



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
August 27, 2008**

- Trustees Present:** F. George Jacome; Gerald Audet; Robert F. Collins; Dr. Thomas J. Curry; Brenda Reback; Peter A. Saulino, Esq.; James A. Wallace, Jr.;
- Trustees Absent:** Fernando Garcia (excused); Jeffrey T. Karam (excused); Teresa Nelson (excused)
- Support Staff Present:** Fernando M. Goulart, Executive Director; Thomas Paul, Director of Business; Henrique M.F. Madeira, Principal – Upper School; Kerry S. Kennedy, Principal – Lower School; Dr. Diane Desrosiers, Director of Student Services
- Community Input:** None
- Call to Order:** Mr. Jacome officially called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.
- Acceptance of Minutes:** Mr. Jacome presented the Minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting of June 18, 2008, emailed in advance of this meeting to all Board members. A motion was made by Mr. Audet to dispense with the reading of the Minutes and to accept the Minutes as presented; seconded by Atty. Saulino, and **APPROVED** unanimously.
- Correspondence:** Thank you note from the family of Mr. Louis Cabral.
Thank you note from the family of Dr. Diane Desrosiers.
- Staff Presentations:** None
- Financial Report:** A motion was made by Mr. Collins to waive the reading of the Financial Report, seconded by Dr. Curry and **APPROVED** unanimously. A copy of the Financial Report was emailed in advance of this meeting to all Board members and is on file in the Office of the Board of Trustees.
- Committee Reports:**
- Development Committee:**
Mr. Goulart emailed all of the Board members a financial statement for the golf tournament. The Atlantis Educational Foundation was able to raise \$32,075. There is still \$1,400 that is owed. After expenses, the net profit totaled \$23,210.23. Mr. Goulart stated that even though in today's economy, that was a good profit, if all the Board members worked as hard as some did in raising money, the total would have been much higher.
- Education Committee:**
No report.
- Facilities Committee:**
Mr. Goulart stated that there were Requests for Proposals advertised. Atlantis has received 3 proposals from environmental firms, 4 proposals from architectural firms, and 3 proposals from civil and engineering firms regarding the proposal for divisioning process and vision statement.

Mr. Goulart stated that there were too many members of the Facilities Committee and asked Dr. Curry to select 4 – 5 people of the Facilities Committee to create a subcommittee.

Finance Committee:

Mr. Collins reported that the auditors had conducted their initial review of Atlantis' files. They provided the school with a glowing report. The auditors will return the second week of September to tie up any loose ends.

Nominating Committee:

Mr. Jacome reported on the Nominating Committee in Ms. Nelson's absence. Mr. Jacome stated that Ms. Nelson as well as members from the Nominating Committee had met and interviewed 3 candidates prior to this month's Board meeting. Mr. Jacome stated that the interviews had been conducted in an expedited manner and as such, the three individuals were being recommended by the Nominating Committee.

Dr. Curry requested clarification from an email that Mr. Goulart had sent out prior to this meeting with regards to the recommended candidates. Mr. Goulart stated that he had reviewed the resumes for the three candidates and that he is concerned with regards to the Board's needs at this particular time. Mr. Goulart stated that the individuals, in which we nominate as members, should have facility experience seeing that we are in the midst of a huge project as well as individuals with financial connections. Mr. Goulart stated that even though it's great to nominate an individual with great ideas, that this is a critical time in the school's history and is not what we should be looking for at this time.

Mr. Jacome stated that it is not strictly all about the money and that we do not have individuals with bags of money waiting to sit on our Board. As such, Mr. Jacome on behalf of the Nominating Committee recommended Dr. Charles Khoury, a dentist practicing in the Mattapoisett/Fairhaven line who lives in Dartmouth. His resume was emailed to all Board members prior to tonight's meeting.

A motion was made by Atty. Saulino to appoint Dr. Charles Khoury to the Atlantis Charter School Board of Trustees, seconded by Mr. Collins and **APPROVED** unanimously.

The second nominee is Mrs. Beverly Pavao. Mrs. Pavao has a grandson attending the school and is also the mother of our Art teacher, Ms. Danielle Pavao. Mrs. Pavao understands that she will need to abstain from votes with respect to salaries. Mr. Jacome stated that Mrs. Pavao is very enthusiastic about her upcoming term.

