



UTOPIAN
ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

6630 Camp Street
Riverdale, GA 30274
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www.utopianacademy.com

January 8, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting type: In Person

Attendees: Sharon Daniel (Board Chairwoman)
Michael Oby (Board Vice Chair)
Anthony Bryant (Board Treasurer)
Aquannette Salter (Board Secretary) *Via-Satellite Telephone*
Artesius Miller (Executive Director)
Reginald Colbert

Meeting Called to Order (6:17PM)

Approval of Agenda

Motion to amend the agenda to discuss executive session after public comments.
Motioned by Michael Oby. Seconded by Reginald Colbert

Motion to accept agenda by Reginald Colbert. Seconded by Michael Oby.

Words of Inspiration by Anthony Bryant

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Utopian Academy for the Arts students present at meeting

Approval of Minutes

Tabled by Board Chair to approve at next meeting.

Financial Report

Board Treasurer requested that the financial reports be sent for review sooner than the current timeline from School CFO, Ron Rhodes. Concern from board treasurer regarding the delay of reimbursement from Implementation Grant. Board Chair has spoken with Terence Washington of the State Charter Schools Commission to request immediate review.

Motion to accept financial report by Aquannette Salter. Seconded by Anthony Bryant.

Curriculum Report

Principal Birkett presented report.

- Student Behavior
 - Document presented regarding student discipline
 - Goal to limit out of school suspensions
- Milestones Assessment
 - Principal Birkett requested from teachers things they are working on regarding preparation for the mandated assessment



- Academics
 - Colbert: Benchmark information will provide data for board to understand where students are currently performing
- Additional Supplies
 - Colbert: What type of supplies do we currently have?
 - Instructional supplies have been ordered
 - Computer lab will be set-up by this weekend
 - Apple products will be ordered within the next week for the broadcast/video production class
 - Arts' teachers have been requested to submit desired instructional

Motion to accept curriculum report by Anthony Bryant. Seconded by Sharon Daniel.

New Business/Announcements

Educational Partnership Agreement with University of Georgia

Director Miller provided quick synopsis about the program:

- Through the partnership with the UGA, any Utopian staff that elects in a graduate program at UGA, they can receive a certified leadership degree from the University; as certified through the Professional Standards Commission of Georgia.
- Utopian would be one of few school districts in the metro Atlanta area to partner with the University of Georgia

Motion to accept partnership agreement by Michael Oby. Seconded by Terance Madden.

Fundraising Proposal

Motion to deny the fundraising proposal by Michael Oby. Seconded by Terance Madden

Mr. Madden has recommended Utopian to apply for a grant opportunity through HAFI of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Mr. Madden has also recommended the use of a potential, highly qualified grant writer. Chair Daniel also highlighted a potential grant writer to help with raising additional funds to support the school's general operating budget.

Public Comments

One 7th grade parent spoke during public comment regarding dates for 2015 SY enrollment and Utopian website.

Executive Session

Motion to go in executive session by Anthony Bryant to discuss a real estate matter. Seconded by Michael Oby.

Post-Executive Session

Terance made a motion to sign the revised term sheet for the 8009 Carlton Rd. Riverdale, GA property. Seconded by Board Chair.

Motion by Terance to move Jai Gilyard to move to the Advisory Board. Seconded by Anthony Bryant.

Adjournment (8:14pm)

Michael Oby motioned for the board meeting to be adjourned. Seconded by Terance Madden.