

Call to Order 6:39pm

Consent agenda was approved

Open Forum

The Board stated that any comments regarding a recent incident of discipline in the lunchroom is data private and therefore is not able to be discussed during open forum. Any comments are encouraged via email to board chair Kelly Laudon.

A parent expressed concern after seeing no changes made after the parent's comment at last month's open forum regarding rules and policies for adults going into the school. This parent said that the policies in place are causing unnecessary stress for staff, parents, and children, and believes the recurring problem is a lack of flexibility. The parent believes TCGIS used to have a culture of creativity and possibility which has shifted over the past few years to a culture of control, fear, and manipulation.

A parent brought up the mission and vision statements of the school and expressed concerns that the policies and rules at TCGIS do not align with the mission and vision statements.

Another parent raised questions regarding statements that are in the family handbook, specifically regarding the school being a safe and civil environment, as stated in the handbook. In order to learn and grow, students must be provided a safe school environment, and bullying is not safe and thus is denying children the opportunity to learn. The handbook mentioned an equity coordinator - does TCGIS have an equity coordinator? Do we have a human rights person? Do we have a student handbook to educate students about these types of policies?

Finance Committee

1. Matt Mayer from the auditor KDV, came to discuss the financial audit. Matt presented a clean audit and the audit was accepted by the board.
2. Monthly financial report was reviewed
3. The revised busing contract was approved

Board Matters

1. **Strategic Plan Initiative & World Cafe Proposal** - The board wants to make sure that TCGIS is in check with our mission and vision statements. They would like to revisit this at the board level and solicit community input.
2. **Board Calendar Update** - Agenda at the board retreat will be discussed again
3. **Re-implementation of the Facilities Council (Committee)** - Mr. Hennelly will chair this committee

Director's Report

1. **Annual Report draft review - Report due October 1, 2015** - The report was approved and passed.
2. **Staffing plan, including integration and mentorship** - Ann Jurewicz went through the staffing plan and helped explain the various branches and sectors. Kristin Helling thanked Ann for her hard work on this plan, as it helps everyone understand responsibilities
3. **German intern alternatives update** - The Amity program may not be able to provide TCGIS with the number of interns wanted in the future to maintain an intern in every classroom. Many other intern programs TCGIS is looking into have ratio limits of a 3:1 staff to intern ratio. TCGIS currently has about 45 teachers, meaning we would need about 15 interns to maintain a 3:1 ratio. This number is what we are currently at with the Amity program.
4. **Busing contract – approval requested** - Approved.

Governance

1. **School growth and access task force draft** - Some slight adjustments have been made: it will be pushed back to a March approval date. A board member wanted clarification about why the governance committee wanted a selection process for this task force. It was explained that the application and selection process is not in place to limit who can participate, but rather to find a variety of opinions and skills to rely on. It was reiterated that the point of the selection process is **not** in place to limit participation. Some verbal amendments were made and the task force was approved.

Parent Liaison Update

1. **First parent meeting was a success** - Around 18 people attended the first parent meeting. The questions that were discussed and will be discussed at future meeting are: What are the strengths of the school? What are some challenges? What do we hope for? Some strengths that were mentioned were our community, the sense of community among parents, the volunteer program, world views, the commitment of the teachers, our interns, and the library. Some of the challenges included communication, how responses happen with the board and with parents, whether the German curriculum is rigorous enough, and the gap surrounding our vision and mission statements.

Communications and Development

1. **Herbstfest** - It was a very successful event that we hope to continue in the future. Thank you to Tina Haarbusch, the Communications Coordinator
2. **Fall fundraising** - Give to the Max is on November 12. \$13,000 of leading donor money has been raised so far. Matt Bauer is working in conjunction with Tina Haarbusch on this and they would like 100% commitment from TCGIS families.

Personnel Committee

1. **Approve updated employee manual** - motion passed.

Adjourned at 8:29pm. Meeting went into closed session.