



Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 6:30 pm

In attendance: Robert Best (Chair), Patty Humphrey (Secretary, via zoom), Kim Lavalley (Vice Chair), Kyle Fox (Treasurer), Frank Weiss, Angela Seggie (via zoom), Cassie Hayes (ex officio)

Non-Public Session (5:30-7pm)

Call to Order: (Bob B) 7:09pm

Pledge of Allegiance (Sophia W)

Moment of Silence (Bob B)

Reading of the [Mission Statement](#) (Frank W)

1. **Public Comments:** (See Policy [BEDH](#)) - No public comments
 - Kim L said she visited the 5th grade area and was impressed by the behavior of the students. Faculty and paras were working hard with all the students. Mrs. L was very impressed with what she saw and it was great to see the teachers and students in action. She thanked the 5th grade team for their hard work and time.
2. **Secretary's Report:** (Patty H) 8:19pm
 - a. [September 21, 2022 Draft Minutes](#)
 - **Motion:** To accept the minutes of the September 21, 2022 Board meeting as written made by Kim L
 - **Second:** Kyle
 - **Vote:** Passed - 6/0/0
3. **Treasurer's Report:** (Kyle F) 8:19pm
 - a. [Board Budget Report for FY 2022- 2023 Period Covered 7/1/2022 through 8/31/2022](#)
 - Kyle F presented a graph as a visual for the month by month income/expenses.
 - **Motion:** To approve the Treasurer's report as presented made by Frank W
 - **Second:** made by Kim L
 - **Vote:** Passed - 6/0/0
4. **Dean's Report:** (Cassie H) 7:31pm see [here](#)
 - Dean Hayes gave the floor over to **Jack L.** who presented the Board with his recent activity regarding his audition all-state jazz band
 - Jack received 2nd chair bass. Evan L auditioned as well on piano
 - Auditions were held at Londonderry HS on Oct 15th
 - Nov 19th will be auditions for all-star orchestra
 - Jack L. explained that he credits The Founders Academy music department for great instruction & great teachers
 - Jack has some fundraising ideas for his next audition

- The board asked questions about the event and congratulated him.
- 7:43pm - **Mrs. Meilleur** was introduced as the Dean of Students for 8th grade
- Mrs. M. is also a Spanish teacher. She mentioned that this is her 8th year teaching at TFA
 - She is very happy with the opportunities that TFA has allowed her; from being a teacher, being involved with Admissions, Administrative Support, and now Dean of Students all the while keeping the mission in mind with each position
 - Mrs. M. feels great support from Dean Hayes and Dr. Tyrie
 - She is working diligently to connect with the students, as this has always been her passion
 - Mrs. M. is excited to announce that she has visited every 8th grade Round Table getting to know all of the 8th graders
 - One Board member asked about the balance between teaching and being the Dean of Students. Mrs. M stated that Planning is key. Mrs. M. stated that she is managing her time and the team of Deans is thriving and working well together
- 7:49pm - **Dr. Tyrie** was given the floor
- Dr. Tyrie explained that the Moby Max data has been compiled. Moby Max is an adaptive assessment to measure student progress. This is the first round and mid-year testing will be conducted to measure progress.
 - The testing that has been done for the 5th and 6th grades is giving teachers a baseline of where the students are in their learning
 - It is expected that students will experience one year of growth for each grade level they attend. It was brought to the boards attention that many students enter behind academically. Plans are in place to support students and continue monitoring data by grade and prior educational experience and location
 - MobiMax will be used for 7th and 8th graders as well; maybe mid-year or end of this school year
- 8:25pm - **Student Services Update** (Dean Hayes)
- Dean Hayes reported that Mrs. Smith brought several students to a college fair. Mrs. S. is very college and career readiness focused; Dean Hayes stated that this is the best year of support for students
 - Mrs. S. is very proactive with outside programs focused on a positive school climate and anti-bullying programs.
 - Founders is going to be a part of a Unity day in support of anti-bullying and suicide prevention as October is national anti-bullying month
- 8:29pm - **Admissions Update** (Dean Hayes)
- Dean Hayes stated high turnout for families attending the Admissions info night
 - Information was provided regarding Mission, curriculum and expected rigor and a focus on behavior and Student Code of Conduct.
 - Dean Hayes has committed to meet with all incoming families to talk with them about expectations starting in February 2023, after admissions is complete for 23/24.
 - The next Admissions info night is scheduled for November 2nd at 5:30pm. The Board has stated that they will help and support any info nights needed. Dean Hayes said that Mrs. Forsyth will reach out
 - Dean Hayes was happy to report that except for one paraprofessional, TFA is fully staffed. Dr. Tyrie has been very instrumental in helping with this process
 - A new History teacher has been hired and he is hitting the ground running
 - Thank you to all parents for supporting us and sticking with us through this tough time, but we are fully staffed and all classes have teachers

