

RLS Board Open Session Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2021
***Online meeting**

Voting Board Members: David Robison, Tim Farmer, Michelle Wood, Linda Cook, Jacin Suskin, John Whatley, Bee Persson, Neil Porter

Non Voting Board Members: Tom Kolb, Chris Johanson

Staff: Rosie Creasy, Deb Mahan

Presiding Officer David Robison opened the meeting at 6:30 PM. Neil led the opening prayer.

Principal's Report

Tom presented the final Calendar for School Year 2021/2022.

Motion by Dave, seconded by Tim to approve the calendar for 2021/2022.

Vote: RLS 2021/2022 Final Calendar approved as presented.

Tom opened discussion on the current status of Covid and it's impact at RLS. The plan and procedures have been executed well, but there is always a level of concern as we are aware of the recent spike in cases locally, statewide and nationally. The focus at RLS is on not letting down our guard, especially at this critical time. Understandably, teachers and staff are weary.

A few more students have opted for distance learning given their personal situation. Tom updated the Board on Kindergarten B that is planned to return after a proactive Covid break. RLS has provided upgraded surgical masks for teachers and staff as needed.

Tom reported that there have been a few internet glitches, but no major outages or interruptions of service.

Following up on the conversation from last month, there is no plan to tap additional PPP funding given strong revenues. Until the previous PPP forgiveness application is processed and approved, no additional PPP fund allocation will be released.

Tom related that Anne Altieri spoke with him recently. Anne wishes to step away from serving on the Financial Assistance Committee after many years of commitment in this capacity. Anne has been instrumental in the success of the program, and we are very grateful for her contributions over many years.

The changes implemented by Tom to morning carpool are expediting a smooth flow of students in the morning and afternoon sessions.

Feedback from teachers and staff is very positive on the increased holiday Bonus program. Several appreciative notes have been received by Tom.

Admissions and Marketing Report

Important date: February 15th, Tuition agreements and Financial Assistance applications are due.

Rosie has been very direct in relating that there are a lot of unknowns, but she's also optimistic about the student count going forward. She continues to receive frequent calls from new families interested in RLS for their children. We are looking forward to the coming weeks as tuition agreements are received and commitments are locked in for the next school year.

A new Middle School promotional video is under production.

Helen Gibbs, a leader with the PSO, has been working on identifying 'outdoor space' education areas for students.

Playground renovations are under discussion by the PSO- the Board is very supportive of this effort. The PSO is working on fitness trails around campus, and planning for additional safe social activities for students and family engagement.

(note: Tom had to step away at 7:22 pm to handle a call)

*Discussion- Chris brought the Board up to date on the 'temperature' of teachers at RLS. While there is of course a heightened sense of concern with the Covid situation, teachers are focused day by day to sticking with the Healthy Together plan and protocols.

Treasurer's Report

Tim discussed that RLS continues to operate within projected expense budgets. RLS is standing favorable to revenue last year.

Deb noted that the Annual fund contributions stand at \$21k, which is a substantial increase from last year. The Board is grateful for the support of so many individuals and families in this effort that helps all of RLS.

Presiding officer David Robison adjourned the meeting at 7:31 pm.

Minutes submitted by Secretary Neil Porter