



ARKANSAS
ARTS ACADEMY
Aspire. Achieve. Advance.

September 6, 2016

High School Performing Arts Center 6:30

1. Call to order at 6:30 pm
2. Establish quorum/Roll Call Present: Toni Beardsley, Steve Cox, Alicia Knotts, Anthony Porchia, Dave Russell and Howard Alsdorf (arrived at 6:35) Absent: Joe DeRouen
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Comments from the Public: None
5. Consent Agenda
 - Approve minutes from August, Regular School Board Meeting
 - Approve minutes from August, Special Board Meeting
 - Approve August Financial Report
 - Enrollment Report

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda by Dave Russell and 2nd by Steve Cox and the motion was carried by a 5 – 0 vote.

6. New Business

Principal Board Report – Matt (K8) Barb (HS)

Ms. Padgett reported that this has been the best start to a school year. Ms. Padgett shared that our first Cross Country meet went very well and we earned our first 2 medals. There is an upcoming NICA race this weekend. There is a roof repair in Mr. Smith's classroom.

Ms. Ley asked to share Mr. Young's accomplishments so far, Mr. Young has 562 students enrolled and 194 on a waiting list. In his short time with us he has remodeled the Gym, had the drainage problem repaired, moved the Guitar, Percussion and Choir classes into the main building. Installed a beautiful dance floor and changing rooms. Stained the picnic tables, hired a new groundskeeper, combined 4 and 5th grades, purchased new Math and English curriculum, helped start the Cross Country Team along with Ms. Padgett, hired a new exciting PE teacher, set up bus transportation, moved the dumpster to a safer location, added a gate to 12th Street for added safety as students move from building to building. Added mulch to the playground for safety, added a sidewalk from the mail building to the gym and set up the Tinkering Studio.

Mr. Young shared that the Natural's night went well and promoted community building for the EMS Family due to diverse locations. He shared that the PTA was off to a great start and that the Guitar teacher Mr. Shields was doing a great job. The Book Fair is in full swing and if anyone would like to invest in a student by donating money for a student in need, they would love it.

2016 -2017 Budget Report – Nathalie Brunell: Mrs. Brunell shared the new Budget for the 2016 – 17 school year, see attachment. A motion was made to approve the 2016 – 17 Budget by Dave Russell, 2nd by Anthony Porchia and carried by a 6 – 0 vote

2016 - 2017 Salary Schedules – Nathalie Brunell shared the salary schedules for the 2016 – 17 school year, there were no changes from last year. See Attachment. A motion was made by Howard Alsdorf and 2nd by Dave Russell to approve the 2016 – 17 Salary Schedules and was carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Bond Discussion – Mary and Nathalie: Mrs. Ley and Mrs. Brunell will be making a presentation to the State School Board on Oct 19th and 20th for the additional 400 students.

Approve choice for Bond Counsel and Bond Underwriter: After reviewing several candidates Mrs. Ley discussed our choice in Mitchell and Williams for our Bond Council and Crews and Associates as our Bond Underwriters. They have great exposure in Rogers and are familiar with Charter Schools, in addition to working well with the Walton Foundation. Mr. Beardsley questioned what financial commitment was involved and Mrs. Ley shared that we would not be under any financial obligation unless the State approved the additional 400 students and the Walton Foundation approved as well.

A motion was made to approve Mitchell and Williams as our Bond Counsel if the State approves the additional 400 students and the Walton Foundation approves and that no money would be spent until the above approvals were confirmed. A motion was made by Alicia Knotts, a 2nd by Steve Cox and the motion carried in a 6 – 0 vote.

A motion was made to approve Crews and Associates as our Bond Underwriters if the State approves the additional 400 students and the Walton Foundation approves and that no money would be spent until the above approvals were confirmed a motion was made by David Russell and 2nd by Alicia Knotts and the motion carried in a 6 – 0 vote.

Discussion on funding amount for new bond: Mrs. Ley brought up for discussion improvements to the K – 8 building. She shared a drawing of the addition of a building to be constructed between the K – 4 building and the Annex which would add additional classroom space and an Auditorium (Cafeteria, Performance space) and approximately 120 additional students. She ask that the Board consider this due to the fact that our current bond is being redone. The estimated cost of this additional would be between 3.5 and 4 million dollars.

Discussion on AISAP Visit – Oct 2-4: Mrs. Ley shared that she has been visiting with the AISAP (Association of Independent Schools Admission Professionals). Mrs. Ley shared that this organization was an excellent resource for us in recruiting potential students by updating our marketing material and how potential parents and students are greeted. She shared that if the additional 400 students was approved that the State provided funds for the growth and that those funds could be used for the AISAP fees.

ACEL L2L Superintendents Academy: Mrs. Ley attended the L2I Superintendents Academy in Russelville, AR, last week and will be going to New York September 19 – 21 to visit schools.

Webpage Design: Mrs. Ley brought up for discussion a new Webpage Design be implemented as a recruiting tool for our campuses. She wants to highlight our arts programs, Dance, Orchestra, Choir, Mountain Biking and Cross Country Team as well as our academic programs.

7. Discussion of items since publication of the agenda: Our foundation has some new members on its team Jim Webb, Garrett Small, John Tomesko and Ms. Diaz. Mrs. Ley shared they have some exciting ideas for fund raising in the works. The Foundation is designing a new web site and flyers to be sent home as a fund raising tool. They have voted to raise funds for additional Chrome Books for the younger grades, Smart Boards and Mini Violins.

Mrs. Brunell shared a excel sheet outlining any employees that have received a greater than 5% salary increase in the last year. This report is required by the State to be displayed on our web site. A motion was made by Alicia Knotts and a second by Anthony Porchia and the motion passed 6 – 0 vote.

8. Personnel: Hiring/Renewal/Promotion/Demotion/Transfer/Non-Renewal/Termination

Additional Bus Driver Proposal: Mrs. Ley shared that the bus program has been very successful and that there is a need for an additional bus driver to cover the afternoon route and field trips due to added enrollment.

9. Adjournment: A motion was made by Anthony Porchia and a second by David Russell to adjourn the board meeting and the motion was carried in a 6 – 0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm