



Galapagos Rockford Charter School

Board Meeting Minutes 10/11/2016- Meeting Called to Order at 5:32pm

Board Members Present: Rebecca Denzer, Michael Lane, Josh Binning, Jon Lippitz

2605 School St. (Lower Academy)

Rockford, IL

- Public Comment-
- Addition of Rebecca Denzer to the Board and removal of Mike Greve
- Review of the previous minutes
 - Minutes were approved from June 2016
- Bright Spots (Laskov, Hopper)
 - NL- School culture and classroom management is strong, 6th Grade- really strong instructional team
 - SH- Community Circle has been very strong, instructors are taking ownership, scholars are engaged and there is a quiet and calm feeling around the school
- Academics- MAP Summary
 - Review of beginning of the year MAP data: Gaps are small from the class average to the national norms at the Lower Academy, Classes at the LA are more evenly dispersed, at the UA there is more difference in the classrooms
Math & ELA data is similar between the classes.
- Facility Issues at 2605 School and 3051 Rotary Rd. (Parking Lot and Water)
 - Parking Lot- The Diocese offered rental at \$11,000 a year plus maintenance costs for a total of about \$14,000 a year total.
The other option is to build our own parking lot. \$120,000 for a 40 space parking lot.

A non-binding vote concluded that building a parking lot may be the best option. M Lane to continue discussions with the Diocese.
 - Water- During regular water testing, one of the water fountain at the UA tested for lead as well as two sinks. The fountain was shut down and a technician was called out to assess the situation. M Lane is in contact with state IDPH to handle the situation.
- Electives Program at UA
 - 12 different electives are now being offered weekly for grades 5-8.
 - There will be a showcase at the end of the quarter- Board Members are invited to attend.

- Athletics
 - Cross Country has ended for the year.
 - Girls Basketball is currently underway
 - Boys Basketball will begin shortly.
 - Looking for a Dance coach

- Financial update
 - Some income funds are distorted due to money still owed to GRCS from RPS.

 - Large increase in instructor recruitment expense- used a search firm to find current SPED team

- Washington DC and Northwestern Participation Summer 2016
 - DC- 15 scholars went, had a great experience
 - Northwestern- 7 scholars went, stayed on campus

- KaBoom! Grant (awarded grant for playground in June, 2016)
 - Will be doing a build in early Spring (\$16,000 in money and in-kind)

- Community Foundation of Northern Illinois (applied for grant in October, 2016)
 - Would be used to expand after school offerings

- Fundraising Needs
 - 2017 Washington DC (\$15,000)
 - 2017 Northwestern (\$3,500)
 - Playground (\$20,000)
 - 2017 New York (\$15,000) tentative

- Upcoming Events
 - Boys Basketball Nov. 1 and Nov 7 at the UA
 - Paint and Pour- December 3, 2016 - Time and Place TBD

Galapagos Rockford Charter School is dedicated to preparing scholars to be responsible, productive, college-educated adults capable of adapting and prospering in the changing global economy.

Core Values of Galapagos

Grit

Drive

Growth Mindset

Next Board Meetings (5:30 pm)

Monday- Dec 19 at the Upper Academy