

Baxter Academy for Technology and Science

Board of Directors Meeting

5:30 to 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 8, 2016

54 York Street, Portland, Maine

Present: Chair Kelli Pryor, Vice Chair Allison Crean Davis, Secretary Peter Morrison, Kim Gustafson, Ruth Dean, Patti Oldmixon

Absent: Treasurer Peter Montano, Christian Sparling

Guests present: Head of School Michele LaForge, Megan Lawrence, Nadia Crockett-Current, Dash Jorgensen, Morgan Wass, Cheyenne Ryder

Agenda item
<div>I. Opening items</div> <div>Kelli Pryor, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:48 p.m.</div> <div><div>1. Minutes</div><div>Ruth Dean moved to accept the minutes as written. Patti seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously, with the exception of amendments.</div></div>
<div>II. Student Affairs</div> <div><div><div>A. Flex Friday presentation</div><div>Megan Lawrence and her Flex Friday class presented to the School Board to invite them to an event on April 7th at 7:00 pm at the Sable Oaks Marriott.</div></div><div><div>B. Robotics</div><div>Baxter Academy’s Robotics team “the Outliers” won the highest engineering award at the Granite State district event on March 6th during First Robotics’ opening weekend of competition in New England. The team now ranks 9th in New England. The Outliers will be on the floor again at Maine’s Pine Tree district event on April 9th and 10th in Lewiston</div></div><div><div>C. One-Acts</div><div>Baxter Academy’s drama company, the Baxter Players, advanced Saturday to the Maine Drama Festival after a regional event at Marshwood High School in South Berwick. <i>“How to Survive a Horror Movie,”</i> written by sophomore Rylee Sinclair, took first place and won a commendation from the judges for its playwright. Four Baxter actors were also named to the All-Festival Cast. This is Baxter’s 3rd year of competing and the first year we had a student written play.</div></div></div>

<p>III. Administration</p> <p>A. Update</p> <p>Kelli updated the board that official resignation has been given by Carl Stasio, who will be moving on to pursue other opportunities. He has worked many years on accreditations and will be working in Dubai in the near future. The directors expressed their thanks to Carl for his contributions to the school, especially the steadiness and wisdom he brought when the mission was still fragile. The work was a very different endeavor for him, having come from a 200 year old school, where he had been for many decades. At Baxter he helped get the doors open and then helped the school triple in size. He helped Baxter become the school it is today. His presence has been a support to the board. We feel fortunate that Carl has also agreed to continue working with us on a consulting basis and will be available for any initiatives going forward.</p> <p>Michele will be out having foot surgery on March 14th and will be out for 2 weeks. A plan has been put in place and shared with all employees. Our temporary RTI coordinator Angela Taylor, will help take over the administrative duties. Two new bench subs have been hired to be here for extra help while she is out.</p> <p>B. COO Search</p> <p>Kelli updated the board on the process under way to hire an operations officer for Baxter. The listing has been more widely posted within several local colleges and universities to alumni. Patti has agreed to be a thought partner and manager of the process alongside Christian.</p>
<p>IV. Governance</p> <p>A. Compliance</p> <p>On the week of April 23rd the Charter Commission will be visiting the school and will meet with parents, students, faculty and administration. They want parents and students informed that they will be present. They have requested 90 minutes to 2 hours with the administration and the board during the week of June 23. The whole monitoring process goes until July 15th. We will be hiring a charter liaison to help us through this process who has experience with other Maine charter schools. The board will be available to meet with the Charter Commission either on June 7th or the 15th.</p> <p>Kelli will be notifying the Charter Commission of Carl's resignation.</p> <p>A board meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 14th.</p>

Allison moved to contract Wendy Betts to help with the Charter Commission for up to 100 hours as approved by Michele LaForge, Head of School. Kelli seconded the motion. The Board moved to approve unanimously.
V. Executive Session
A. Facilities
Kelli Pryor made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:05 to discuss facilities. Allison seconded. Board moved to approved unanimously to motion to enter executive session.
At 8:11, the Board exited Executive Session and adjourned the meeting.
VI. Public Discussion

Next regular meeting: 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 12th; 54 York Street

