

**Success Preparatory Academy
Board Meeting
Thursday, August 4, 2011**

Board Members in Attendance

Lee Adler, Anderson Baker, Kathy Broussard, Nia Davis, Sean Singleton, Sassy Wheeler

Board Members Unable to Attend

Ben Blanchard, Jack Carey, Avery Corenswet, Avione Pichon

Also in Attendance

Niloy Gangopadhyay, Alice Lee, Kendall Wolfson

Call to Order

6:38 p.m. Meeting called to order.

1. Approval of Agenda

- A. Change to add presentation by Don Wheat from Rebowe & Co., the School's CPA as 2nd agenda item.

Moved by: Baker
Second by: Singleton
Unanimously approved

2. Rebowe is in talks to merge with a larger CPA firm based out of Enterprises, AL: Carr, Riggs, & Ingram, LLC. This will not affect the fee structure or the relationship. Audit for 2010-2011 will be coming up in October. Don still will run the audit department.

3. Review July Meeting Minutes.

The minutes from the July meeting were incomplete so this was deferred until the September meeting.

4. Salary review of St. Claire Adriaan

Wheeler recapped why the salary issue came about in terms of his agreement to freeze his salary based on the perceived financial situation of the school, and then asking that it be reinstated after the school's financial picture for the coming year became clearer.

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After discussion it was moved by Wheeler that the salary be reinstated based on the raise of the other Head of School, retroactive to July 1.

Seconded by Singleton
Unanimously approved

5. Maintenance of SPA Facilities

Kendell Wolfson introduced Alice Lee, who headed the RFP process. She summarized the RFP, the responses received and the RFP subcommittee's review. Handouts included the summary of the rankings by the subcommittee (not included with these minutes) and the form of rubrick for evaluating each proposer (attached). Main criteria were (different weightings applied):

1. Bid amount
2. Proposer capacity - experience in schools, perceived financial stability
3. Services Delivery/Technical Proposal
4. Cost containment and efficiency strategies

The subcommittee ended up recommending Maintech. After further discussion of the relative pros and cons of the proposals and budgetary matters, it was moved by Adler to approve Maintech's proposal for school and grounds maintenance for the coming year.

Seconded by Baker
Unanimously approved

Alice and Kendall were commended for all their hard work.

6. School Leaders Reports

Adler asked some questions to clarify Mr. Gangopadhyay's written report.

Classes begin as follows:

Tuesday 8/9 = new 4th and 5th graders
Wednesday 8/10 = all 4th and 5th grades
Thursday 8/11 = 1st day for K
Monday 8/15 = 3rd grade 1st day
Tuesday 8/16 = 1st and 2nd grade 1st day

Action Item – Gangopadhyay to send out school year calendar to Board.

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School bussing (transportation)

- Bus routes are organized and in place.
- No alternative routes will be made until 3 weeks after school begins.
- Busses have been doing some dry runs the last few days.

Enrollment:

- Expecting full K enrollment (72 out of 74 have said verbally they are coming. We figured on 32 /class, i.e., 64).
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd will be fine.
- Total will be around 400-404.

SPED population will be approximately 10% (comparable to OPSB)

7. Committee Reports

- A. Academic Excellence – no report
- B. Community Outreach – no report
- C. Development
 - On track to have a good round of classroom college sponsorships
- D. Facilities – no report
- E. Finance
 - See written report
 - We will not be back-billed for 2009-2010 insurance
 - Note that net income for 2010-2011 projected to end at \$355,000
- F. Governance – no report
- G. Organizational Planning and Effectiveness – no report
- H. Wellness – no report

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8. Open Discussion

- A. Adler reported on Charter Council meeting he attended on August 2. See written report with summary, attached.
- B. Broussard reported on having attended a Public Community Task Force meeting, also on August 2. It was hosted by RSD, NSNO and OPEN (Orleans Public Education Network) as part of the 100-day planning process. Recovery School District Superintendent John White has convened four task forces to host public meetings across the city for parents, students, educators and community members. This meeting was to ask the attendees their thoughts on the following 5 questions:
- What is the RSD doing well and in what areas can it improve?
 - Excellence: What can the RSD superintendent do to increase student achievement?
 - Equity: What inequities exist in the schools and how should they be addressed?
 - Community: What can the RSD do to better engage and inform students, teachers, parents and community members?
 - As the RSD continues to assign charter operators to the lowest performing schools, how would you like to contribute to the process of identifying and selecting operators to run those schools?

The attendees broke into 4 groups, gave their thoughts and then reconvened to assimilate the groups' respective thoughts. The new Superintendent is taking this info to devise his strategic plan for the district.

- C. Singleton reviewed Strategic Plan's basic objectives in advance of Retreat. See attached. He is looking for feedback.

9. Action Items

- Gangopadhyay to send out school calendar
- Next Board meeting moved from Thursday 9/1 to Wednesday 9/7

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.