

**Sussex Academy**  
**Executive Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**May 20, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 3:33 p.m. by Jennifer Scott, Board Vice-President

Board Members Present: Mariah Calagione, Jennifer Scott, Dustin Parker, Denise Westbrook, Lauren Wisely, Chris Benjamin (arrived 3:58), Joe Schell, Jaime Nutter, Ilona Holland, Dean Swingle and Adam Marsh.

Board Members Absent: Marty Cosgrove and Chris Moody.

Staff Present: Patricia Oliphant, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Allen Stafford, Director of Finance, Operations, Andrea Rogers, Board Secretary and Steve Oscar, Athletic Director.

Guests: Alex Kotanides and Lissette Cabrera-Galloza.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Denise Westbrook to accept the minutes of the April 22, 2015 Executive Board meeting. Joe Schell seconded; the motion was carried. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

**DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

Patricia Oliphant reported:

Dr. Oliphant reported on the minutes from the Sussex Academy Foundation. Eight scholarships were awarded by lottery to graduates that attended Sussex Academy. \$75K will be granted to Sussex Academy from the SA Foundation to be used for recognizing persons originally responsible for founding Sussex Academy, towards instructions of the middle school and to enhance the middle school arts.

Allen Stafford reported on enrollment for the 2015-16 school year. There are currently 601 registered students.

Allen Stafford reported on the Preliminary Bus Routes for the 2015-16 school year. Sussex Academy will be adding another route/bus to the schedule. Sussex Academy also received a bid from Dutton Busing next year with no rate increase. The cost per bus is \$38K totaling \$342K. A motion was made by Dean Swingle to accept the bid from Dutton Bus Service. Joe Schell seconded; the motion carried (11-0).

Sussex Academy received approval from the Center for Child & Adult Food Program to provide after school snacks to all after school children.

Staffing needs were discussed for the Librarian/Technology position that is currently posted. Sussex Academy has hired 5 new teachers for the 2015-16 school year. Erin Williams, ELA, Tim Halter, Math, Rachael Parker, Spanish, Chad Heers, Science and Sara Faucett for History.

Allen Stafford stated that driving privileges have now been established for staff, teachers and high school students. Guidelines and parking permits will be distributed. The cost for a student is \$10.00 and \$5.00 will be refunded when permit is returned. A motion was made by Dustin Parker to instate the driving privileges as discussed and reevaluate if needed. Denise Westbrook seconded; the motion carried (11-0).

Moving Up Day will be Tuesday, June 9 from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

**MONTHLY BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT**

A motion was made by Joe Schell to accept the April 30, 2015 Financial Report. Denise Westbrook seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

## **SUSSEX ACADEMY FOUNDATION UPDATE**

Joe Schell reported:

There will be a reception for Phase II on June 8, 2015 at Fish On for the business community.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Executive**

No report was presented.

#### **Finance**

A motion was made by Dean Swingle to approve the fiscal year 2015 budget. Chris Benjamin seconded; the motion carried (11-0).

#### **Recognition**

There will be a retirement luncheon for Bruce Egolf on Friday, June 12, 2015 at the Brick Hotel.

#### **Public Relations**

A written report was submitted.

#### **Building and Grounds**

Joe Schell reported on the naming opportunities for Phase II of the construction project and also the Executive Project Summary.

#### **Program Development**

Allen Stafford reported there was additional funding for an engineering course through Project Lead the Way. This is a \$20K 3-year STEM program grant.

#### **Athletics**

Steve Oscar reported there are 290 athletes and 37 coaches projected for the 2015-16 school year. Sussex Academy will host a Sports Expo on May 28, 2015.

#### **Legislative**

Jamie Nutter reported Legislative Hall would be out of session for 2 weeks.

#### **Policy**

No report was presented.

#### **Library**

Ilona Holland gave an update on the library. A written report was presented.

#### **Nomination Committee**

Jennifer Scott reported there were two candidates for the open board positions. A motion was made by Adam Marsh to offer positions to Susan Mitchell and Steve Burke. Chris Benjamin seconded; the motion carried (11-0). Both candidates will be sworn in at the end of the June meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Patricia Oliphant reported there were twenty-five parents that attended the school time change meeting held this month. Additionally, an Amendment to the Petition Letter was submitted to reinstate start and end time to 8:35 – 3:10.

A motion was made by Ilona Holland to approve the change in the start and end of the school day for the 2015-16 school year. The new start time will be 8:15 a.m. and dismissal time 2:50 p.m. Dustin Parker seconded the motion; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (10-0). Jaime Nutter abstained from the vote.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Joe Schell discussed the continued safety of turf fields. He would like to add turf safety under Athlete Committee on the June agenda.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Alex Kotanides discussed his view on the time change.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Jennifer Scott made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 6:10. Mariah Calagione seconded; the motion carried (11-0).

A motion was made by Adam Marsh to come out of Executive Session at 6:56. Dean Swingle seconded; the motion carried (11-0).

A motion was made by Dean Swingle to approve the 2016 Preliminary Budget. Chris Benjamin seconded the motion; the motion carried (11-0).

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:01 p.m. Joe Schell made a motion to adjourn. Adam Marsh seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Rogers,  
Board Secretary