

## **RENAISSANCE LEARNING ACADEMY**

### **Minutes of August 30, 2017 Meeting of Board of Directors**

A meeting of the Renaissance Learning Academy's Board of Directors was held on August 30, 2017 at 18370 Limestone Creek Road, Jupiter, Florida. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

Directors present at the meeting included: Dick Busto, Colette de Labry, Jim Sappia, Hank Schmidt, Kyle Henderson, and Marlene Sotelo. Cyndee Zeck and Toby Honsberger were present by invitation.

There were no public comments.

Dick Busto distributed a notice from The School District of Palm Beach County advising all charter schools of the County's intent to challenge on constitutional grounds certain provisions of section 1013.62 of Florida Statutes, which requires school districts to distribute a portion of their discretionary capital outlay millage revenues (i.e., the 1 cent additional sales tax) to charter schools.

Toby Honsberger provided the Executive Director Report:

- The move to TLA's Jupiter campus went well, with assistance from volunteers. Expenses were minimized, and unneeded furniture sold. In connection with efforts to change the school's name to "The Learning Academy," a new website was under construction, but securing the domain name was under negotiation. The website, signage and brochures will be finalized when negotiations conclude.
- 103 students were enrolled as of the meeting date. This year's budget was calculated on an enrollment of 115 students, which Toby believed was achievable. Superintendent Avossa is to attend an open house and tour on September 1, and Curriculum Night is scheduled for September 7. Both events are anticipated to boost enrollment efforts.
- Toby then reviewed staff turnover that occurred over the summer, as well as new staff and teachers hired. He then requested the Board to review the credentials of each of the "out of field" teachers, and circulated the credentials of the 15 teachers who were out of field (a copy of which is attached to these minutes). Thereafter, a motion was made by Hank Schmidt and seconded by Colette de Labry to approve TLA's use of these out-of-field teachers.

Toby then directed the Board's attention to the parent and staff survey conducted for the 2016-2017 academic year, indicating areas that had shown improvement and areas that needed further improvement. After discussion by the Board, Kyle Henderson moved to award Toby Honsberger the maximum compensation for which he was eligible under his compensation and bonus arrangement, consisting of a \$20,000 bonus and a 5% increase in base pay, retroactive to July 1, 2017. This would provide Toby

with a base pay of \$114,912 for the 2017-2018 academic year. Hank Schmidt seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

Cyndee Zeck reviewed for the Board the monthly financial statements for the periods ended 5/31/2017, 6/30/2017 and 7/30/2017, as well as the interim financial statements for the 12 months ended June 30, 2017. Cyndee noted in particular that approximately \$744,000 in cash left over at 2017 FYE would likely be applied to cover costs associated with "growing" into the new campus space, and that TLA's fixed assets were greatly reduced following the move. Dick Busto stated his goal of creating a reserve for the ensuing fiscal year.

Marlene Sotelo moved, and Kyle Henderson seconded, to approve the financial statements and year end reports for Fiscal Year 2017, including but not limited to the Interim Financial Statements, Fixed Asset Inventory Form, and Cost Report included therein. These were approved. Marlene Sotelo then moved, and Hank Schmidt seconded, to approve Budget Amendment #3 for Fiscal Year 2017, which would permit the purchase of a needed vehicle for TLA from grant monies. Budget Amendment #3 was so approved. Marlene Sotelo then moved, and Kyle Henderson seconded, to approve the financial reports for the periods ending 5/31/17, 6/30/2017, and 7/30/2017, respectively. All three monthly financial reports were approved.

Board minutes from meetings held January 16, February 23 and May 25, 2017 were circulated for approval. Thereafter, a motion was made by Hank Schmidt and seconded by Marlene Sotelo to approve the January 16 minutes; they were so approved. A motion was made by Marlene Sotelo and seconded by Jim Sappia to approve the February 23 minutes; they were so approved. A motion was made by Hank Schmidt and seconded by Jim Sappia to approve the May 25 minutes; they were so approved.

Marlene Sotelo reported that the sensory garden was scheduled to open on September 25, and that a research affiliation with an as-yet-unidentified hospital would soon be announced. TLC had an enrollment as of the date of the Board meeting of 134 students, that the basketball courts had opened, and that a recreational coordinator had been hired. Finally, certain benefit events were to be held on campus rather than at Mar-a-Lago as originally planned.

A list of upcoming events for 2017-2018 was distributed to the Board.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.

Upon motion made by Hank Schmidt and seconded by Marlene Sotelo, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Minutes of the meeting were kept by Colette de Labry.

  
Richard Busto, President