



“To provide every child a classical and academically rigorous education while instilling a commitment to civic virtue and moral character”

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Savannah Classical Academy, Inc.
November 9, 2017

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Savannah Classical Academy, Inc. was held at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, November 9, 2017, at Savannah Classical Academy, 705 East Anderson Street, on notice duly given.

The board directors present were:

Scott McGhie
Ryan Dew
Paul Sidney
Roger Moss
Dr. Gwen Miller-Smith
Terri O’Neil
Benjamin Couch Payne, School Director

Absent with notice:

Falen Cox
Coren Ross
Don Waters

It was determined there was a quorum as required by the bylaws for transaction of business.

Mr. McGhie, vice-chair, called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm.

Dr. Miller-Smith moved to accept the consent agenda, Mr. Dew seconded; all board members present agreed.

Mr. McGhie introduced Shannon Brett, CPA, CFE with Holland, Henry & Bromley, in attendance to present the Financial Audit report to the Board. The final report was distributed for the record, reviewed, and significant findings were discussed. It was noted that the 990 tax form was filed and accepted by the IRS. Mr. McGhie added that the Financial Committee met last week and he presented the internal control letter, stating that no red flags were raised, but it gave the Committee a few items to evaluate with potential to be tightened up. The Financial Position statement was also reviewed. In reviewing the summary of significant Accounting Policies, Shannon Brett noted that SCA's financial reporting adheres to the FASB Accounting Standards codification. She referred to additional findings in the report, pointing out the summaries under sections Note-6, Note-7, and Note-9. The Board thanked Shannon Brett for her time and work.

Mr. Dew moved to go into closed session pursuant to O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (b) (2) at 5:48 p.m. to discuss a disciplinary appeal. Dr. Miller-Smith seconded; all board members present agreed. At 6:29 p.m. Mr. Moss moved to return to open session, Mr. Dew seconded; all board members present agreed.

Mr. Payne presented the Director's report. Highlights included: moving forward with GAC High School accreditation; one student is at risk of expulsion; ISS has helped with discipline; all contractors are meeting expectations; consideration of a contract with Georgia Power to help with securing the units on the roof; open staffing positions include two SpEd Teachers, Elementary Art Teacher, and a 1st Grade Paraprofessional; the resource for the Elementary Art position may move to additional support in other areas; a grant through Barney Charter will be submitted to help with additional personnel; as a part of CAP requirements for Professional Development we reached an agreement to have a Gifted Cohort with GA Charter at SCA; the 2016-2017 CCRPI report was shared; a grant for Strings from the Philharmonic Board; and some private donations are expected soon.

*****All reports discussed in the minutes are kept on file and are available for review.*****

Mr. Payne reviewed a discussion that came up from our Insurance Provider suggesting that our Provider add an opt-in waiver in the Policy for coverage of students injured on property, otherwise coverage would not apply. This would cost about \$20 per year for those who choose to opt in for the coverage. The Board agreed this would be a good thing to pursue.

Mr. Lollis presented the DCI's report, which was handed out for review and discussion. Mr. Lollis noted that the DCI Consultants provided additional feedback and resources, and that he met with the Charter Compliance Committee. Main points of the report included proposed CCRPI achievement scoring details, which includes indicators and focused goals presented to teachers; making sure teachers and students are focused on standards to prepare for the test in the Spring; survey results given to the Faculty – main takeaway is belief and practices differ; necessary items that need to be tweaked were reviewed, which includes standardizing lesson plans.

Mr. Payne and Mr. Lollis announced that strategies for meeting CAP goals for the year has been mapped out. Mr. Payne will send out the updated report as Board members are tagged as responsible parties in new areas or are responsible for new items. Mr. Payne noted that the biggest change will be re-sequencing the High School curriculum to allow us to teach students for longer periods of time before they take the State assessment. This will be something that Mr. Lollis will be working on.

Mr. Sidney shared results on behalf of the Academic Accountability Committee stating that they saw the largest growth in Elementary Grades, where most points are coming from, when they met last month.

Mr. Moss had nothing to report on Community Relations.

Mrs. Ross was not in attendance to report on Development.

Mr. McGhie reported on behalf of the Finance Committee, noting that the year-to-date budget has been shared and reviewed with the Board. The Profit and Loss report from July through October 2017 was also shared. Mr. McGhie stated that he expects to have recommendations for improvement next month, and that he is currently working on the Teacher Salary Scale to ensure we are where we need to be for next year.

Mr. Dew spoke on behalf of the Governance Committee, announcing that the Board Training Session will be on November 16th, adding that all members will need to meet at least nine hours of required training, with Chairs requiring twelve hours. He reminded the Board that four volunteers for TKES training are still needed for the session on Tuesday, November 21st. Mr. Dew stated that the Training Plan for 2017 had been approved. He concluded with restating the importance of all members meeting the required training hours as these have to be met to continue as a part of the Board.

Mr. Payne reported that the Corrective Action Plan time line was due today, which was submitted and received.

Unfinished Business was covered in the Governance Committee's report and no one had New Business to address.

Phyllis Nichols introduced herself as the grandmother of a student that has attended SCA for several years. She spoke regarding several instances of bullying. She asked the Board to review the matter, which she outlined in a letter to Mr. Payne, Mr. Thomas, and Ms. Cox. Mr. Thomas confirmed that he would ensure that the Board receives a copy of the letter to review. The Board thanked Mrs. Nichols for her time in coming to speak regarding and bringing this situation to their attention.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:16 p.m. by Mr. Dew, Mr. Moss seconded; all board members present agreed. A regular meeting is scheduled for January 11th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at Savannah Classical Academy, 704 East Anderson Street.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed copy on file)

Christina Orlandi under supervision of Ryan Dew, Secretary