A motion was made by Dr. Curry to appoint Mrs. Beverly Pavao to the Atlantis Charter School Board of Trustees, seconded by Mr. Audet and **APPROVED** unanimously.

The third nominee is Mr. Jonathan Taradash, current physical education teacher at the school. Mr. Taradash will be fulfilling the Board of Trustees Staff Intern position.

A motion was made by Mr. Wallace to appoint Mr. Taradash to the Atlantis Charter School Board of Trustees staff intern position, seconded by Mr. Audet and **APPROVED** unanimously.

Mrs. Carreiro, Secretary to Executive Director, will forward all of the nominees' paperwork to the Charter School Office for official appointment. The three above-named candidates will be notified as to when they will be able to sit in on their first meeting.

Personnel Committee:

Atty. Saulino reported that the Personnel Committee had met on two issues, both involving Mr. Thomas Paul. The first issue was Mr. Paul reporting to the Executive Director versus reporting to the Board of Trustees. A change in the by-laws needs to take place 15 days prior to the next Board meeting. Dr. Curry stated that he thought it was an excellent idea due to the fact that Mr. Goulart, the current Executive Director is aware of Mr. Paul's actions and accomplishments and as such, a better evaluator of Mr. Paul.

Mr. Goulart stated that there will be no great change; he has had a good relationship with Mr. Paul over the past several years. Both Mr. Paul and Mr. Goulart will continue to meet on a regular basis. The only change now is that Mr. Goulart will now evaluate Mr. Paul.

The second issue is the proposed raise for Mr. Paul. Mr. Collins stated that Mr. Paul has done an outstanding job with the financial record keeping for the school and as such, based on merit, Mr. Paul will receive a 4% increase. Dr. Curry stated as to the average increase most employees received and Mr. Goulart answered that the percentage increased ranged from 2 – 7%.

A motion was made by Atty. Saulino to award Mr. Paul with a 4% increase in salary, seconded by Mr. Audet and **APPROVED** unanimously.

Atty. Saulino stated that since volunteering to chair the Personnel Committee, he is now responsible to collect the Executive Director Evaluation Forms as well as the Self-Evaluation Forms for the Board of Trustees members.

Old Business:

Mr. Goulart reported that the new classrooms had been completed, the tearing down of walls to make a music room at the Upper School as well as the dividing of a room by adding a wall at the Lower School for the math classrooms.

Mr. Goulart has received emails from Mary Street regarding the retirement plan account. Mr. Goulart stated that Mary Street is currently working on this issue and at the October meeting, there might be a need to transfer \$500,000 from the restricted account designated for retirement benefits and place it in a separate account.

Mr. Collins updated the Board on the billboard proposal. Clear Channel is asking for a 20-year lease. Atlantis Charter School will have the ability to opt out of the lease without any repercussions.

New Business:

Mr. Goulart reported on the preliminary MCAS results. The scores improved in 10 out of 14 areas. The CPI did not make AYP due to the SPED subgroup in ELA.

Mr. Wallace stated that it would be nice to see how our students are progressing throughout the years.

Mr. Goulart stated that all Board members were emailed a Disclosure of Financial Interest Form which needs to be completed and given to Mrs. Carreiro as soon as possible.

Mr. Goulart reported on a successful three days of Professional Development at Rachel's Lakeside in Dartmouth.

Mr. Goulart stated that although there were a few minor glitches with the uniform policy, all the students were in uniform looking sharp the first day of school.

Mr. Goulart stated that we currently have hired 27 new staff members to join the Atlantis family.

Mr. Goulart stated that we have lost Mrs. Robin Morin as one of our teachers to a competing district. Seeing that Mrs. Morin was appointed to a full seat on the Board in June, that vacancy is now open. Mr. Goulart is hopeful that the Nominating Committee will have a recommendation at the next Board meeting as to how to fill that Staff slot.

Adjournment: At 8:15 PM, a motion was made by Mr. Audet to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Wallace and **APPROVED** unanimously.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on **Wednesday, September 24, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Cafeteria of the Upper School located at 37 Park Street.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Thomas J. Curry
Secretary