

## MINUTES

### Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

6:00 pm, Room 124

Members Present: Nina Cohen, David Pabich, Karen Cady, Alfonso Perillo, Thomas Monroe, Janine Matho, Michelle Aroko, Steve Palmer

Members Absent: Joshua Biber, Bill Henning, Rick Jones, Christine Wynne

Guests: Coree Dovev, Sean Gass, Christian Foster, Sean O'Neil, Fawaz Abusharkh, Stephanie Callahan, Pam Rochna

#### I. Call to Order, Welcome Nina Cohen, Chair

Nina Cohen called the May 24, 2017 Board of Trustees meeting to order at 6:25PM. She briefed the Board on the onboarding of Kathy Egmont as Executive Director in the past month. Kathy starts officially on July 1, 2017

#### II. Minutes of the Meeting of April 26 , 2017 (Nina Cohen in the absence of Rick Jones)

**Motion:** The minutes of the April 26, 2017 meeting shall be approved as written. Motion made by Nina Cohen and seconded by Thomas Monroe. The Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes as presented.

#### III. Public Comment

Fawaz Abusharkh announced on June 4<sup>th</sup> there is a multi-faith festival at the Tabernacle Church (50 Washington Street) from 12:00PM-6:00PM. This will be a gathering of many religious groups from the Northshore area.

#### IV. New Business

A. Read Trust Meeting Tuesday, June 6 from 9:00AM – 11:00AM

B. Graduation June 16 beginning at 6:00PM sharp; Year-end Gathering June 30

#### V. Head of School Report

Stephanie Callahan / Sean Gass

Stephanie Callahan gave a brief synopsis of the Quarter 3 achievement for the lower school. 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade are excelling in comparison to the district. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade is showing positive growth on both Math and ELA. Salem Academy staff are already taking a proactive approach to ensure success for these students as they transition into 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

Sean Gass briefed the Board of Trustees on the student achievement in the upper school. Students' average grades increased from Quarter 2 to Quarter 3. There is still work to do in 10<sup>th</sup> grade however, the outlook for the end of the year for these students is looking positive. A few students will be seeking additional support for graduation. These students most likely will be enrolling in a special partnership program between North Shore Community College and Salem

Academy. On or before May 1st, nearly all Salem Academy 12th grade students submitted their deposits and confirmed their college plans.

VI. Executive Director Report  
Sean O'Neil

Sean O'Neil outlined the Executive Director Report for the Board of Trustees. His outline included the following highlights:

- a. Around 50-51 students will be returning to 9<sup>th</sup> grade from 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Salem Academy. Salem Academy has set a goal for 83 students in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and is currently reaching out to potential students. Students who play football and hockey, who are moving out of state and students who have siblings in the other neighboring schools, affect attrition rates for Salem Academy.
- b. Kathy Egmont and Sean O'Neil are meeting frequently to ensure a smooth transition, and Kathy is making herself available to staff and others in order to become familiar with our school community and introduce herself to as many people as possible.
- c. Many people have participated in a team effort to design a school logo for the center of the gymnasium. David Pabich showed the Board the design from his cell phone.
- d. The Mass Public Charter School Association has reported that there are no negative bills are on the docket in the Senate's deliberations for the new state budget.

VII. Finance Committee Report  
Thomas Monroe

Thomas Monroe summarized the Finance Committee Report. The budget will be voted on during the June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting. The budget continues to look healthy for Salem Academy. Fundraising efforts were very successful this year but could not compare to the previous year when leadership gifts provided the nucleus of the capital fund raising effort for the new facilities.

VIII. Short Reports

A. SFC Report Pam Rochna

The teacher appreciation lunch was a huge success and occurred on 100% donations from family and friends of Salem Academy. The Family Picnic is being held on Thursday June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Winter Island starting at 4:30PM.

Additionally, Barnes and Noble summer book pre-orders are 20% off for students.

B. Education Committee Janine Matho

There was no update from the Education Committee this month.

C. Development Committee Christine Wynne

Nina Cohen provided the Development Committee report in Christine Wynne's absence. The report included a breakdown of the fundraising efforts for the year to date which include the Annual Fund, Reach the Beach, the Second Decade Fund, foundation support and other specific efforts.

D. HR Committee Karen Cady

The HR committee met Thursday May 18, 2017. There are a number of initiatives currently taking place including additions to the faculty handbook. Additionally, the HR committee is addressing the HR audit that was done form Salem Academy during the 2016-2017 school year.

E. Facilities Committee David Pabich

The exciting news of the month is that the wood floor is in on the gymnasium. The new open date is now August, 2017.

IX. Vote to Adjourn  
Nina Cohen

On motion made and seconded, Nina Cohen adjourned the meeting at 8:08 PM.