



Galapagos Rockford Charter School

Board Meeting Minutes 12/05/2017 5:30pm

Open to the Public

2605 School St. (Lower Academy)

Board Members Present- Josh Binning, Jeff Orduno, Jon Lippitz, David Taber, Rebecca Denzer, Michael Lane

Meeting was called to order at 5:35pm.

Rockford, IL

- Public Comment
 - NONE
- Review of the past minutes
 - October Board Meeting Minutes Approved
- Guest Scholar
 - Natazia Davis, 8th Grade Scholar spoke about online honors class from Northwestern that she is taking at GRCS, in addition to other updates about programs at the UA
- Scholarship Opportunities- Don Gillingham- Rockford Lutheran
 - Mr. Gillingham presented the Tax Credit Scholarship opportunity that Rockford Lutheran has presented to GRCS 8th grade scholars.
- Bright Spots (Gargano, Alyousuf, Puckett)
 - Incentive nights, scholar ambassadors, 8th grade parent meeting & incentive night
- Financial update – Review of financial statements
 - Statements were reviewed by Mr. Lane. Focused on cash position of approximately \$1mm and reviewed budget vs. actuals.
- Grant Applications
 - After school programming, Bee Hive, Native Garden- about \$100,000- will have updates at the next meeting
- Facility Update at 2605 School and 3051 Rotary Rd. (Lane)- Possible capital projects for 2018
 - Nothing until this summer- will have an update at the next meeting
- Exploration of Endowment
 - Community Foundation of Northern Illinois- offering a challenge grant to start and endowment
- Dean of Culture Report
 - Overall reduction in suspensions from the last report
 - Discussed action steps to improve overall attendance

- Question from the Board- Unclear about how attendance numbers compare to other RPS schools- MG will follow up at the next meeting
- Dean of Instruction Report
 - Discussion of MAP terminology
- Enrollment Report (S. Puckett)
 - Update on current enrollment numbers- 313 total, new scholar orientation next week, & a waiting list for K
- Upcoming Events (M. Gargano)
 - Calendar Event Review
- Board Fundraising Committee- Rebecca Denzer/Dave Taber/Josh Binning
 - Find a fundraising expert to consult or join the group
 - Calendar & coordinate fundraising event(s)
 - Focus on Project Passport- visual for fundraising
- Board Ad Hoc Committee – Dave Taber
 - Temporary Committee for presenting to the Board
- Audit was distributed to the Board- there were no findings

Meeting was adjourned at 7:08pm.

The next board meeting is Wednesday, February 7th, 2018

Galapagos Rockford Charter School is dedicated to preparing scholars to be responsible, productive, college-educated adults capable of adapting and prospering in the changing global economy.

Core Values of Galapagos

Grit

Drive

Growth Mindset