP was under budget, too, for unknown reasons. Staff will investigate the cause of the under payment and clarify. Mr. Ford mentioned that the</p>

	<p>federal payroll tax liabilities were not being reduced as expected but were increasing (the committee asked lots of questions about this topic and about staff's plan to turnaround; last payment of 45K was August)</p> <p>2) Mr. Ford recommended, considering the Finance Committee studied and discussed the financial reports and data, to accept them.</p> <p>3) Eric Dexter moved to accept the proposed budget and Don Ford provided a second. Motion carried without objection.</p>
7:08 PM	<p>The next agenda item was the Governance Committee update. Eric Dexter opened the discussion, which included the following:</p> <p>1) Mr. Dexter provided a name of a potential board member, Felicia Young. He was trying to set up a meeting with her soon.</p>
7:09 PM	<p>Aaron Gremillion moved to adjourn, Don Ford seconded. No objections. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.</p>