

RISING TIDE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

July 15, 2019

Narrative Mission Statement:

What is the purpose of the school?

“...The Rising Tide Charter School provides students with community-based education each day, using the Town of Plymouth as a local yet dynamic textbook which will provide fertile ground for the development of higher-order thinking skills.”

Leadership and Governance:

“In accordance with MA Charter School Law, the Board of Trustees is ultimately accountable for the school’s educational mission, performance and adherence to its Charter.”

Call to Order

Sandy Kozlowsky called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. In attendance were Sandy Kozlowsky, Amy Norris, and Sean Kelly. Also in attendance was Michael O’Keefe, Head of School.

Guests

None

New Business

None

Old Business

None

Minutes

Sean Kelly made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes with a change from “Vice Chairman” to “Vice Chairperson” under New Business section. Sandy Kozlowsky seconded the motion with the change. All voted in favor to approve the June meeting minutes with the change.

Financials

Sean updated the Board on the June financials. Closing out the budget year. Net income compared to the budget is \$223,152 and revenue is over budget by \$74,157. Expenses were

lower than the budget by \$148,995 due in large part to building operations coming in less than expected, as well as lower salary expenses. Will try to tighten up next year.

On the revenue side, we were over \$30,000 to the positive on lunch fees. New software with School Bucks allows online payment for school fees and lunches. That should help tighten up the budget for the next school year.

Our cash balances remain really stable. The state was one day late on the June tuition payment of \$693,411, which was deposited July 1st.

Sandy Kozlowsky made a motion to approve the June Financials. Amy Norris seconded the motion. All voted in favor to approve the June Financials.

Board Subcommittees

Nominating and Governance – did not meet

Finance and Audit – did not meet

PR and Advocacy – Working on Charter for the subcommittee. Martha Popoloski is attending Summer Communications Training workshop through the Massachusetts Charter Public School Association (MCPSA) on Wednesday and will present communication goals for Rising Tide for the 2019-2020 school year. Goals include:

- 1) Making sure Rising Tide families fully understand program elements.
- 2) Making sure prospective families fully understand program elements and are comfortable about the school being the right fit for their family.
- 3) Creating internal and external communications about Rising Tide as a college preparatory school. Build confidence in families that we have high expectations for all and that we really prepare them for college.
- 4) Create awareness of the mission of Rising Tide and the key design elements.
- 5) Continue to partner with MCPSA.

Martha is working with Tim Walker on freshening up the school website.

Next meeting scheduled for September 23rd at 6 PM at Rising Tide.

School Report

Shades have been fixed/reinstalled. Currently running tests to ensure reliable operation.

The roofing contractor started work this week by cleaning the roof prior to putting down coating.

Some carpet has been replaced that we were unable to do when we first moved into the building.

Entergy has donated some high-quality desks and soft furniture to the school. The school has purchased some additional comfy furniture/benches for the East & West Commons.

Brought cleaning services in-house by hiring a full-time janitor.

Michael is continuing to meet with staff over the summer in small group meetings and workshops. Reviewing changes to school discipline policy and advisory programming.

Martha Popoloski & Tim Walker are revamping the website. It has been about 8 years since a real redesign.

Kelsey Kincade (Athletic Director) is working on a varsity jacket to be awarded and earned by students through the athletic department for next year.

There will be an extra-curricular programming recap in August to families regarding instrumental options before and after school next year.

Michael is almost finished with hiring – only 2 positions left to fill.

Adjourn

Amy Norris made a motion to Adjourn. Sean Kelly seconded the motion. All voted in favor to Adjourn.