

**RLS Board Open Session Meeting Minutes
December 08, 2022 6:30pm
In Person Meeting at RLS**

Voting Board Members Present: Mackenzie Sottini, John Leuenberger, Fonda Ingram, David Miller, Michelle Wood, John Heilman, Chris Johanson, Bill Xenakis

Absent: Neil Porter

Non-Voting Board Members Present: Bob Unger, Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Carey Reynik

Staff Present: Rosie Creasy, Deb Mahan

Absent: Robin Hester

Presiding Officer Mackenzie Sottini opened the meeting at 6:33pm and John Leuenberger led the opening prayer.

Annual Fund

Deb Mahan has submitted a Thank You Letter to go out in the Lion's Tale as well as the church announcements for the donations made to our 20 Years in Education Annual Fund drive. RLS raised \$21,769 and will also receive \$10,000 from a matching fund challenge. Since the thank you letter was written, we have received an additional \$6,000 in donations.

Principal's Report

Bob Unger has almost completed all teacher classroom observations and will be setting up meetings with each of them to review.

RLS will be hosting "Soarin' To The Hoop 2023 Lutheran Schools Basketball Tournament" with 4 schools from Tennessee and NC on January 13-15. Contact Robin Hester if anyone can help by working a shift or helping to fund Referee payments.

Bob reminded us of the RLS Christmas Celebration on December 15 and reviewed other upcoming important calendar dates.

Admission and Marketing Report

Rosie Creasy reported having about half of the letters of intent back from current families. The forms should be returned by December 12 in order to secure their spot next year (2023-2024) before admission opens to the public.

She is optimistic we will be able to offer two kindergarten classes next year given the current interest.

The current plan for 2nd grade is to cap a single class at 21 students and to split into two classes if there are over 24 students.

Rosie has talked to Niche, a marketing company, about some marketing possibilities for next year. It was also suggested that she consider Facebook ads which can be less expensive.

Summer School Program

Last month John Heilman presented a proposal for RLS to offer a summer school opportunity open to any student in our community that would focus primarily on Reading and Math. Bob presented this idea to the RLS Staff. There were lots of questions and concerns about various details.

Carey Reynik reported that six elementary teachers said no while 1 was receptive to possibly participating. Only two middle school teachers responded, one said no, one said maybe.

Given that we have no solid teacher buy-in as well as some space logistics issues and lack of time to properly prepare and advertise such a program, it is not feasible to offer this program for the summer of 2022. The board decided to include a question on our midyear survey to gauge interest from current RLS parents on summer school camps as well as other summer camps.

Principal Call Update

Mackenzie shared the call committee will be meeting tomorrow, 12/9.

She has met with Pastor Jonathan to gather information on the call process timing. We have had one candidate visit RLS. One candidate has been sick and will wait to visit in January if we have not already moved forward by then. Another candidate is not able to physically visit, but perhaps we can set up a Zoom meeting with him. We would potentially like to have all three candidates pre-approved by the council. After the 12/9 committee meeting, be on the lookout for an on-line board vote for approval of the committee recommendation and to keep the process moving forward.

Treasurer's Report

David Miller reported there are no significant surprises in our financials except for our great Annual Fund bringing positive excitement!

Mid-year Survey

Previous survey questions were reviewed. Healthy Together questions were removed. Several suggested questions were added. The survey will be sent out January 17.

Committee Updates

The Professional Development Committee hopes to have a motivational speaker scheduled in March.

Presiding Officer, Mackenzie Sottini adjourned the meeting at 7:35pm.

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Michelle Wood.