

Theodore Roosevelt College and Career Academy, Inc.

730 W. 25th Avenue

Gary, IN

Board Meeting Minutes

Called by Proxy via Conference Call

July 29, 2015

Call to Order: 12:01pm – Laura Hayes

Board

Members Present

On Call: Laura Hayes, President; Susan Gorman, Vice President; Frank Ippolito, Treasurer

Board

Members Absent: Alexis Mosqueda, Student Representative

Guests Present

On Call: Dr. Sabrena Davis, Superintendent; Donna Henry, Principal; Karen Raymond, SOM; Ben Clement, Board Secretary

Agenda Approval: Agenda presented by President Laura Hayes. Proxy meeting called to accommodate board members who are out-of-town or traveling.

Adoption of

Minutes: Motion by Sue Gorman to adopt minutes from April 15, 2015 board meeting and June 1, 2015 board meeting called by proxy via conference call. Motion seconded by Frank Ippolito. Motion passed.

Reports & Updates

Principal's Report: Principal Donna Henry said ECA testing results were positive with TRCCA meeting contracted goals as approved by IDOE. Challenges include teacher retention and revenue reductions. This has produced some delays in finalizing the master schedule. On the positive side, English 10 goals were exceeded. IDOE announced that ISTEP scores for 7th and 8th grade will not be available until late Fall 2015. Successful performance by 9th and 10th graders was recognized and celebrated with students wearing tee shirts. Pictures were posted on TRCCA Facebook page. President Laura Hayes congratulated Principal Henry, Dr. Davis, and TRCCA teachers and staff for improved performance and measurable growth in English 10 and Algebra. President Hayes inquired about

graduation rates as a performance indicator required by IDOE. Principal Henry said graduation rates are calculated based on different scenarios. For example if students who have transferred out are not removed from the record, the graduation rate is 53.5%. Removing those students produces a graduation rate of 73%. Principal Henry announced that since 24 of 26 performance goals were met, TRCCA won't have to repay a \$250,000 bond. Principal Henry noted that all but two boys participating in a mentoring program passed ECA. There continue to be challenges with acclimating transfer students to the improved learning environment and culture at TRCCA. In addition there continues to be a significant lack of parental involvement. On the other hand, there has been a dramatic increase in alumni interest and involvement. Challenges include the immediate need to hire a new SPED Director. The current attendance rate of 83% falls short of the targeted goal of 92%, however, Superintendent Sabrena Davis projects a 94% attendance rate for the month of June.

Operations Report: Karen Raymond reported an enrollment of 576 students at the end of June. Currently 562 students have registered to enroll for the 2015-16 school year. Recruitment and registration continues. Challenges include teacher concern about the lack of additional compensation offered for earning master's degree. Classrooms throughout the building have been uncomfortably warm due to lack of air conditioning, however, it is expected to be turned on today. Other challenges include computers in need of repair and teacher and staff vacancies.

Education Report: Dr. Davis reported that TRCCA staff have been sent to become certified trainers. Students continue to exhibit growth in reading comprehension and literacy. Data shows measurable growth in academic achievement. Dr. Davis recognizes and applauds efforts of Principal Henry, teachers, and staff.

Financial Report: Board Vice President and Treasurer Frank Ippolito presented the financial report on behalf of Controller Drew Laskowski. A slight surplus will be used to offset a \$299,079 budget deficit. Net revenue was based on an enrollment of 600 students. Additional grant revenue was received. Subsequently base funding was better than originally projected. Sue Gorman asked if the fiscal year 2016 budget was ready to be presented for board approval. Karen Raymond cautioned that the budget would have to account for an anticipated reduction in SIG funds. Nevertheless, Mr. Ippolito said the Controller was presenting a balanced budget. Mr. Ippolito motioned to accept the FY 2016 budget. Sue Gorman seconded. Motion passed.

Board Report: Frank Ippolito asked if the Gary Community School Corporation would continue providing bus transportation for Roosevelt. Dr. Davis thinks so, however, she is waiting to receive written assurance. President Hayes acknowledged teachers, students, parents, and other stakeholders are uncertain about the future of EdisonLearning in Gary. She reported that Thom Jackson is still meeting with Superintendent Cheryl Pruitt and no further clarity will be shed until those negotiations are concluded. President Hayes announced the Director of Achievement position has been eliminated and

consequently Sue Gorman will be leaving EdisonLearning and the Board. She thanked Sue for her hard work, dedication, and valuable contribution.

Friends of Ted: Ben Clement reported that he paid to file the annual business entity report for the Indiana Secretary of State. Friends of Ted is registered as a non-profit domestic corporation, however, is not a 501c3.

New Business None.

Old Business

Sports Contract: Sue Gorman inquired about the status of sports contracts for student athletes. Dr. Davis will review and report back to the board.

Open Discussion: Board meetings will continue to be held on the third Wednesday at 4pm. No official vote is required to approve since the school calendar (including board meetings) was approved at the last meeting.

Public Comment: None.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Sue Gorman Motioned for Adjournment. Frank Ippolito seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 1:07pm

Minutes Recorded and Submitted by Ben Clement, Secretary

ATTEST:

Laura Hayes, Board President _____

Sue Gorman, Vice Present _____

Frank Ippolito, Treasurer _____

Parent Rep (Vacant) _____

Student Rep _____