

Syracuse Arts Academy Work Session Minutes June 5, 2008

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



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

Present: Chris Dallin, Jan Whimpey, Michelle Gibby, Andrea Larkin, David Hall, Charlene Nelson, Cameron Almond, Trent Brown (Academica), Gavin Hutchinson (Academica).

Approved October 2, 2008

Minutes

5:00 PM – Call to Order – Chris called the meeting to order.

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

- Vote to Approve Final 2007-08 Budget – Dave summarized the final budget to the Board. The school is significantly in the black with a healthy surplus. Teachers are all getting the supplies that they need with Jan collecting teacher wish lists.
- Vote to Approve Proposed 2008-09 Budget – Dave went over the proposed budget. It is very much in line with previous budgets. A decision still needs to be made about the 401(k) match option for purpose of adjusting the budget. Gavin described 401(k) match options.
- Accept Bank Subordination Agreements – Chris explained the purpose of the bank statements which are intended for Academica's refinancing of the facility. The documents discussed were:
 - Subordination of Management Agreement
 - Closing Agreement
 - Subordination, Non-disturbance and Attornment AgreementSheldon addressed the Board in regards to setting them up for future ownership of the facility and being able to more readily provide that option.
- Vote to Approve New Board Member – Chris welcomed Cameron, the new POEC president to the Board. Michelle introduced Cameron. Cameron talked about being impressed with his child's success in the school and expressed enthusiasm for taking on the role of POEC President and SAA Board Member.

REPORTS:

- Principal Report – Jan handed out her year-end comparison reports.
- Year in Review – The school provided a lot of fun activities for students and parents this year with the highlights being Children's Theater, End of

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School Play (Schoolhouse Rock), Service Project (Fleece blankets for Children's Hospital) and the 6th grade recycling project.

- Student Achievement – Parents, teachers and students have worked phenomenally together to produce exceptional test scores.
- Parent Organization – Michelle/Cameron
 - Deep Dive Committees follow up – The pickup and carpool committee was able to gather concerns from parents regarding pickup, parking for events and carpooling. Staff is frustrated with the timing of parent pickup which is distracting to students. Some parents are arriving nearly two hours early. Some parents are picking up their students too late. Parents would like for the Board to eliminate curbside numbers and go with zones instead. Parents could each be assigned a zone number. Michelle read numerous other pickup suggestions from parents.

Parents are also concerned about traffic congestion that will result from the new Davis District school (Buffalo Point) being built near SAA.

The Board discussed that the present mode of pickup/dropoff is sufficient, but further educating of parents is needed. Parents who break pickup rules make the pickup plan inefficient.

Chris suggested that the Board investigate the cost of implementing recommended changes. Chris asked Trent (Academica) to get some costs.

- Storage Area Update – Chris described to the Board what he had discussed with Jed in terms of additional storage space. Sheldon did not see any problem with proposed addition.

ADJOURN: 6:00 PM - Dave made a motion to adjourn work session and to go into a closed session. Michelle Second. Motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION – To discuss salaries and staffing. (20 minutes)

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