



The Schools of McKeel Academy, Inc.

***McKeel Academy Central
McKeel Academy of Technology
South McKeel Academy***

**Board of Trustees Meeting
MINUTES**

February 28, 2017

The Board of Trustees meeting was held on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at McKeel Academy of Technology. The meeting was called to order by Stephanie L. Campbell at 12:03 p.m. and declared a quorum with 7 of 8 members present. Trustees present included Taylor Caffey, Stephanie L. Campbell, Michael Clanton, Seth McKeel, Michael Peeples, Phillip Walker, and Jackie Yon. Staff present included Kim Benson, Alan Black, Julie Ehnle, Joyce Powell, Cathy Reigner, and Michele Spurgeon. TSMA Teachers of the Year present included Stacey Baker and Daniel Lauk. Members of the public present included Greg Hannie, Frank McCaulley and Jennifer Futch.

➤ **Public Comment**

Mr. Hannie addressed the board asking them to answer these three questions:

1. Why has the board declined to answer or even respond to issues I have brought before the Board?
2. Why have the McKeel Schools and the board repeatedly made false promises and lied to me in the past?
3. Why did the board approve false minutes from their board meeting of September 27, 2016, and has not yet corrected them?

Mr. Hannie's three minutes expired, and Ms. Campbell thanked Mr. Hannie for his comments.

➤ **Consent Agenda**

- Minutes: 12/17/16 Board of Trustees Meeting

Motion: There was no discussion. Moved by Phillip Walker, seconded by Michael Peeples, to approve the consent agenda as presented

Motion Carried

➤ **Old Business**

- 12/31/16 and 1/31/17 Financials

Ms. Ehnle provided the board with information regarding the December 2016 and January 2017 Financials

➤ **Bus Trade**

Ms. Ehnle explained the issues with four buses in the TSMA fleet that have faulty engines along with the options to resolve the issue. The recommended option is to accept Bluebird's offer to make a trade for these 4 busses for 4 new Bluebird buses. Note that the presented materials only reflect trading two of the four problem buses. Just prior to the meeting, it was offered to trade all four. (Number presented times two) Price per bus = \$101,887. Trade value \$29,000 each. Total invoice for two buses = \$145,774.

Motion: Moved by Michael Peebles, seconded by Michael Clanton to approve to trade 4 old busses for 4 new busses as presented

➤ **Budget Amendment**

Ms. Ehnle reviewed the budget amendment slides as presented. There will be at least one more budget amendment this year – likely only one.

Motion: Moved by Taylor Caffey, seconded by Michael Clanton to approve the 2017 Budget Amendment as presented

Motion Carried

➤ **New IT Position**

Ms. Ehnle discussed with the board our need for hiring another computer programmer. As we have automated and designed more and more systems, our existing staff is unable to keep up with demand. The staff named the many systems designed in-house and reviewed current IT roles with the board.

Motion: Moved by Phillip Walker, seconded by Michael Peeples to approve new IT position

➤ **Relocation of SMA Pre-K**

Ms. Ehnle explained the opportunity to relocate the SMA Pre-K and the benefits that would result. This will be presented at a later date with final numbers. No vote needed at this time.

➤ **Building 4 Remodel**

Ms. Ehnle provided the board with an update regarding the building 4 remodel. Demo will begin over spring break. The project will be completed prior to the start of the 2017-18 school year and seat an additional 125 kids. We will likely need additional buses for the increase in students (one or two), and we are exploring the possibility of purchasing some used buses to meet this need.

➤ **MAC Grant**

Ms. Spurgeon presented to the board information regarding a grant that was issued from American Chemical Engineers

Motion: Moved by Taylor Caffey, seconded by Phillip Walker to accept the grant and for funds to be used as presented

➤ **Director's Report**

Mr. Black discussed the Finland trip and how they may be able to implement some of the ideas that the team observed while visiting the schools there. Stephanie Campbell and Phillip Walker also shared their experiences.

Mr. Black discussed the idea of possibly renting space at the church (adjacent to the land we recently purchased) prior to constructing school 4 in order to introduce the concept on a slow growth scale. Grades K, 1 and 2 would start school 4 in rented space. (Possibly PK if the church discontinues their PK program) As the students rolled up to the next grades, enrollment would expand gradually each year until we reached our target of approximately 500 students.

➤ **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stephanie L. Campbell

Cathy Reigner

Stephanie L. Campbell, Chair

Cathy Reigner, Secretary