

PAGA Board Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2012

Present: Sherri Breunig, Marshall Orson, Rob Brown, Barbara Matthews, David Vasconez, Alvin Allgood, Ramona Thurman, Monica Henson, Terri Stucky, Mark Peevy

- Call to Order at 1:05 PM.
- Agenda adjusted to add an action item to purchase policy templates.
- Minutes from Sept. 4, 2012 Board Meeting approved—motion by Mark, second by Barbara, passed unanimously.
- No public comments.

Executive Director Report – Monica Henson

- Made a request a plan for policy adoption. Sherri expounded on the Georgia Charter Schools Association policy templates that are available for purchase and can be used in the future Board trainings for the policy work to be done.
- Shared the Implementation Plan for 2nd Quarter. The Board members will be granted access to the wiki where the Implementation Plan is housed so they can view it at any time along with the faculty and staff.
- Explained the distinction between accreditation of the EdisonLearning eCourses curriculum by NWAC and the process of SACS school accreditation. AdvancED has provided her with application materials to initiate SACS accreditation for PAGA. She is working with AdvancED to provide assurance to the Georgia Department of Labor so that PAGA can be certified by GaDOL to issue student work permits. There are several students waiting for these permits.
- Described the plan for staffing as enrollment grows and the desire to use innovation in crafting salary plans. Two Advisors willing to take on additional advisees at a per-pupil rate, enabling PAGA to add another 150 students without having to hire another Advisor, yet keeping total caseloads at approximately half of a traditional district high school counselor's, or fewer.
- Apprised that English Language Arts is experimenting with Central Services graders, following the original model for Provost Academy in Pennsylvania.
- Noted that the Committee on Compensation is convening Thursday and invited any interested Board members to email if they would like to participate.
- Raised the concern about academic rigor of the eCourses, specifically with regard to assessments in Math and English Language Arts, as well as scope and sequence in Math and Social Studies. Alvin requested a timeline for creation of an action plan by David and Ray Rozycki, which was provided with a deadline of December 21 for having the upgrades complete. Monica will work with David and Ray on this process.

Finance Report—Ramona Thurman

- Presented the General Operating Budget.
- Monica noted that due to the delay in training PAGA staff on the Infinite Campus student information system and the very late enrollment drive, the students who could have generated brick-and-mortar funding and alternative education funding were not coded properly. Therefore, those funds will not be forthcoming until October 2013, and they will be weighted only once due to the coding being done in March 2013 rather than October 2012. Had the coding occurred in October 2012, those students would have been weighted twice.
- Monica also notified the Board that the original EdisonLearning forecasted cost for the eSchoolware was \$542 per pupil, a total of \$393,000 for the forecasted 750 FTE. However, David

told Ramona two weeks ago that the actual cost is \$2,000 per pupil, which will be a total expenditure of \$1.2 million for the actual 605 students in the October 2012 FTE count.

- The consensus of the Board was that they are not ready to approve the budget, due to lingering questions regarding the crosswalk from the EdisonLearning forecasted budget, so the Action Item for budget approval was tabled until November. Ramona noted that state law requires public school budgets to be approved no later than June 30 of the current calendar year (O.C.G.A.). Monica apprised the Board that such approval would have been impossible as Ramona was not hired until late July. Ramona, Rob, Monica, David, Barbara, and EdisonLearning Regional Controller Aaron Grygiel will meet with all due haste to review the financials so that the budget can be approved at the November Board meeting. Mark advised that there is no penalty for a start-up charter school not to have the budget approved by June 30, but that it would not be prudent to continue past November without an approved budget.

EdisonLearning Report—David Vasconez

- Advised that sites have been located in both Macon and Savannah and shared photographs of each.
- Provided each Board member with a PAGA email address per their request following the first quarterly Board training.
- Committed to begin providing regular Dashboards and updates for the Board as part of Monica's Weekly Board Report once the letter from the Board is received detailing the data points desired.

Board Chair Report—Sherri Breunig

Saved and will be sent via email in the interest of time.

Action Items

- a. Approval of the General Operating Budget—tabled until November Board meeting.
- b. Resolution to create three standing committees: Finance, Governance, and Academic Achievement—motion by Sherri, second by Mark, passed unanimously.
- c. Resolution to establish the date of the Annual Meeting—tabled until November Board meeting to allow for further study of the nontraditional calendar, July 20 graduation date, and when to initiate planning for School Year 2013-2014.
- d. Approval of the purchase of GCSA Policy Templates at a price not to exceed \$2,500—motion by Sherri, second by Barbara, passed unanimously.

Future Business

- Approval of General Operating Budget
- Establish the date of the Annual Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 2:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Henson

Approved _____
Sherri Breunig, Board Chair

_____ Date