

Syracuse Arts Academy Work Session Minutes December 6, 2007

Place: Syracuse Arts Academy, 2893 W. 1700 S., Syracuse

In Attendance: Andrea Larkin, Michelle Gibby, Chris Dallin and Charlene Nelson

Excused: Shirley Bouwhuis and Dave Hall

Others in Attendance: Jan Whimpey (Principal), Leisa Tobler (POET President-elect) Catina Martinez-Hadley (AW)



The purpose of Syracuse Arts Academy is to develop respectful, confident citizens in a solid educational environment enriched by artistic expression.

MINUTES

5:00 PM – Call to Order

BUSINESS ITEMS (To be Voted Upon During Board Meeting):

- CUSAP - Jan presented the CUSAP and recommended it for approval.
- Chris recommended that the Board hold a meeting every other month and then on off months have meetings with staff (rotating) to be more accessible as a board.

REPORTS:

- Principal Report – Jan
 - School Report Card – Jan put together a report card for parents. The report card contains easy to read tables on student achievement, enrollment, volunteer hours, demographics and other useful information. The Board thought that the Report Card should be released to the press as an official “press release”. Jan agreed to release the document as a Press Release.
 - Academic Goals Report - Jan passed out a report for the Board’s review.
 - Teacher Appreciation Package – The program was implemented. Every staff member at the school received a thank you (\$200). Teachers received an extra (\$200) to purchase supplies for the classrooms. Additionally, staff room was stocked with healthy snacks for staff who are at the school before/after school hours. Jan has received lots of positive feedback from the staff.

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- Staff Report – Teachers have convened for the second round of parent teacher conferences which is optional. Andrea asked how teacher evaluations went and Jan said they went very well.
- Parent Organization – Michelle Gibby
 - Chris asked about clarification in liability for events and students both in and out of school.
 - Book Fair made \$5,460.
 - Math Night – Not a huge turnout but the students enjoyed the activities. The organization committee would like to partner with Cook Elementary next year.
 - Fall Carnival went well and was well attended. Profits from the carnival will be used to bring in author Rick Walton, a local children's author on the 15th of January. The entire day will focus on literacy. Students will be able to win lunch with the author.
 - Red Ribbon Week – The Mad Scientist keynoted the assembly to teach the students about good and bad choices.
 - Choir Concert – Performance on December 19th and 20th.
 - School House Rock Performance is being practiced for first week of May.
 - School News Letter – Produced by a parent volunteer and a group of students. The News Letter will come out every other month.
 - POEC has completed application for a 501(c)3. The POEC is looking for an attorney to review the completed package.
 - Michelle passed out the POEC's budget report. Michelle asked that the report be published in Friday notes or the School Newsletter.
- Board Report - Dave Hall was absent. Board members were directed to review the budget report in their respective packets.

OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

- Informative PowerPoint Presentation – Chris asked that the Board review the slides and make recommendations to each other via email.
- Survey – Chris told Jan that he would schedule a meeting with her to go over the results.
- Tuition Reimbursement Policy, where are we? Catina will work with Jan via email to finalize a draft.
- Comment box and Board pictures are moving forward. The comment box is almost complete and Andrea is getting a bid on plaques for Board member pictures.

Andrea made a motion to adjourn. Charlene second. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: 6:00 PM

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