



UTOPIAN
ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

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August 11, 2016

Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting type: In Person

Attendees: Sharon Daniel (Board Chairwoman)
Anthony Bryant
Joseph Hudson
Artesius Miller (Executive Director)
Candice Jimerson-Johnson (Principal)

Meeting Called to Order (6:00 PM)

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by *Board Chair*.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by *Joseph Hudson*

Seconded by *Anthony Bryant*.

Unanimous vote.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes read aloud by Governing Board Chair, Sharon Daniel.

Motion to approve minutes from July 28, 2016 meeting by *Joseph Hudson*

Seconded by *Anthony Bryant*.

Unanimous vote.

Strategic Plan Update

Mr. Hudson shared with board members and meeting attendees efforts for governance board member recruitment, including the solicitation and recently submitted application from Mrs. JoAnn McClinton. Highlights were also shared concepts to align with school's motto, "We are UNIQUE. We are UTOPIAN".

Academic Report

Principal Candice Jimerson-Johnson and Dean of Curriculum Dr. Holley Johnson provided "A Parent's Guide to the Individual Student Report for Elementary and Middle School EOG Assessments" with regards to the Georgia Milestones Assessment.

- An in-depth review of the school's report card (based on academic performance) of data from the 2014-15 and 2015-16 Georgia Milestones Assessment; which includes the interpretation of data for students that scored "Proficient and Distinguished" and "Developing through Distinguished". Information was also shared regarding the use of Student Growth Percentiles in the interpretation of growth of students that matriculate from local Clayton County elementary schools (where some schools have an average of 0% proficiency)

CCRPI: 2017 College and Career Ready Performance Index snapshot was shared with board members and meeting attendees regarding the calculation matrix for scoring on CCRPI. Dean of Students Matthew



Graves is the Utopian point of contact for CCRPI. Student and parent meetings will be scheduled to allow comprehensive understanding

Textbooks have been purchased for every subject area at Utopian Academy for the Arts.

Motion to accept the Academic Report by *Anthony Bryant*

Seconded by *Joseph Hudson*.

Unanimously passed.

Financial Report

Mr. Bryant shared with stakeholders that contractor that was hired to assist with audit clean up

Mr. Bryant has been provided additional access to school's accounting software via cloud-server.

DE46 initial report due to the Georgia Department of Education due on September 1, 2016. Final report deadline is September 30, 2016.

Refinance of loans from Charter Assessment Management has been recommended by Director of Operations, Melissa Davis.

Board Chair has recommended that board and school consider readopting the "Dimes for Education" schoolwide fundraiser.

Member Hudson has recommended that board work to close out FY16 audit.

Recommendation for Director Miller to assist

Motion to accept the financial report by *Anthony Bryant*

Seconded by *Joseph Hudson*.

Unanimously passed.

ED Report

Report was provided by Director Miller.

Director Miller shared with board members and meeting attendees updates regarding the following areas: enrollment, partnerships and programming, financial/fundraising, facilities, trainings/conferences/webinars, GA DOE/SCSC reporting, operations, staffing, State Charter Schools Commission updates.

Motion by *Joseph Hudson*

Seconded by *Anthony Bryant*

Unanimously approved.

Adoption of 2016-17 School Year Student/Parent Handbook

Motion by *Anthony Bryant* to accept student handbook, pending further review

Seconded by *Anthony Bryant*

Unanimously approved.

Lease Agreement with Clayton County Public Schools

Director Miller provided a physical copy of the lease agreement with the Clayton County Public Schools.

Motion by *Anthony Bryant* to accept lease agreement.

Seconded by *Joseph Hudson*.

Unanimously approved.

Comprehensive Performance Framework



Tabled for discussion at next scheduled board work session.

Announcements

Georgia Milestones: Only current 8th graders are required to take Milestones in each core content subject area; which comes as a direct.

MAP Testing: will be used a practice Milestone assessment

Public Comment

There were no participants that signed up for public comment. However, for new parents that had not previously signed up for public comment, the governing board waived that rule.

- Mr. Elvis Jones: Has relationships with Walmart & Sam's Club for grant opportunities and fundraising. There was also a recommendation to revise current afternoon dismissal procedures.
- Ms. Deborah Coleman: Can we push to get parents here on time? What is the greatest need for parent volunteers.
- Ms. Lawler: Encouraged parents to stay abreast of information from the Georgia Department of Education.

Executive Session

There was not a motion to enter executive session for personnel.

Adjournment (7:37pm)

Joseph Hudson motioned for the board meeting to be adjourned. Seconded by *Anthony Bryant*.