

Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy: CFA**Board Meeting****January 6, 2014****Location:** High School Library**Present:** Ronda Alexander, Ted Bell, Phillip Byers (via phone), Jerald DeLaGarza, Paul Foley, Andy Francis, Nick Longerbeam, Jeff Powell, Paula Staley, Donna Trimble**Not Present:** Sally Harbin, Jason Ruff**Others Present:** Jason Cole, Joe Maimone, Jeff Ziegler, Cathy Kinter**Opening:**

The meeting opened at 5:45 p.m.

Pledge

Prayer

Public Comment:

No public comment

Chairman's Moment:

Andy Francis welcomed Darrell Keller, CPA, and his daughter. He also encouraged everyone to volunteer more.

Audit Presentation:

CPA Darrell Keller thanked the board for the opportunity to again complete the school's audit. He noted there were no findings this year and that the surplus was about what had been estimated. He recommended that the board remain involved in the oversight of the school and keep active in making background checks. Mr. Keller noted that if the school used multiple banks for our accounts we could increase our FDIC insurance coverage. Because of our bond though we must use one bank, so he suggested utilizing several different accounts so we remain covered by FDIC.

Minutes:

The December board meeting minutes were presented. Paul Foley made the motion to accept the minutes with Jeff Powell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

Paul Foley noted there have been no deviations from the budget when presenting the November 30 budget (see attachment 2a-g). The financial committee had an extensive conversation with Mr. Keller and that is has been an excellent year with the budget and audit (see attachment 2h).

Continuing Business:**Team CFA Report:**

Paul Foley presented the report, which is included in the packet. He reminded board members that the next CFA annual conference will be held June 25-27 in Denver, Colorado. He said that the conference will focus on technology through Core Knowledge, particularly for teachers.

Forum Report:

Joe Maimone presented the report, which is included in the packet. He noted that TJ has a very active Forum. Their next meeting is 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, at the grammar school. Jeff Powell will check into what was being done about allowing families in need to shop at the resale before others.

Director's Report:

Joe Maimone presented the report. He noted the school's recruiting season is underway. For the first time, applications are available online. He reported that there were already 57 applications in the first two days. Paula Staley asked about the number of kindergarten applicants, and Joe said they were about half of the applications received. He reminded everyone open house is Friday, Feb. 27, and that the cut off for applications is March 16 this year because March 15 is a Sunday. The lottery will be held Thursday, March 26. He also noted this year is the sixth annual fundraiser for the Jimmy V Foundation and that three students have been affected by cancer over the past few years. Joe also answered questions about filling vacant spots throughout the year from the wait lists. He answered that those were usually filled through December.

Committee Reports:**Executive Report:**

No report.

Community Relations:

No report.

Curriculum:

No report.

Finance:

Paul Foley noted the committee had nothing to add to the audit. Jeff Powell stated that Mr. Keller's company does a wonderful job for the school.

Facilities:

No report. Joe Maimone noted basic maintenance had been completed over the break, and that the school hopes to see savings from the lower gas prices in bus fuel, perhaps about a 30% savings.

Fundraising:

No report.

Legal Affairs:

Ted Bell presented the report. He presented an updated version of the Internet Use and Safety Policy for the board to consider. He noted it guides the students in knowing their rights and responsibilities when using the Internet. He made the motion to approve the revised policy, and Paula Staley seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The policy will be effective immediately.

Personnel:

No report.

New Business:

Upcoming meetings: The next few board meetings are scheduled for February 3 (grammar school), and March 3 (upper campus), and April 7 (grammar school).

Lottery Protocol: Joe Maimone explained this was a first reading (attachment 7) for this version of the protocol. He noted special cases, such as staff members having preferential treatment, and using only one surname for multiple siblings. Paula asked if “if available” could be added to the line “Please note that siblings of currently enrolled students and children of staff members are not subject to the lottery and are automatically granted a seat per North Carolina General Statute.” Ted would like to see the reference to “both lists” in “Please review both of these lists to ensure that your child is included” to be clarified.

S&P Rating: Paul Foley reported on the school’s “stable” rating. He noted it points out the school’s strengths and weaknesses. He wants the board to be aware that any decision that is made can affect our rating.

Vision Committee: Jerald DeLaGarza noted that survey will be reviewed at the Forum’s Jan. 20 meeting.

2015/16 School Calendar: Joe Maimone noted that this is a first look at the proposed calendar, but he would like to see it approved so that calendars will be available for the February Open House. Discussion included year-round school, longer Thanksgiving break, and ending the school year earlier. Joe noted the school is still on a 180-day schedule which includes about 1,080 hours which is over the required 1,025.

CFA Conference: Jerald DeLaGarza indicated he was also interested in attending in addition to Sally Harbin.

Contracts:

The contract to use CPA Darrell Keller for the 2015 audit was proposed at the same rate as the current contract. Jerald DeLaGarza made the motion to accept the contract with Jeff Powell providing the second. The motion passed unanimously.

Ted Bell made the motion to adjourn. Paula Staley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The board adjourned at 6:32 p.m.