



UTOPIAN
ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

6630 Camp Street
Riverdale, GA 30274
770-892-1644

www.utopianacademy.com

October 15, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting type: In Person

Attendees: Sharon Daniel (Board Chairwoman)
Michael Oby
Anthony Bryant
Terance Madden (*via telephone*)
Artesius Miller (Executive Director)

Meeting Called to Order (6:04 PM)

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by **Board Chair**.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by **Anthony Bryant**.

Seconded by **Michael Oby**.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes read aloud by Governing Board Chair, Sharon Daniel.

Approval of minutes from August 25, 2015 was motioned by Michael Oby second by Anthony Bryant.

Curriculum Report

Principal Peterson distributed a report card of student performance, as measured by the NWEA Map Assessment. In detail, goals were established based upon the state's annual measurable objective. As established by national norms, the MAP shows where students from Utopian Academy for the Arts are currently performing. Test is based on common core standards.

Students that scored performed above the MAP assessments, students received a "Swag" shirt to congratulate them on their high performance.

Saturday School program is going well. Additional remediation support is also available through "Make Music Count" (see below) and Title I tutoring. Parent letter emails and phone calls to inform students needed to attend have been made.

Principal Peterson was praised for her presentation by all board members in attendance.

Question: What percentages of students are in exceptional education program? Roughly 17%. Those students will take the Georgia Alternative Assessment.

Question: What was the special program held for parents of 6th graders?

Parents attended a 6th grade academy; tour the building (with simulated bell schedules), meet teachers, receive updates on student grades, understand the functions/roles of Infinite Campus. 6th grade



students haven't had a chance to take classes in the arts, but they are offered, "Make Music Count"; a program that integrates learning math, but also playing the piano.

Question: Any resources that you need?

Social Studies teacher has been using USA Test Prep. Aligned with Milestones assessment, and is a great resource for benchmarks. Would be great to have for all grade levels and all content. This is an online resource. For all content and grade levels the total costs is \$2600.

Social studies textbooks.

Question: Can we get seek support for purchase through the CSP grant?

CSP grant period has expired, but will inquire.

Governance Board Training

November 4-5th in Helena, GA. The following board members are registered to attend: Sharon Daniel, Anthony Bryant, Reginald Colbert, Artesius Miller.

SCSC Site Visit

November 16th. Members from the SCSC staff along with Commissioners will attend Utopian Academy. Scheduled visit from 10:00am-12:00pm.

Legal Defense Fund

A letter seeking support through the established Legal Defense Fund was emailed to President/CEO of GCSA was sent on October 14th. *Response is pending.*

Annual Report

Director Miller has begun the process of preparing the annual charter school. Deadline is November 1, 2015.

Development and Fundraising

Director Miller has informed the board of development efforts to supplement revenues received by QBE earnings. A copy of a recently submitted business plan (to a local philanthropy) was shared with the board.

Chair Daniel also shared more information about some great opportunities for the board to engage; including DirectTV.

PTSA President (Ms. Deetra Poindexter): shared some ideas of how PTSA has identified fundraisers for the school's program. Examples include Krispy Kreme, Spaghetti dinner

Financial Report

Report read aloud by Board CFO. CFO shared that the leadership team has secured the support of a local accountant to assist with accrual accounting. Budget does also include the September Profit and Loss Statement; captures all expenses.

Executive Session 7:24PM

Michael Oby moved to go into Executive session. Seconded by Anthony Bryant. Same order for ending executive session.

Financial and real estate matters discussed.



UTOPIAN
ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

Motion to accept the funding agreement with Charter Asset Management by Anthony Bryant. Seconded by

Adjournment (7:52pm)

Anthony Bryant motioned for the board meeting to be adjourned. Seconded by **Michael Oby**.