

Minutes

HCA Board of Directors Meeting

October 16, 2019
Division 2/3 The Landing

At 4:35 pm Cynthia called the meeting to order.

Present: Peggy Muir, Ed Harris, Sally Mackenzie, Barbara Merson, Alan Yuodsnukis Cynthia Shelmerdine, Scott Barksdale, Head of School

Absent Sue Priest, David Jean, Nancy Anderson.

Public Comment No member of the public attended.

Update from Head of School

- This is School Week 7: Kids benefitting from redirects, settling in. HCA has closed enrollment.
- A Div 1 Teacher has resigned. Scott is filling it with 2 half time positions. Writing lab teacher at Div 2/3; a humanities teacher for reading and writing at Div 1.
- Enrollment: 130 Div 2/3. 66 Div 1. Now at 195. We will remain stable this year. Scott is pleased that there is no reduction from last year.
Application for 5th grade approved by Charter Commission. Will relieve pressure on 6th grade coming in. Multi-grade situation. 10 more kids next year from 5th grade will help.
- Project Bike Tech. Students can earn certification in putting together all sorts of specialized bikes. Needs 35K to get it off the ground. The representative from the group recruits schools for the project and helps raise the money.

Mission and vision statement The BOD worked on the next iteration and feel we are complete.

HCA's mission is to create a community of creative thinkers, compassionate leaders, and effective problem solvers. Project-based and place-based experiences ground learners in the natural and human worlds and cultivate curiosity, integrity, and civic mindedness. We envision HCA students and alumni as champions of social justice, economic opportunity, and sustainability in our towns, state, country, and world.

Ed moved we should accept the statement; Peggy seconded. The statement was unanimously approved.

Finances

The BOD examined the financial statement from July through September 2019.

Calendar of Events

Cynthia will send out the revised version of calendar of events to BOD members.

Marketing and advancement plans:

Janice Thompson will run HCA's Annual Fund. Cynthia will ask her to attend our November BOD meeting.

Marketing: Recruiting: Big goal to get our ten 5th graders in Div 1 And packaging our early college program for Div 2/3. Trying to get press for ongoing activities (Malaga visit) and new initiatives (HBS and the civics course).

Ed reminded us of the idea to ask for personal stories from kids for recruiting. Consider placing them in *Times Record, Forecaster, Coastal Journal*.

Scott mentioned his long-term view that we ultimately need to think about becoming a regional school expanding to different campuses.

Facilities Planning

Dave produced a model to help project finances through 2025. After the next meeting of the committee, we will have more data to work with.

We can sustain the present two campus configuration with 205 students. Our charter states we can have a maximum of 232 students: Caps are 99 at Div 1 and 133 at Div 2/3.

HCA has the option to extend DIV 2/3 for 10 years from Cardentes. But their financial schedule is based on a for profit organization. Students, parents, and faculty are satisfied with the present space. So financial issues would force a move.

Ed suggested the need to talk to Cardentes about what they have available and also to speak with Jim Howard about what he might have available.

Ed will join Facilities Committee with Scott, Dave, Andrew.

Executive Committee

Grant for Board planning: Cynthia contacted Carol Wishcamper. Carol said we don't need her. Don't need a number cruncher. Maybe we need an educational planner.

A discussion of what might be helpful for us followed: Support for Board development and fund raising. Barbara said, "Do we really need something like help with 'Rebranding'?" We need help in how to use values-based statements in fund raising: Look at logos and website to see if the message is consistent. Maybe need a coach for the BOD re: bod development Perhaps something is available from Maine Association of Non-Profits. MANP

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The meeting adjourned at 6:20 on a motion by Peggy; seconded by Barbara.