

TMCS Board Minutes
March 24, 2020

The March 24, 2020, 6:00 pm meeting held via a Zoom conference call was called to order at 6:04 pm by Tanya Blackford.

Attending board members were Tanya Blackford, Aimie Burns, Jeannette Butterworth, Cathy Chet, Emily Cowan, Tricia King, Tamara Lee, Rick Prudhomme, Rebecca Schwartz, Brad Ward.

Attending staff members were Denise Pesce, Noelle McKay.

The meeting agenda was approved; motion made by Jeannette Butterworth seconded by Rebecca Schwartz. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

The January 28, 2020 meeting minutes were approved; motion made by Rebecca Schwartz, seconded by Brad Ward. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Principal's Report: Denise Pesce

Budget

The proposed 20/21 TMCS budget currently shows a \$56,000 surplus. The budget is based on 2019/2020 revenue numbers. Denise also based the budget off the current state salary schedule while bumping everyone on staff up a year on the scale. Denise included a 3% increase for the rest of the staff.

During the current fiscal year TMCS will be incurring some new expenses associated with the response to COVID-19 and establishing virtual classrooms. The GNAR has been canceled and normally \$13,000-\$15,000 in revenue would be expected from this event. The annual fund is currently at \$9,600. Denise's goal is to try and retain all staff.

Because not all board members have had the opportunity to review the 2020/2021 annual budget, the board will wait until the April 2020 meeting to vote on approval.

Compliance Issues

TMCS has received a special commendation for meeting all compliance requirements for the 2019 school year. Jeannette said only a few charter schools in the state have been able to achieve this level of recognition.

Year End Testing

The NC Department of Instruction requested a testing waiver from the Department of Education. The Dept. of Education agreed to NC's waiver. The waiver now has to go before the NC legislative body for approval.

As part of TMCS charter, the school still needs to approve the 2019/2020 Summer Program Plan.

A motion was made to approve the 2019/2020 Summer Program Plan by Jeannette Butterworth, seconded by Rick Prudhomme. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Crestview Management Assessment

Crestview, located in Brevard, is one of two properties gifted to the school. The property is currently listed with Ali Thomas at Beverly Hanks. A bridge in the Crestview subdivision is washed out and emergency vehicles can't access the community. Denise participated in a February phone conference with the neighborhood association. The community is requiring a one-time Special Assessment of \$8,200 for bridge repair from each of the property owners. Denise requested the school be released from the requirement but the request was denied. Denise conferred with a real-estate attorney who said that the school was responsible for payment.

The property owner's association offered to finance the assessment at 10% for one year or the school could pay in full. The board opted to pay the assessment in full.

A motion was made to pay the \$8200 one-time special assessment for the Crestview property by Jeannette Butterworth, seconded by Aimie Burns. All voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

The Crestview property has annual dues of \$800 and TMCS wants to avoid incurring carrying costs. Denise will reach out to Ali Thomas to discuss approaching adjoining property owners and other options for creatively selling the property.

TMCS Bank Accounts

TMCS currently has two accounts: a checking account with First Citizens and a savings account with Entegra. Entegra was recently bought out by First Citizens. The board discussed the need to diversify and to look into investment opportunities for a portion of the reserves. A board subcommittee made up of Brad Ward, Tanya Blackford, Todd King, and Denise Pesce will investigate options.

Program Development

The staff has been working on lessons and developing remote learning strategies. Denise says the staff has been working wonderfully together and that they have given personal time to making the transition. Amy Parrish will provide extra mental health support to students.

Denise requested teachers share with her any correspondence they have with the parents.

Chrome books are being provided to any students who need a computer at home.

School has been officially called off site-based learning through May 15th. Denise is not sure how the state will look at attendance.

Enrollment

New Enrollment is continuing even though the open house had to be cancelled.

Development Report: Noelle McKay

The GNAR has been canceled. For people who have already registered they have been given the option of having their registration refunded or they can make a donation to the school. Sponsors are currently being contacted. They are also being given the option of donating their sponsorship to the school or requesting a refund.

The spring direct mail has been put on hold.

Committee Reports:

Denise Pesce - Expansion

Denise has not received any updates from Pam Hysong since February. Tanya Blackford will reach out to Pam to learn about the school's status.

With no further board observations the meeting was adjourned 7:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Noelle McKay.