

# **OTWELL MILLER ACADEMY SCHOOL BOARD**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2018**

The meeting of the Otwell Miller Academy School Board convened at 6:00 p.m.

Otwell Miller Academy Board Members present: Lou Fort, Jenny Byrd, Kim Elliott, and Steve Schoppenhorst.

Otwell Miller Academy School Board student members present: 0

Otwell Miller Academy staff members present: School Director Rick Fears

### **I. Call To Order**

Mr. Fears called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- I. Pledge of Allegiance**
- II. Prayer**
- III. Student Board Member Reports:**
- IV. Board Meeting Minutes Approval**

Jenny Byrd read the minutes from the June 4, 2018, OMA board meeting. Lou Fort made the motion to approve the June 4, 2018, meeting minutes. Kim Elliott seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **I. Personnel**

Lou Fort stated that we had received a counter offer for the OMA Director position and that we were in the process of countering their counter offer. We are planning another executive meeting to discuss the response of our counter to their counter offer. Rick Fears stated that Friends of Otwell were working to select new members for our board. Steve Schoppenhorst stated that sometime in late July they would be voted on. Lou Fort stated the public meeting for nominations was scheduled to be held on July 24, 2018. Rick Fears mentioned that Valerie Schoppenhorst resigned due to conflict of interest and that we will need a new teacher to replace her position on the board. Rick Fears also stated that Kim Elliott would be staying on another year so that we would have a staggered effect between the veteran teacher members and new teacher members on the board to make for an easy transition. Jenny Byrd made a motion to approve Valerie's resignation.

Lou Fort seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Rick Fears stated that Valerie was officially resigned from the board, and thanked her for contributions for the past year. He stated there is a lot of time and responsibility involved that goes beyond teaching and thanked her for everything she did.

- I. Operations and Facilities**
- II. Finance**
- III. Education and Outreach**

Rick Fears stated that we did have two student who had to retake the IREAD test and that one of them passed the summer session. The ISTEP phase one results parents have access to at this. time. Phase II results won't be in until July sometime.

- I. Status of School (Rick)**
  - 1. Employee Insurance**

Rick Fears stated we had been in negotiations with the insurance company. Lou Fort made a motion to table the matter of Employee Insurance until our next meeting. Steve Schoppenhorst seconded the motion. Rick followed the motions with additional information stating that insurance costs have gone up while coverage has gone down whether it's a group plan or a personal plan. We are looking at some of the options as far as the different companies. The option of offering or deciding not to offer insurance for the 2018/19 school year. Rick stated that due to OMA's staff size, it is not something we have to offer. Motion to approve tabling the insurance matter passed unanimously.

### **1. Lunch Program**

Rick Fears stated that we are presently filling out paperwork for the DOE concerning having a lunch program for the 2018/19 schoolyear. It is more detailed than we originally thought as far as the amount of paperwork that must be submitted to the DOE, federal government, and local as well. It's going, but it's very slow as far as getting everything in and getting it approved. We voted to have vendors advertised but we have to go through these steps prior to doing that. Beginning of last week, we got all the information needed to apply for a school lunch program, 150 pages of government regulations, once that is submitted via mail, they didn't give us any timeframe as to how long it would take once they received that information but are hoping to have it submitted by next week. Rick stated that we are anxious to have it move as quickly as possible, but we are unable

to go any farther until it's approved. We are still planning on having a lunch program for the 2018/19 school year.

### **1. Summer School Title 1 program**

Rick mentioned summer school was a success and that we have one of the summer school teachers in attendance, Mrs. Hoffman, and asked if she had any comments. Mrs. Hoffman stated that it went well, she felt seeing as she did the first week but hadn't been able to follow-up with the second week teacher, Mrs. McCandless. She felt the week she was there, that there was progress made with the students she had. Rick Fears stated that they used the time to work with the students on skills that they were behind on and should've had accomplished at the end of the 2017/18 school year and caught them up to where they needed to be for the 2018/19 school year. Rick thanked the parents for bringing those children in for the program.

### **1. CSP Grant revision update**

Rick has been in touch with the grant writer for the 2nd phase. He had received and email today that there was still work to be done, and that there were a few things that were left out that may have been the reason we didn't get it the first time. She's trying to reword some things to try and help. It will be sent back in in July. We are hoping this time round the wording and information is better and we will qualify for some of the grant money. We won't know until September sometime as far as who gets those grants the second round.

### **1. Board Member Attendance at Grace training session**

The training session is being held in Indianapolis on July 26/27, 2018. Grace is requiring at least two members be present at the training session. Lou Fort and Steve Schoppenhorst volunteered to go.

### **1. By-Laws and Policies**

Lou Fort stated his opinion was that is extremely daunting being short-handed on the OMA board. New members should be present before adopting new bylaws and policies. Jenny Byrd motioned to approve tabling the matter and waiting for a full board prior to restructuring of the board, adopting new bylaws, and policies for 2018/19 year. Kim Elliott seconded the motion. The motion approved unanimously.

## **1. Board discussion of re-organization**

Same scenario as before. Lou stated it would be best to wait until we have a full board before designating the roles of President, VP, Secretary, and Treasurer. Jenny Byrd made the motion to approve tabling the matter of board reorganization. Steve Schoppenhorst seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **1. Other**

Our next meeting was moved from July 2nd to July 9th. An Executive meeting was scheduled for 5 p.m. and a regular board meeting to follow at 6 p.m. Kim Elliott stated that the normal OMA board meeting would continue to take place on the first non-holiday Monday of each month. Jenny Byrd made the motion to approve. Steve Schoppenhorst seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Lou Fort wanted to re-post the OMA parent position was still accepting resumes through July 2nd. He also stated that due to parent school board members needing to be a parent or legal guardian; for those interested in being on the board that didn't meet the requirements, they could submit their resumes to the FoOE board and then choose to be nominated from that board onto the OMA board.

Lou Fort moved to make a new voicemail greeting for the school. Rick followed that they were taking care of it.

## **1. Public Comment**

At 6:36 p.m. Kim Elliott made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Schoppenhorst seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.