

THE ACADEMIC-YEAR GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL BOARD
Business Meeting
February 2, 2017
George Mason University, Prince William Campus, Colgan Hall, Room 110H
Manassas, Virginia 20110

The Joint Board of the Academic-Year 2016-2017 Governor's School met on February 2, 2017, at George Mason University, Manassas, Virginia for a Business Meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joint Board

Mrs. Loree Williams

Mrs. Alyson Satterwhite

Mr. Scott Albrecht

Mrs. Kristen Kiefer

Prince William County Public Schools

Prince William County Public School

Manassas City Public Schools

Manassas City Public Schools

In attendance:

Mrs. Rita Goss, Prince William County Public Schools

Mrs. Amy Takayama-Perez, GMU

Dr. Jason Calhoun, Director of Governor's School @ Innovation Park

Ms. Pamela Thorpe, Clerk of the Joint Board

Advisors:

Dr. Janette Muir, George Mason University

Executive Committee Members:

Dr. Jim Mudd, Prince William County Public Schools

Dr. Ashley Cramp, Manassas City Public Schools

Mrs. Jennifer Braswell-Geller, Manassas Park City Schools

OPENING EXERCISES: Chairperson Williams called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

The Roll Call of Board Members confirmed a quorum.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed a moment of Silence.

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Chairperson Williams asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda, none being heard, she asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Mr. Albrecht made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Mrs. Kiefer seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Chairperson Williams asked if there were any citizens to speak and Ms. Thorpe stated that there were none.

CONSENT AGENDA: Chairperson Williams asked if there were any discussion of the Consent Agenda, hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Albrecht made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Mrs. Kiefer seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

BOARD MATTERS:

Highlights on Instruction-Students from each science strand and one Innovations class gave approximately ten-minute long presentations to the Board so that the Board members would have a better idea of what types of education occurs at the Governor's School. Syed Saquib, Ardean Kim, and Yaman Shrestha presented *Autonomous Exploring and Mapping with Swarm Robotics*. Iman Malik, Alex Chavez, and Matthew Trang presented *Lit Solar Cells*. Lauren Warner, Kelly Crocker, and Noah Wong presented *Project Dante: Bringing Accessible Thermal Imaging Systems to Firefighters and the General Public*. Navya Annapreddy, Nitya Pandya, Isabella Posey, and Chathurya Anuga gave a presentation on *The Effect of Environmental Toxins on Genetic Expression of Human Orthologs in C.elegans*. Dr. Calhoun encouraged the Board to come visit the classrooms at any time.

2017-18 Calendar-Dr. Calhoun pointed out the highlights as the calendar will be an action item for the next Board Meeting. He indicated that because Manassas Park is the supervising Board for 2017-18, Back to School Night would be hosted there. He explained that GMU's Winter Break might affect our calendar and possibly cause changes. The Research Symposium and Senior Ceremony have been scheduled earlier than usual due to the earlier last day of school date with agreement from all three Superintendents. He also explained that if GMU closes, students must remain at their base schools.

Internal Audit- A final report was included for review. Dr. Calhoun explained that our audit was a success overall but did have two issues. One was the paperwork concerning the PTSO and the other was the purchasing card authorization sheet that needed to be signed by any faculty who might utilize the purchasing card. Both issues were addressed and resolved. He also advised that in cases where we need a backup, Central Office would step in and assist.

Update on Application Process-PWCS closed applications on February 1, 2017. Manassas Park and Manassas City would accept applications through the following week. As of the meeting, PWCS had 90 applicants, which Dr. Mudd indicated was 1/3 higher than in the past. He also noted that he expected a couple more applications to trickle in. There were 12 applicants from Manassas City, and 2 from Manassas Park. Dr. Calhoun discussed the number slots that need to be filled in each Division. Dr. Calhoun stated he would visit the middle schools during the Spring to continue to improve recruitment. Dr. Mudd stated that high flyers in math had not been applying to the Governor's School in past years, but this year that had changed, he felt in large part due to Dr. Calhoun's recruitment efforts. Mrs. Rita Goss concurred, commended, and thanked Dr. Calhoun for his efforts, especially in changing the perception of the students not only in terms of coming but also for highlighting the long-range positives for attending the Governor's School.

ASTEM Feedback/Center for the Arts Collaboration-ASTEM, also a recruitment tool, was held that past weekend. Approximately 130 middle school students participated in the student run event. Parents did inquire about how to prepare their students for enrollment. Our Counselor held a standing room only college preparation session, which was very well received. The Advisory council also offered advice about

recruitment. Dr. Calhoun went on to state that he invited Guidance Counselors from every middle and high school for an overview of the program and tour of the campus. Dr. Calhoun indicated that he would like to do that twice a year. Dr. Calhoun went on to advise that he and Ron Carmichael attended an HPAC meeting, which led to a discussion about collaborating with the Gov. School. They are expanding on the land adjacent to Governor's School. They are planning an environmental park and want students to be involved. They will break ground in the Spring and are looking forward for ways to strengthen ties with our students.

Dr. Calhoun gave a brief overview of testing, class set up, and 2017-18 planning. Mrs. Williams asked about Rippon and Graham Park possibly visiting since they are Math and Science Middle Schools. Dr. Calhoun indicated that was possible. Recruiting would continue with dates already set for MP on the 13th. He also informed them that Invitations to the research symposium were forthcoming. There was an Inquiry about whether there would be an information table at Science Fair. Dr. Calhoun stated that the students had approached him about being able to discuss the Governor's School with other students and he had provided information for them to do so. Mrs. Williams advised the Board that as a parent, many of the misconceptions about coming to Governor's School were alleviated and she now had a better grasp on the distinct differences between TJ's program and ours because of conversations with current students. Dr. Calhoun informed the Board of the Alumnae Day held in December, which was successful and included participants who were now in their Junior year of college to come back and talk to our current students.

BOARD COMMENTS-Mr. Albrecht complemented Dr. Calhoun and his staff for improved recruitment and reminded the Board that success breeds success.

Upcoming Calendar Event Highlights-

- June 2, 2017 – Research Symposium;
Location: Beacon Hall on GMU Campus; 8:30 to 10:30 am
- June 3, 2017 – Senior Ceremony;
Location: Verizon Auditorium, GMU Campus

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Thorpe, Clerk of the Joint Board

Approved:

Mrs. Loree Williams, Chairperson of the Joint Board