



KARL G. MAESER PREPARATORY ACADEMY

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Public Board Meeting

November 12, 2013

7:00 pm

1. Determination of Quorum
2. Approval of minutes – September 10, 2013, October 8, 2013
3. Public Comment
4. Director's Report—Robyn Ellis
5. Approval & Discussion:
 - a. Cheating policy
 - b. Technology in classroom
 - c. Truancy/Attendance policy update
 - d. Proposed 2014/2015 Calendar
6. Curriculum committee
 - a. Report on Socratic department meeting
7. Budget committee—Steve Whitehouse
 - a. Power School University
 - b. Report on budget committee meeting
 - c. S & P Rating report
 - d. Bond quarterly report
 - e. Trustland funds expenditure request
8. Facilities committee—Gary King
9. Legislative committee—David Leavitt
10. Executive Session
11. Adjourn

Public Meeting Start Time 7:07 pm

Public Meeting End Time

1. Determination of Quorum

Yes, we have a quorum. In attendance Steve Whitehouse, Gary King, Todd Moulton, Cynthia Shumway, Janine See and Corey Bingham.

2. Approval of minutes – September 10, 2013, October 8, 2013

Updated June 11, 2013

Steve made a motion to approve September 10 minutes. Gary seconded. Voting to approve was unanimous.

Todd motions to approve the October 8, 2013 minutes. Steve seconded. Voting to approve was unanimous.

2. Public Comment

none

4. Director's Report—Robyn Ellis

- Robyn attended director's meeting today. Charter school performance standards. Maeser went from mid-low to mid-high to high quartile.
- Retention report came out. We are in the range within 5%.
- Charters have had 8% growth this year.
- There were changes made to the content and modification of a charter application and charter agreement. Copies were passed out.
- Accrediting body has a survey that we will send out a link that will be open until January or February instead of us doing our own survey every year. This is currently online and available to parents.
- Open enrollment has started. There are 280 currently on the list.
- Report from Michael Olsen, the German teacher, about the possibility of doing a German exchange program. The German students will come here March 20-April 8. Our students would go there June 16-July 5. We have 9 Maeser families interested. Ideally 15 would be optimum. Michael Olsen needs to address insurance and risk management and bring a formal proposal to the Board.

5. Approval & Discussion:

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a. Cheating policy

Gary motions to approve the cheating policy as amended. Corey seconded. Voting to approve was unanimous.

b. Technology in classroom

Highest concern is the testing. Two aspects – hardware and functionality. How much time to manage and solve problems. We are going to bring in a 3rd party to help define the need. Steve will become part of the discussion.

c. Truancy/Attendance policy update

Todd motioned to approve the changes to the truancy/attendance policy. Gary seconded. Voting to approve was unanimous.

d. Proposed 2014/2015 Calendar

Steve motions to approve the 2014/2015 calendar. Janine seconded. Voting to approve was unanimous.

6. Curriculum committee
 - a. Report on Socratic department meeting
 - Feedback on 8th grade English. They had wanted us to approve Great Expectations. Now they see that the reading load is too heavy and they want to move it to 12th grade English.
 - Discussion on 12th grade English and proposal to take concurrent enrollment English 1010 and combine it with Shakespeare making the Shakespeare a concurrent enrollment class.

Todd motioned to approve the combination of English 1010 and Shakespeare.

Gary seconded. Voting to approve was unanimous.

- The lack of the Socratic seminar has received negative feedback from former students making it a point of discussion. There is talk about creating a senior seminar that would be more of a Socratic type class. We could incorporate it into the senior capstone.
- Still working on Socratic 9th and 10th with Hillsdale program.

7. Budget committee—Steve Whitehouse

- a. Power School University

Request for Michael and Jen to attend Power School University. Cost for the two of them to go will be \$8,100.

Steve motions to amend the budget to include the \$8,100 for Power School University. Todd seconded. Voting to approve was unanimous.

- b. Report on budget committee meeting

- Discussion around policies and procedures. Karyl is taking the current policies and procedures and integrating them.. This should be complete by end of January/February.
- Records management – records/retention policy has been passed. Need to make sure that we are following it. We need a functional process that makes sure we are including the electronic copies. Karyl and Lyn to complete.
- Online payment system – Internal deadline of Dec. 15 to come to the board for the January meeting. Would be nice to create a bill-pay option for parents.

- c. S & P Rating report

Rating was renewed at a triple B-. Our risk is that we have no ability to grow our revenue but our costs could go up with insurance, etc. We can't grow our staff on a financial strength basis. S&P has no incentive to raise our credit rating.

We need to create an asset management plan for future that includes maintenance of all facilities and buses.

- d. Bond quarterly report

We are exactly 120% for the past 12 months. Which is what is required.

- e. Trustland funds expenditure request

Same as technology discussion.

- 8. Facilities committee—Gary King

- The modular – wall with insulation is partial. We can either have them replace the wall, put in foam or take \$3000 and put noise barrier on the bottom of the doors. We will try the noise barrier first to see if that makes a big enough difference.
- We are still missing white boards and bookshelves and locking cabinets. There is no lock on the current cabinets. We need an itemized list for the budget committee. Hall carpets to be cleaned on the 29th. The choir and drama rooms need to be done as well.

- 9. Legislative committee— no update

- 10. Adjourn

Todd motions to adjourn. Voting to approve was unanimous.