

QCS Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, September 16, 2021  
3:30 p.m. in the QCS Library

Board Members Present: Meg Sabulsky, Barb Rice, Carlos Velez, Rhoda Detweiler, Sandy Harrell, Lois Ridley (on Zoom), Jeff Naugle (on phone); Gwen Forsythe  
Meeting Called by: Meg Sabulsky  
Facilitator: Meg Sabulsky  
Note Taker: Rebecca Labs  
Absent:  
Guests: Steve Schrag, Cecelia Fox, Cecelia's mom, Andrew and Danielle Neubert

**Agenda Items:**

- Call To Order at 3:37 pm with recitation of Mission Statement.
- Devotions: Carlos Velez read a short story by Tim Keller which included Proverbs 8: 12-13.

**Public Comments/Questions regarding Agenda**

- Dr. Cecelia Fox, mother of a current 9th grade student at Quakertown Christian School, was in attendance to ask the Board to reconsider their mask optional policy which was instituted earlier this school year. Cecelia's mother accompanied her to the meeting. Cecelia started off by advising the Board that she is a Professor of Biological Sciences at Moravian University and feels that everyone should "do their part" and wear masks regardless of vaccination status as this is the Christian thing to do. After Dr. Fox spoke a bit more on her opinion, the conversation then turned to Andrew Neubert. Andrew, who is also the parent of a current student at Quakertown Christian School was accompanied by his wife, Danielle. Andrew spoke to the opposite side of Dr. Fox and was very thankful that the school board decided to keep masks optional this school year. Andrew feels that we need to not live in fear and that we need to keep our faith and trust in Jesus. His hope is that by sending his child to QCS, we can teach them to not live in fear and to be respectful of everyone's individual decisions.
- After both parties were done speaking, Carlos commented that he was so happy that Dr. Fox and Mr. Neubert were very respectful of each other's opinions even though they were completely opposite of each other.
- Meg then spoke to the guests regarding their comments and gave reassurances that while we have decided to stay mask optional, we would continue to monitor what other schools in our area are doing, we would continue cleaning, keeping an eye on cases in our area, etc.
- Cecelia questioned how many children and/or staff needed to be sick in order to shut down. Meg stated that we did not have anything in writing regarding that, but we did have a Covid response team made up of three nurses, a faculty member and Steve Schrag that would be in discussions should that need arise.
- Dr. Fox also asked questions about what type of cleaning products we are using at the school. Steve stated that the products in use were received from the Bucks County Intermediate Unit who is taking their direction from the Department of Health.

**Consent Agenda** (brief time for questions and clarification before motion to accept)

- Minutes from August board meeting
- Board Committee Reports
  - Advancement; Building & Grounds; Personnel; Staff Relations; Strategic Planning; Trustees
    - Rhoda stated that she checked with John Lapinski and he advised her that there are building plans in the closet near the faculty room.

- Trustees: Recommendation to approve two candidates for board membership
  - Barb highlighted the two candidates for the Board, Nathan Moyer and Matthew Parker. Both candidates are enthusiastic to join the Board and they both love QCS. Gwen was very impressed with Nate's demeanor. Carlos loves the fact that Nate is a QCS alumni and that Matt grew up in Christian education.
- Head of School's Report

**Motion to accept - Carlos. Second - Jeff. All in favor.**

### **Finances**

- Barb spoke on behalf of Jeff. Things are good with finances. Cash flow is good. The high enrollment for the current school year plays a part in that (\$848,000 if everyone pays in full). We applied for a \$147,000 employment tax credit. As income is typically down in the months of April, May and June, we should save this capital for that time. We have been in talks with Penn Community Bank as we will be closing the Covenant accounts. The Rushhouse tenant has requested that he be temporarily allowed to house two dogs and the request was sent to the realtor. The realtor is preparing a lease amendment which will state that a \$500 security deposit be put down before the pet will be allowed in the house. Gwen had concerns about this as she thinks we shouldn't allow pets as they can do a lot of damage and \$500 probably won't be able to cover the damage. Jeff questioned if we could use their security deposit towards damage. Barb believes we can. Meg suggested that someone check with Amy Bergstresser. Barb stated that she would reach out to Natalie to see if she could speak with Amy.

**Motion to accept - Gwen. Second - Rhoda. All in favor.**

### **Hot Topics/Strategic Expectations**

- COVID response – assessment
  - Meg asked if we were checking case counts. Steve advised that he does it every week. Rhoda mentioned that she checks the Bucks County site often as well. Meg questioned if the site gives a hospitalization count and Rhoda replied that it does not. Meg stated that the lawsuit on the masking mandate put in place by Governor Wolfe will go to trial in the next few days. If they deem the mandate not legal, our liability goes away immediately.
- Fall Fest/70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – October 15 & 16
  - Chicken BBQ is drive-thru only again this year - no eat in. A car has been donated and will be auctioned off by Alderfer Auctions. Chrissy Stradling is working on the program for the 70th anniversary dinner. Tammy Leatherman is preparing a video to be shown that night. It was mentioned that the donations that come in for the dinner will go to the legacy tree fund.
- Account signers – adding Sandy Harrell and Carlos Velez

**Meg moves to rescind the Motion of 4/16/2020 regarding the signers and motions to add Carlos Velez and Sandy Harrell as account signers.**

- Standing Committees
  - Staff Relations - Lois Ridley.
  - Strategic Planning - Meg Sabulsky, Sandy Harrell, Steve Schrag
  - Personnel - Sandy Harrell, Rhoda Detweiler
  - Trustees - Barb Rice - Chair, Steve Schrag, Jeff (?) Phil and Tim Kennel (?) - Barb will check on these.
  - Buildings and Grounds - Gwen Forsythe - Chair, Tim Kennel, John (?)

- Advancement and Development - Chair(?) - we will revisit the committee and see what the actual role is. Its intended purpose is designed to be a support to the development officer.
- Finance - Barb Rice, Steve Schrag, Natalie Oskowitz, remove Emma Lukens, Ivan (?) - Jeff will check on these

### **New Business**

- Meg advised that she sent the signed resolution to the legal team and Jeff will coordinate with Leon on the demolition of the old preschool building. It was stated that we will ask Leon for the money up-front.

### **Prayer Requests**

- MEA monthly prayer requests
  - Celebrating our 70th Anniversary and the upcoming restorative practice demonstration at In-Service on October 11, 2021.
- **Others**
  - Carlos asked for prayers for the two families that came in to speak today for their respectfulness. Gwen is thankful for Steve and Meg being on the “front line”. Gwen’s brother-in-law will have another CT scan to see if the chemo is working. Her father-in-law passed away. Sandy is moving her mother at the end of the month to a new assisted living facility and asking for prayers for her and her sister. Meg’s uncle has Parkinson’s disease and it is very hard to watch what he is going through. His care is not the greatest due to staff shortages at his facility. Carlos’ mother-in-law moved in with him and his family and things are going very well. His mother-in-law is trying to sell her apartment and is becoming very discouraged so he is asking we keep her in prayer.

**Adjournment at 5:20 pm** – Board meets for Personnel Session

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, October 14, 2021

**Devotions:** Sandy Harrell

Vision - Equipping students to impact their world for Jesus.

Mission - Equipping students to be leaders through an exceptional education within a culture emphasizing Christ-like love, peacemaking, and service.

In all things, QCS Values - **Jesus Christ. Each child. Excellence. Servant-Leadership. Intentionality.**