

The Classical Academy
975 Stout Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Board of Directors Meeting
North Campus
Monday, March 14, 2011

I. Call to Order

Vice-chairman Matt Carpenter called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call

Board members present were Kirk Cameron, Matt Carpenter, Jim Kretchman, Ron Mast, Lisa Sutton, and Jim Woody. Steve Pope was excused from the meeting.

III. Comments

a. Comments from the Audience

Est. Time: 5 mins

Chris Leland shared that the parents of the TCA community are very grateful for what TCA and the board has done. He also shared that the advisory boards had such excellent feedback from the community, and he felt that the community was losing momentum. The last issue was a follow up on the Core Values discussion. Once the core values are in place it needs a branding. It will help to bring unity to the community and school as a whole.

b. Announcement of Board Candidates

The upcoming board candidates were announced during the meeting. The candidates are Chris Carter, Erik Demkowicz, Jim Kretchman, Chris Leland, and Steve Palmer.

IV. Consent Agenda Items

Est. Time: 5 mins

- a. Admin/Ops Summary Report
- b. January Financials
- c. Minutes: February 7, 2011

Minutes and January financials have been requested to be removed from the consent agenda.

Moved by Kirk Cameron, seconded by Jim Kretchman, to approve the admin/ops summary report on the consent agenda, at 6:21pm. Roll Call. Approved by unanimous vote.

V. Discussion Agenda Items

a. Core Values Update

- i. Drill Down on part of our Core Values:
- ii. Discuss next steps for implementation
- iii. Presenter: David Bohn

For: Discussion

Est. Time: 30 mins

Jerome Simpson quickly reviewed the handouts that he had given to the board. He said thank you to the board for allowing him to be a part of an organization that allows the political freedoms that TCA has. He shared that the word freedom is within our Core Values in several areas. He shared that the second section of the Core Values recognizes that freedom is not free. And again under page two under the instructional philosophy. He reviewed the importance of students learning self-discipline and the knowledge of freedom that they have.

b. Student Support Services

i. Overview of current operations

ii. Presenter: Chad Wight

For: Information

Est. Time: 15 mins

Dr. Chad Wight shared that he wanted to give a brief overview of what the team has been doing this year and also their accomplishments. He said that student support services embodies three services. It covers special education, 504 plans, and the final area is English as a Second Language. TCA is unable to provide all services for students with needs and they are able to receive additional services from D20. In the future they would like to grow the program but because of budget restraints currently Student Support Services (SSS) would recommend the program remain the same. He reviewed the mission, goals, and future efforts of SSS. He also shared that TCA had been approved for the ARRA grant which will help provide funds to cover staff salary in the SSS department.

Jim Woody quickly introduced Scott Patlin to the board and shared that he was a potential candidate for the board advisory council.

c. Budget & Finances: 2011-12 and beyond

i. Update Board on latest information regarding State funding

ii. Presenter: Mark V./David B.

For: Discussion

Est. Time: 10 mins

Mark VanGamble gave a brief overview of the changes and talk of the legislature up in Denver. There has been a lot of discussion taking place but there have not been any major decisions yet. They will begin to work on the budget over the next few weeks and hopefully there will be more of an update at the next board meeting. He also reviewed the long range budget plan handout. He shared that, at this point, the Lead Team does not believe they are going to be able to stay out of increasing some class sizes. The changes they are looking at are increasing class sizes in grades 4-6, junior high, and high school. Even with these proposed changes there is still a deficit in the 2012 budget of around \$300,000.

Dr. Bohn shared that this long range projection has a planned increase of giving from \$300,000 to \$500,000. He said that this is a critical moment for TCA to decide if TCA is going to be able to stay TCA.

The board asked for clarity on the large change in projections for the 2012 budget year.

Mark VanGamble shared that the large contributor to this change is Governor Hickenlooper's proposed budget cuts.

The board discussed the overall projected budget cuts for the 2011-2012 school year. They also discussed what the deficit would be if there was not an increase in some class sizes.

The board asked what amount could be removed from the school reserve in order to not increase class sizes.

Dr. David Bohn shared that he would need to speak with Jan Stump and Mark VanGamble to get more firm numbers on what would need to come from the reserve in order to help meet the deficit. This would allow them to discuss what is expected to come in through the annual giving and then Mark can work through the numbers to see if it will work without increased class sizes. He shared that he needs to know how much the board would be willing to dip into the reserve in order for the Lead Team to fully discuss budget possibilities outside of increased class size.

The board asked for the Lead Team to give them an amount of what they think they would need to take from the reserve in order to fill the budget deficit. The board also discussed the possibility of an additional meeting on March 28th to discuss this topic further. They also asked that once the Lead Team has numbers or a suggested plan to send this information ahead of time so the board has time to review.

