



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
February 25, 2009**

- Trustees Present:** F. George Jacome; Robert F. Collins; Jeffrey T. Karam; Dr. Charles Khoury; Teresa Nelson; Beverly Pavao; Brenda Reback; Peter A. Saulino, Esq.; James A. Wallace, Jr.; Jonathan Taradash, (BOT Staff Intern)
- Trustees Absent:** Gerald Audet (excused); Fernando Garcia (excused)
- Student Representative:** Alexa Caetano, 8th Grade Class President (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, Student Services Director; Mathieu Pilotte, Family Learning Center Director
- Community Input:** Kelly Morra provided information regarding the upcoming Wine Tasting Event. Every board member received a total of ten tickets to sell.
- Call to Order:** Mr. Jacome officially called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.
- Acceptance of Minutes:** Mr. Jacome presented the Minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting of January 28, 2009, emailed in advance of this meeting to all Board members. A motion was made by Mr. Collins to dispense with the reading of the Minutes and to accept the Minutes as presented; seconded by Ms. Nelson, and **APPROVED** unanimously.
- Correspondence:** None
- Staff Presentations:** None
- Student Representative Presentation:** None
- Financial Report:** A motion was made by Mr. Collins to waive the reading of the Financial Report, seconded by Atty. Saulino 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:**
No report.
- Education Committee:**
Mr. Wallace reported that the Education Committee met prior to this Board meeting. Mr. Wallace stated that there was a change in membership, Mr. Jonathan Taradash switched over to the Facilities Committee and therefore opened up a teacher slot on the education committee which was filled by Ms. Anne-Marie Peck.

Mr. Wallace stated that the Education Committee discussed the events happening over the last few days with respect to the Site Visit – Charter Renewal. Everything is going quite well. Mr. Goulart stated that there will no longer be debriefing on the last day. The team will provide to Atlantis a summary report within two weeks. Atlantis will then have ten days to report any factual errors and submit back to the state. The team will then finalize their report and submit it to the Board of Education. The plan is that there will be discussion at the September Board of Education meeting with a vote occurring at the October Board of Education meeting.

Mr. Wallace stated that the committee had looked over the 21st Century Skills. However there is a lot of controversy with that. There is so much testing currently being done that it might not be a good idea to add more testing to the students.

The committee looked at how well Atlantis is doing on the MCAS in comparison with Fall River, with other charter schools, and the state. Atlantis is performing quite well. When it comes to testing scores, Massachusetts ranked 3rd in comparison to Japan and Singapore.

Facilities Committee:

Mr. Karam reported that the Facilities Committee has been meeting on a regular basis. Meetings have occurred with DRA, the architectural firm, to discuss programming and school concepts. A meeting has also taken place with Sitec to discuss preliminary investigations on environmental issues. The Facilities Committee will be meeting on Thursday, February 26, 2009 with DRA. Mr. Karam expressed that he would like to see more parents attend these meetings and perhaps by word of mouth, that could happen.

Finance Committee:

No report.

Nominating Committee:

Ms. Nelson reported that the Nominating Committee met and interviewed Atty. Matthew F. Burke, Jr. The Nominating Committee made a recommendation to appoint Atty. Burke to the Board of Trustees.

A motion was made by Mr. Wallace to appoint Atty. Matthew F. Burke, Jr. to the Board of Trustees, seconded by Atty. Saulino and **APPROVED** unanimously.

Personnel Committee:

No report.

Old Business:

Mr. Goulart stated that the site visit team had met with the administrative team on Monday, February 23, 2009 they had met with the Board of Trustees, the Business Manager, the teacher focus group, the student focus group, and the parent focus group on Tuesday, February 24, 2009. Mr. Goulart stated that he had met with two members of the team this afternoon and they appeared to be very impressed with what they have seen thus far. Mr. Goulart reiterated that there will no longer be a debriefing on the last day. The team will provide to Atlantis a summary report within two weeks. Atlantis will then have ten days to report any factual errors and submit back to the state. The team will then finalize their report and submit it to the Board of Education. The plan is that there will be discussion at the September Board of Education meeting with a vote occurring at the October Board of Education meeting.

New Business: Mr. Jacome remarked on a letter that was submitted from ClearChannel on the lease agreement asking for a reduction in rent. Mr. Jacome stated that Mr. Saint-Pierre had indicated to not do anything at this point with this request, due to the fact that a contract had been signed and is legally binding. Mr. Karam stated that some companies are trying to capitalize on this economic crisis and this is probably just a mere ploy.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Mr. Wallace at 7:45 PM to move into executive session, seconded by Ms. Nelson and **APPROVED** unanimously.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MOVED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING CONTRACTUAL ISSUES.

A motion was made by Atty. Saulino at 8:20 PM to move back to open session, seconded by Mr. Wallace and **APPROVED** unanimously.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MOVED OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

New Business Continued: The Personnel Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees accepts the contract for Mr. Robert Beatty as is, pending the CORI results and transcripts, and authorizes Mr. F. George Jacome to make the contract official once the before mentioned items are provided.

A motion was made by Ms. Nelson to accept the contract for Mr. Robert Beatty as is, pending the CORI results and transcripts, and authorizes Mr. F. George Jacome to make the contract official once the before mentioned items are provided, seconded by Dr. Khoury and **APPROVED** unanimously.

Adjournment: At 8:23 PM, a motion was made by Ms. Nelson to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Khoury and **APPROVED** unanimously.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on **Wednesday, March 25, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Cafeteria of the Upper School located at 37 Park Street.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. James A. Wallace, Jr.
Secretary