- We do need a full-time, hourly paraprofessional (this position does include benefits)
 - The fall raffle is now underway. There is a cash prize for the student who sells the most tickets
 - Special thank you to Mr. Belanger who has helped to repair lockers, unload furniture, and for stepping up without being asked – this has been extremely helpful
 - Thank you to the Board for donating the baskets for the Fall Festival – they were beautiful
 - And a special congratulations to Mr. and Mrs Mihaly for welcoming their new baby girl, Josephine!
5. **Faculty Representative's Report:** 8:49pm (Reported by Dean Hayes) see [here](#)
- Mrs. Robichaud took five 5th grade students to a Leadership conference at the Delta Dental building. The students had to come up with 2 different projects and they did a wonderful job
 - The President of Delta Dental is and has been a strong supporter of TFA. It was a very rewarding day for students
 - There are many clubs running at the school and it's great to see how the students come up with the idea for the club, find a teacher representative to help, and then watch how the students run and lead these clubs
6. **Student Trustee's Report:** (Sophia W) 7:59pm
- Sophia is a newly elected student trustee with not much to report at this time.
 - Sophia did state that she is a 9th grader and this is her first year in the Student Senate
 - So far there are no concerns from the HS or MS Senate
 - Sophia was told by the Board that she is a full, acting member of the Board and is encouraged to participate by asking questions when she has them. The Board would like this to be a 2-way conversation between them and the Senate.
7. **Board Business:**
Audit Presentation 7:11pm
- It was stated that it was a very good year for the audit. There were no adjustments needed, no material weaknesses, and all standards were followed
 - The objective of the audit each year is to have reasonable assurance that the numbers are good, clean, and unmodified
 - The audit looks at areas of risk, focusing on contributions and revenue from the state, as well as gifts from the public
 - Auditors look at contributions, grants, Special Education, per pupil aid, and Student activities
 - Expenses are expected to be higher this year because of inflation across the board
 - The balance sheet looks healthy with cash and receivables and not a lot of debt; some amount of debt is to be expected
 - An example of a school using personal accounts for services like Venmo was an example of things to keep an eye on. This was one example from another nonprofit they encountered and are cautioning people about.
 - **Motion:** to accept the audit of June 2022 made by Kim L
 - **Second:** made by Angela S

- **Vote:** Passed - 6/0/0
- a. **PTSG Report 8:55pm (Read by Dean Hayes)**
 - The Fall Festival was a great success. Almost \$6000 was raised
 - A great thank you to Tom Huot and Joanne Dexter for taking the ball and organizing everyone and everything. It all was very well organized and all lead by PTSG volunteers
 - The PTSG paid for the movie license again this year
 - There is a great membership with lots of new families this year
 - The next meeting is scheduled for November 1st at 6:30pm in person at TFA
- b. **Mission Report (Patty H)8:59pm**
 - Mrs. H wants to remind teachers what the purpose of Round Table is. She would like the teachers to make it meaningful to the students
 - Mrs. H believes it is very important to create a curriculum for Round Table. She stated that the teachers were very open to it
 - Mrs. H stated that Round Table is a critical element of Founders Academy and it is important to engage each other in civics and what our country is all about; it should not take 2nd place and should be a priority
- c. **PSAT Results Presentation (Greg McKenzie) 8:07pm**
 - Mr. M. Presented the PSAT results. Scores for TFA students were higher than the State and national averages and year by year scores continue to increase.
 - Students and parents should be able to access their student's scores through the college board portal
 - This is important to show the students the results so they can see the reason that we test
 - The data received for these students (9th, 11th, and 12th graders) is very strong.
 - Full PSAT data will be linked to the minutes
 - Teachers and students are to be credited for success
- 8. **New Business: 8:39pm (Kyle F)**
 - Kyle F gave an update on the Finance Committee meeting stating it was a great meeting and good discussion
 - They are working on finding ways to increase revenue to support teachers better
 - They will work with the state to increase per pupil funding as appropriate
 - The Fundraising committee, lead by Angela S, will put some ideas together to help raise some money for the school
 - Dean Hayes stated that Sue F is looking for grant money from various outlets to expand our resources. Dean Hayes stated that Sue F is working hard and doing a great job finding grant opportunities
 - Kim L stated that there is a bill to expand the per pupil aid to about \$9k
 - **Motion:** to authorize any Board member to support legislature to increase per pupil funding made by Frank W
 - **Second:** made by Angela S
 - **Vote:** Passed- 6/0/0
- 9. **Non-Public Session:**
 - Session was 5:30pm - 7pm

NEED MOTIONS AND ROLL CALLS INCLUDING SEALING OF MINUTES

- **Motion:** to adjourn the meeting made by Kyle F
- **Second:** Patty H
- **Vote:** Passed - 6/0/0

Meeting adjourned at 9:09pm

10. **Next Meeting:** 6:30pm - Wednesday, November 16, 2022