Jim Kretchman discussed the possibility of opening a fourth campus, with no promise to feed into TCA. This campus could be close to D49. This would help make sure that we did not max or go over the D20 student enrollment cap. He shared that we would already have the plans in place, the curriculum and methodology to create a new campus.

The board shared that they would like to see the administration focus their energy on the areas that we have already been successful in.

Jim Woody shared that areas where we are successful are College Pathways and elementary schools.

Dr. Bohn shared that it is important to stay focused, and that he has tasked Peter to look at these relationships outside of TCA.

Peter Hilts shared that administration already has about 50% of the data and information on an additional campus already.

- h. BREAK (approximately 8:30p.m.) Est. Time: 10 mins
- i. Parent Survey
 - i. Approval to proceed with Parent Survey
 - ii. Presenter: Kevin Collins For: 2nd Read/Vote Est Time: 10 mins

Kevin Collins reviewed the changes that had been made to the survey per the board's direction. He said with the board approval they would like to go ahead and send the survey out to the community.

- j. Strategic Plan
 - i. Update on process to date and progress for completion by June/July 2011
 - ii. Presenter: David Bohn For: Info/Discussion Est. Time: 10 mins

This topic was not discussed at this meeting.

- k. FAST Committee Proposal
 - i. Brief update on FAST and recommendations for documenting structure and responsibilities.
 - ii. Presenter: Jim Woody For: Discussion Est. Time: 10 mins

Jim Woody presented a written proposal (see the attachment) is to give the FAST permission to find more parent CPA's to help give advice and a proposal to designate the FAST committee as a formal board subcommittee renamed the TCA Board Financial Audit and Finance Subcommittee with responsibilities and membership outlined in the written proposal.

Moved by Jim Woody, seconded by Ron Mast, to approve the four bullet points within the FAST Committee Proposal and rename the committee to TCA Board Financial Audit and Finance Sub-committee, at 10:00pm. Roll Call. Approved by unanimous vote.

- l. Board Advisory Council
 - i. Discuss needs and review possible candidates
 - ii. Presenter: Ron Mast For: Discussion/Vote Est. Time: 10 mins.
- m. Board Committee Updates
 - i. Brief updates from each committee: Board Structure, Board Training/Orientation, Strategic Plan, Appreciation, Core Values

- ii. Presenter: Board Reps For: Info/Discussion Est. Time: 5 mins
- n. Communication from Board to Community
 - i. Presenter: Steve Pope For: Discussion Est. Time: 5 mins
- o. Board Debrief / Future Meeting Schedules and Agenda Items
 - i. Item: Confirm next meeting dates and discuss any known agenda items
 - ii. Presenter: Board Chair For: Discussion Est. Time: 5 mins

Discussion items l, m, n, and o were not discussed at this meeting.

- VI. Executive Session Est. Time: 20 mins
 - a. Provide performance feedback to TCA President, pursuant to Colo. Rev. Stat. sec. 24-6-402(4)(f).

Moved by Jim Woody, seconded by Jim Kretchman, to adjourn to executive session pursuant to Colo. Rev. Stat. sec. 24-6-402(4)(f), at 10:03pm.

Moved by Ron Mast, seconded by Jim Woody, to adjourn to public session at 10:53am. Roll Call. Approved by unanimous vote.

- VII. Future Agenda Items
 - a. Future Agenda Items
 - i. Safety, Safe2Tell, and Security Update (Kevin Collins) – April
 - ii. SAC Discussion (Kirk Cameron) - April
 - iii. Staff evaluation proposal (Ron Mast) – May
 - b. Regular Board Meeting Dates for 2011
 - i. April 11th, May 9th, June 13th, July TBD (Board Retreat), August 8th

- VIII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:54pm.

FAST PROPOSAL

Feb 2, 2011

The FAST, at the direction of the TCA Board has taken on an expanded role of receiving the annual TCA Financial Report and making a summary report to the entire board. The FAST also continues to make quarterly reviews of TCA Financial Management and make summary reports to the Board. In light of this expanded role, I propose the following changes to the FAST and suggest they be approved by Board resolution and annotated in the Board minutes to authorize and formalize the FAST's responsibilities:

- Rename the FAST: TCA Board Financial Audit and Finance Sub-committee
- Name the TCA CFO and Board Treasurer as co-chairs of the Sub-committee
- Responsibilities: Quarterly oversee TCA's financial management, receive the annual audit/management letter reports, give advice to the TCA Finance Team, and make timely reports to the TCA Board on the sub-committee's reviews
- Membership: TCA Board Treasurer, a second TCA Board member appointed by the Board Chair, TCA CFO, TCA Controller, Building Corp rep, two parent reps recommended by the Sub-committee co-chairs and approved by the TCA Board

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Woody
TCA Board Treasurer