

Theodore Roosevelt College and Career Academy, Inc.

730 W. 25th Avenue

Gary, IN

Board Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2016

Call to Order: 4:03pm – Laura Hayes

Board

Members Present: Laura Hayes, President (via telephone); Danielle Beecham, Student Success Director SPED; Frank Ippolito, Treasurer (via telephone)

Board

Members Absent: Matayzia Hughes, Student Representative

Guests Present: Dr. Sabrena Davis, Superintendent; Donna Henry, Principal; Karen Raymond, SOM; Tarry Martin, Site Service Manager; Ben Clement, Board Secretary

Agenda Approval: Agenda presented by President Laura Hayes. Frank Ippolito motioned to approve. Danielle Beecham seconded. Motion passed.

Adoption of

Minutes: Motion by Frank Ippolito to adopt minutes from February 17, 2016 board meeting. Motion seconded by Danielle Beecham. Motion passed.

Reports & Updates

Student Rep

Report: No report. Matayzia Hughes was unable to attend due to working an internship.

Principal's Report:

Principal Donna Henry presented the report based on the five strands. Under **Leadership** she reported on collaboration to support students. Challenges include staff morale due to uncertainty about TRCCA's future, clear responsibilities of the school and HR support and maintaining suitable building temperatures. Under **Learning Environment** successes include improvements in student discipline as the number of office discipline referrals continues to drop. Challenges include student transfers with discipline issues and incomplete records, and fluctuating building temperatures. Under **Pedagogy & Curriculum** successes include recognition by the DOE for the BRP program.

Business instructor, Ms. McGee and her DECA class were the highlight of recent Perkins Grant monitoring visit. Principal Henry was recognized by the IDOE for success in “The Promising Practices: Making It Happen” initiative for having one of the 200 promising practices to celebrate Indiana’s 200 years of statehood. There were also meaningful READ 180 coaching and feedback sessions from Scholastic. Challenges include lack of resources for 10th grade ISTEP+ assessments, open teaching positions, and lack of DOE resources. Under **Assessment for Learning** successes include test-taking strategies aligned to best instructional practices implemented in classrooms, all available IDOE assessment resources utilized in classrooms, test-taking strategies implemented in Achieve labs, NWEA growth exhibited in winter testing, 18 students took ACT in March, 9 seniors to received dual credit from Ivy Tech with an additional 13 possible. Ivy Tech business classes included Principles of Marketing and Entrepreneurship. Also 18 students attended SAT Saturday test administration. Challenges include overlapping scheduled assessments, dated technology (NOTE: slow speeds and older equipment delays progression in assessment schedule/calendar). Lack of sufficient technology causes lab schedule conflicts for testing and Achieve classes. Under **Student & Family Supports** successes include Autism Awareness Month (4/8/16) and the Special Education Department promoting inclusion for National Disabilities Month (3/22/16), college tours to Calumet College of St. Joseph and Purdue University Calumet (3/18/16), Indiana University Bloomington (4/7/16), Indiana State University (4/14/16), and Ivy Tech State College (4/21/16). SAT administered on 3/5/16, 7 male seniors awarded Real Life 101 scholarships (includes \$2,000.00/yr. for up to 5 years, a mentor, and new laptop computer loaded with Microsoft Office Suite). Also all juniors and seniors attended the Gary Anti-Violence Rally on 4/8/16. National College Signing Day Ceremony and Luncheon scheduled for 4/26/16. Challenges include Core 40 attainment for students who transferred in the last year with credit deficiencies. President Hayes requested a list of transfer students with credit deficiencies who might negatively impact the graduation rate. She noted the state policy governing transfer students needs improvement.

Operations Report: Karen Raymond presented the operations report. She reported 622 students enrolled. Student attendance for January 2016 was 90.4%, February 2016 was 87.8%, and March 2016 was 88.3%. Staff data included a total of 78 employees, no new hires, and 1 resignation. Staff attendance rate was 96.8%. Challenges include late notice of TRCCA contract extension and resulting negative impact on enrollment, staff retention, and grant awards. Student mobility remains a challenge, however, the transfer out rate is moderating. Recent transfers-in have negative impact on testing and end-of-year reporting. Successes include completion of Title I Desktop Review, completion of Perkins On-site program monitoring. Final report is pending. Also, cohort review and cleanup is in final stages.

Technology successes include teachers utilizing Smartboard student responders and new audio equipment for the auditorium. Challenges include browser issues, Internet Explorer is obsolete, replaced with a combination of Firefox or Chrome. This causes

problems using EdisonLearning apps on outdated OS/Browser (Ceridian & Lawson). Two laptops were stolen while long-term substitute was in place. Frank Ippolito asked if laptops were purchased with grant funds.

Education Report: Dr. Davis reported that TRCCA learning coaches and teachers have completed NWEA data review and use cycle, ISTEP+ and ISTEP 10 prep, Checking for Understanding, and Tiered Questioning. SPED scheduled to receive IEP and Transition Plans training from Mr. Yake. Dr. Davis reported on President Laura Hayes' Math Pedagogy workshop at South by Southwest Instructional Leadership Conference. Workshop focused on common and best practices to teach and boost math achievement. Other sessions covered NWEA goalsetting and using elements of innovation to enhance the secondary experience for students. There will be an additional SIG monitoring visit this year. Kudos to Principal Donna Henry on the VaLED Principal Survey. Challenges include lack of clarity and responses from the DOE to aid in organizational level decisions (calendar, testing, etc.) and strategic planning for FY 2016-17.

Dr. Davis reported that a Roosevelt Intervention Resolution has been reached with the IDOE and Indiana State Board of Education. Decision was announced following joint statements between EdisonLearning and Gary Community School Corporation at public hearing.

Financial Report: Frank Ippolito presented the financial report including operating statement and revenue received to date. He also reviewed the current allocation of spending (budgeted versus actual). Mr. Ippolito reported \$160k budget deficit is driven by delayed revenue. He said new equipment may have to be purchased next year.

Board Report: Frank Ippolito motioned to approve EdisonLearning invoices for the month of February 2016 totaling \$148,750.54 and for the month of March 2016 totaling \$150,039.79. Danielle Beecham motioned to approve payment of the invoices. Mr. Ippolito seconded. Motion carried.

President Hayes congratulated the entire TRCCA team for the contract extension with IDOE. She also thanked school leaders and staff for their hard work. Frank Ippolito said TRCCA has received accolades from the state of Indiana for school improvements. He added that building maintenance continues to be a challenge. Danielle Beecham noted positive energy throughout the building. Board tables discussion and action on Gang Awareness Policy for two weeks. Dr. Davis will schedule conference call for May 11, 2016 to consider the new policy.

Friends of Ted: Ben Clement said there have been several inquiries about 501c3 status of the Friends of Ted. He noted that EdisonLearning legal advisors had presented process and costs for applying for the designation. After brief discussion, board decides not to pursue 501c3

status since organization will be turned over to Gary Community School Corporation at conclusion of one-year contract extension with IDOE.

New Business Tarry Martin reported on mold issue in cafeteria. Black spots/potential mold discovered in freezer or food storage area. Alpha to investigate and remediate mold issue.

Old Business None.

Open Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Danielle Beecham motioned for Adjournment. Frank Ippolito seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15pm

Minutes Recorded and Submitted by Ben Clement, Secretary

ATTEST:

Laura Hayes, Board President _____

Danielle Beecham, Board Member _____

Frank Ippolito, Treasurer _____

Parent Rep (Vacant) _____

Matayzia Hughes, Student Rep _____