

AQS Board Meeting
1:00pm October 4, 2018
1315 Butterfield Road, Suite 224, Downers Grove, IL 60515

President Bakalis called the regular Board of Directors meeting to order at 1:03 pm at AQS Central Office.

Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

Present: Michael Bakalis, Marlene Golembo, Pam Paul, Tom Pekras, Terri Vanderjack, Laura Davidson and Patricia Yadgir

Others Present: Charles Williams – Principal Plato Learning Academy, Shadwaynn Curry – Interim Principal Thurgood Marshall Leadership Academy, Tiffani Cooper (Via Skype) – Director of Accounting, Wendy Stella – HR and Payroll Manager and Executive Assistant to Dr. Bakalis and Patricia Yadgir

Meeting Minutes June 4, 2018

Motion: by Laura Davidson

Move to accept meeting minutes of June 4, 2018.

Seconded by Tom Pekras and carried without dissent.

Financial Report – All Campus Financials & AQS Financials – Tiffani Cooper via Skype
TMLA & Plato – positive bottom line

TMLA had a \$50,000.00 Title I grant paid on estimate of enrollment

Plato has cash reserves – this will change after accurate student count on Feb 2nd.

AQS – Currently showing a negative balance due to moving expenses. Tom asked why 2 A/R – Tiffani explained one is for the rent we receive for the downtown office. We are still paying Plato middle school lease but have a potential sublease to begin in March. We have 2-3 years left on the Plato lease.

Motion: by Tom Pekras

Move to accept School and AQS and Corp Financials.

Seconded by Pam Paul and carried without dissent

School Reports

- **Plato Learning Academy and Middle School** - Charles Williams

Enrollment is 284. Many Austin community families are leaving the city of Chicago due to the violence. In August there were some students and 1 staff member who left to go to Kipp School but have returned.

Discipline issues are mostly with Middle school students – readjusting to the new year and new location. Things are going smoother in the last week however. Staff are learning what exactly to report as a discipline issue.

Blended classrooms are going well. Staff and parents like the change. *Mikki asked about this and would like to get information from Charles.

Local Sheriff's Department will come in on Tuesdays to work with the students to break the barriers of perception of law enforcement.

Currently working on social emotional with students to help with comfort of education and learning.

MAP data presented – showing results – Charles is pleased

Plato has hired a community liaison – nothing to report yet

Plato now has an ISS room – instead of sending students home they will serve suspension in school.

Thurgood Marshall Leadership Academy – Shadwaynn Curry
TMLA has an enrollment of 118

Bussing has been an issue with enrollment since now 98% are bussed. The bus will change stops to make one main hub per neighborhood instead of door to door.

New Student with EDD had a fight the first day of school and was suspended but will return and will be working with SPED teacher to have individual room to teach on occasion.

TMLA would like to help parents pay for SPED testing – 5 specific students are in need.

The school has experienced a lot of fighting. Use of the character counts program is helping. Social worker is only on campus Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The school is still in the process of setting up new bookshelves and storing books. There is no street sign for TMLA, this has deterred the increase in enrollment and location of the school. The city ordinance is only one sign per business, the church currently has a sign which limits TMLA having their own sign.

Mikki would like the help of a curriculum director so she can focus solely on the school as a principal. Patty advised that the request was put to the board, but they have yet to approve it.

Tycordia Davis will submit his resignation – he is leaving because TMLA no longer has a gym.

Mikki would like to offer Robin Brown a stipend to be a pull-out reading specialist. This requires board approval and at the moment they are not approving any expenditures.

TMLA will have a fall festival October 19 during school hours.

Mikki asked if anyone had any fundraising ideas for TMLA.

The TMLA Board will review the NWEA scores.

Motion: by Tom Pekras

Move to accept Plato and TMLA School Reports.

Seconded by Marlene Golembo and carried without dissent

Mike presented information on China Education Activities

- 1) Teach English in China – AQS is currently working with AMBEST to hire teachers to travel to China to teach English to school age children

- 2) AQS is also working on a project to bring students from China to US to expose them to American Education – Jan-Feb Chinese new year and most schools are closed. This would be an ideal time
- 3) Dual HS Diploma program – 1-2 years in China and 1-2 year in US. Still working on this plan. Can do dual credits but hard to get dual diplomas

No legal issues to report

Private School Initiative – Working with IN Tech in Fort Wayne for a Private HS on campus – utilize the facilities – 100 students to start, both international and local

Intensive English program for Chinese students to prep them to attend American Schools.

Looking at a building in Lansing IL that is currently vacant. Was a private Christian HS that has moved. There is a potential investor, after 4 years it would be profitable for AQS through management fee.

Old Business – No old Business

New Business – New Resignation notice and use of sick and PTO Days was presented to the board for review and approval.

Motion by: Tom Pekras

Seconded by Laura with a few minor changes carried without dissent

Adjournment – 2:40pm

Motion by: Marlene

Seconded by Pam Paul carried without dissent

Next meeting March 7, 2019 at 1:00pm