

### **Minutes**

Cynthia called the meeting to order at 4:37 pm.

Present: Peggy Muir, Sue Priest, Nancy Anderson, Cynthia Shelmerdine, Sally Mackenzie, Dave Jean, Alan Youdsnukis, Barbara Merson  
Absent: Ed Harris

#### Public Comment

Tom Dennison, parent of a Div 3 student who has been at the school since the beginning, said he was concerned about the incident described in the paper regarding a student who was reported to have a gun at school. He said, "I'd like to know what the school has settled on regarding the incident and what can parents do to assist the school in ensuring school safety."

Scott responded that there was never a threat made. It quickly became clear that it was hearsay. The incident was investigated by Brunswick Police, and they found no credible threat. The school leaders and teachers have addressed the issue several times with students and hope that soon the rumors will abate.

Scott and Cynthia thanked Mr. Dennison for bringing his concern to the BOD. Mr. Dennison expressed his appreciation for what the school is doing.

#### Advancement

Andrew distributed the Advancement 2019-2020 Plan.

He discussed the first event : Winter Warmer at the School House Café 1913 to be held on Dec. 4. We will unveil plaques that contain the list of founders and those who supported the school in its first year. Plaques will be installed at Div 1 over winter break. There are 268 names on the plaque as supporters of the school in its first year.

At the event, Scott will announce the recasting the mission of the school, the ability to admit grade 5 students starting next year, and our early college program.

Annual Fund letters will go out on the day of the event. Janice Thompson, who is assisting the school in this area, says all members (staff, parents, board members) need to be part of the effort and be a donor. Cynthia distributed dates for future events to raise money and to support the school.

#### Update from Head of School

Scott said the school is continuing its work on changing aspects of the culture.

Things are better; systems are stronger—but issues still arise; adolescents will push against boundaries. He is looking forward to Trimester 2 where he expects processes to gel.

Scott reported on the Parent Partnership meeting. The organization will be focused on projects. Some parents were in attendance; others attended on-line through Google meeting.

November 26 will be a celebration of learning at Div 1 at 1 pm; Div 2 at 2pm.

### Finance Committee

Andrew reported on the annual audit occurring yesterday and today. He was pleased because there were so few additional items the auditors needed. He commented on how helpful Dave Jean has been over the past years with regard to preparations for the audit.

Andrew then discussed the budget modelling he has done to produce 5-year budget projections based on several assumptions especially those related to moderate increases in student population. He concluded, "The model tells us we need more students to break even through the years, but the model shows we don't have to push to 250 to stay even."

He said we could negotiate with the Cardentes to extend our lease for Div 2 to 2026. Both school locations are considered important to the goals of each division.

The sense of the BOD is that engaging in this contract generally makes sense. However, after some discussion, the BOD decided to have the financial/5-year plan committee delve more fully into the model and the figures (plugging in such things as costs that relate to the increase of 20 Div 2/3 students and debt service) to see how some changes would alter the cost structure.

The final decision is not needed until June, 2020, but it's likely we can make a decision much earlier than that so that teachers can plan effectively.

### Executive Committee

Cynthia handed out committee assignments for this year and asked unassigned BOD members to consider joining one, especially the 5-year planning committee. She said Ed Harris will soon resurrect the academic oversight committee.

### Charter Commission Site Visit

Cynthia discussed the outcome of the site visit meeting she and Scott attended with the site visit committee and Shelley Reed. Scott and Cynthia were able to say we were already working on many of the things they cited as concerns/needs. We realize we still need to focus on such items as absenteeism and test scores.

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 on a motion by Peggy, seconded by Dave.

Notes: Barbara left at 5:30 pm; Nancy left at 5:58 pm.