

Franklin Academy Board Meeting May 11 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. Members present were Bob Luddy, Al Merritt, and Rick Eddins. Tom Lehr was not able to attend.

Minutes from previous meeting were reviewed and Al Merritt motioned to approve. Bob seconded and they were approved anonymously.

Bob Luddy read a statement from Tom Lehr regarding his resignation from the Board effective next board meeting due to new nepotism regulations.

Bill Francis reviewed the proposed budget presented to the board. The proposed budget has addressed all needs and gives a cushion if any needs arise during the year. He stated that there might be some addition in teacher pay if the state passes an increased. This will be covered by the per pupil allocation by the state. The budget also reflects the anticipation of any capital expenditures, technology demands, upgrades in significant maintenance items, etc.

There were no questions from the board. Bob recommended approval of the budget as presented. Rick Eddins seconds. Budget Passed.

Denise Kent- presented nepotism policy in the past we adopted conflict of interest policy for board. DPI recommends that we review and board members sign that they reviewed the policy. This is the same policy as in the past and states Franklin Academy recognizes the need to avoid nepotism relative to the hiring, placement, duties, and evaluation of all employees of the school. The policy was reviewed and passed unanimously. Bob made motion to accept policy presented by Bill Francis Al Merritt seconded it.

New teacher contracts – Bob would like resolution to approve – Eddins second all in favor.

Parent Survey was reviewed by Denise Kent – build transitions between each building. Have students think about the next step. Transitional events – K-5 reading night. Parents are invited in to view current level as well as the next level

David Mahaley presented occupational Course of Study –All students at the Franklin Academy are expected to meet the graduation requirements as prescribed by the North Carolina Department of Public Instructions for Future-Ready Core. In addition to these requirements are several other local requirements for graduation. Other larger school systems and other select schools that can offer what is called the Occupational Course of Study as an option to meet graduation requirements. This was not chosen as an option when we started the High School and the Office of Charter School's was aware of this decision. The board needs to be aware that DPI has questioned this and we have made them aware that this is our policy and we will not offer other options. Eddins – do other schools have this issue. Mahaley – Not that I am aware of. Bob Luddy - We will get a legal opinion if needed.

DPI recommends that the board occasionally review the policy and procedure handbooks. This information has been sent to your review. The board members verbally acknowledged they have reviewed.

Denise Kent presented test scores and state boards report on schools. The school did well in the majority of the areas and areas of concern have been addressed by a report that will become public record with the state. The state board will use the information from these reports to choose to open or close charter schools.

One area of concern is the number of meetings a school board has per year. They are required to have 8 meetings per year. Franklin Academy has not done so in the past but will schedule 8 meetings this upcoming school year.

Additional questions/comments

Merritt – Are we going to have more board members? Bob Luddy stated our by-laws say we must have at least 3. The recommendation from the state is 7. No decision or discussion of adding more board members.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.