

GMA School Board

Aug 20, 2019

Called to Order- at 5:30 pm

Role Call- Nick Wright, Uriah Ellis, Kirby Durham

Review of July minutes- Kirby motions to approve July minutes, Uriah seconds and vote is in the affirmative

Policy Review- Revised policy by-laws. Previous by-laws were dated 8/10/2011. The revision requested to be amended (pending approval from BSU) is the minimum number of board members. There are currently three members. Kirby motions to update by-laws to reflect the board as is. Uriah seconds and the board votes in the affirmative.

Co-Interim Directors Report –

Logan – total public enrollment is 365. There have been several shadowing students. When including pre-K we are at 402 total. We have all the assistants we need. We still need a special education teacher and SpEd Coordinator. These are posted on GMA’s website and DOE. Logan is working on a Title III grant.

Karen- Community Outreach- she has reached out to the assisted living center to interact with our students. She is working out the details for interaction between the seniors and our students for crafts, singing, lunch, etc.

Logan – DOE just released iLearn scores. We may need to have a parent education night to help parents understand scores. We had to purchase NWEA tests because Ball State did not reimburse this year. The NWEA cost was around \$4,000. PTO events – Skating Party and SuperHero Run.

Building needs – AC units at South were fixed at the beginning of the school year and we still are having problems with one unit at North. It has been leaking into one of the classrooms and needs attention.

Technology- Our new computers have really helped with testing. Logan suggests we use a new enrollment platform like Skyward or Canvas, as our current one is outdated.

Finance Committee Report: June 30 Fiscal year end - cash in the bank almost \$400K, our goal is to have \$500K. Accounts Receivable are material fees that have not been paid. Next month, Karinda will have an amount of unreceived funds that could be discussed for write-offs. We have collected about half of material fees so far this year. Budget to actual- everything is under budget, except legal fees. We hired bookkeeping to do our form 9’s because we don’t have the software. We have \$90K to the plus as the year ends. Nothing significant changed in the balance sheet in July. Everything is within budget right now. Karinda goes over budget. Karinda says they budget \$500 every other year per teacher to go to conferences or training.

Facilities Committee Report – Nick reports that everything is on schedule with a few delays, but it looks like it is on target. Structural steel is complete and interior framing and window

installation have began. We are getting ready to do dry wall in the next couple of weeks. Nick said we can start setting up tours to take a look around. Completion date is still scheduled for Dec 16, 2019. For the gym, we have 3 options to consider on gym equipment packages. Nick would like to get feedback to see what the school community wants. He states according to Rob with Lauth's recommended equipment vender (Toadvine), that new equipment will cost less than the used equipment. Nick invites Jen Peden to connect with Rob with Lauth and talk about what is included in Grace Church's donation. New equipment with 2 basketball goals vs used equipment of an unknown quantity. Ms. Demos asks about the warranty with the new equipment, Nick Wright will find more information about this through Rob at Lauth and equipment vender (Toadvine). Karinda asked if the \$19,000 cost for the used equipment is negotiable. Jen suggests that Rob should ask Lauth and Shiel Sexton to help out with those costs. This topic will be tabled until more thoroughly evaluated with side-by-side comparison on the equipment quotes.

New Facility Interior Design committee- Verena Burrows reviews update with interior details and asks for interest from the public. Karen Swan, Megan Messuri, Karinda Holland and Angela Smith have all volunteered to be a part of the committee. Anne Tordai, President of the PTO would also like to coordinate with school colors, etc. Verena will contact Anne to coordinate this.

Kirby- capital campaign – Hartsook -one option is using corporate campaigning that would put together a case study and campaign assessment. This report would go to institutional clients to solicit funds \$27,500. They will not commit to any guarantees about fundraising. HoopSwag- joint venture campaign. They will provide goods/products, GMA then would sell the products at a higher cost that would then raise funds. One Cause – fundraising software provider- we host an event and they have their people there to accept mobile donations and they will get the word out. There would be costs for this. GMA would have to create and run the event and they would accept the funds/donations at the event.

New Committees/committee members needed – Capital Campaign committee members are needed. Brand/Marketing Design Committee. PR Committee – social media, news media, etc. Charter liaison – someone who can work with Ball State so we can be utilizing all that Ball State has to offer. Vendor Relations Committee – creating better vendor relationships. PTO/Board Liaison committee – Nick asks Anne if she thought we needed a liaison that can go to both board meetings and PTO meetings to relay information between the two. GMA Alumni Committee – tracks the success and keeps relationship with Alumni current and healthy.

Nick discusses the desire to update and evaluate existing contracts with each GMA vendor so we have an eye on costs/budgets and that we are getting the best value and quality per our responsibility to the public/taxpayers/steak-holders. Karinda Holland publicly disagrees with having a committee created to handle vender relations and believes that we don't need contracts with venders or new contracts because she manages the venders already and believes this is part of her job.

Jill Zapf asks if the vendor relations committee would have to write contracts and sign them. Nick says that they could review the contract and then it should be presented to the board for review and approvals.

Executive Director search will continue and the goal is to have a permanent director/s in place sometime after January 2020.

Board member search – There is a need for at least 2 more board members. There are 6 people who are in different stages of vetting for positions. Nick says they are looking for people with specific qualifications and demonstrated involvement within the school community including PTO and board committees. Desired qualifications include previous board member experience from other schools, former school administration/educator, attorney, HR, grant-writing experience, branding/marketing, financial, fund raising/capital campaign experience, insurance experience.

#### Public Comment

Anne Tordai asks how we are advertising the position of Executive Director. Nick says that it is currently on our website, but it will be posed on DOE and possibly other sites, such as Linked-In.

Jill Zapf asks if Logan and Karen are being considered for permanent director positions. Nick says the board would certainly consider them, but also obligated to look for the best, qualified candidate(s) for the school and its stakeholders. He said that there are a couple of options to consider when considering the leadership structure – for example, we could have a single-leadership structure or a dual-leadership directorship to include a director of academic affairs and a director of administrative affairs.

Jill Zapf says that we are a family here and we like our people and are happy with how they are doing. Deb Edwards concurs.

A parent asks if Ball State can offer any resources in our search for a director. Nick says that we will maximize our resources.

A parent from the public audience asks if Dr. Sue used fund inappropriately or if there was any impropriety on her part. The board acknowledged the question, but made no comment.

Karen Swan comments that the staff is happy and working well together and comments on the peace that is felt as we walk through the doors. She sees that everyone has come together and is taking care of the kids. “It is just absolutely wonderful to see,” she says.

Deb Edwards comments that Logan and Karen have stepped up and give 150% everyday. We can only go up!

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm