

Board Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting
Tuesday, April 15, 2008 – 4:15 p.m.
Seven Hills Classical Academy

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Sue Pearce called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL: The following board members were present: Julie Ball; Sara Eschle; Erin Hall; Mary Ann Nelson; Mike Olmstead; Susan Pearce; Johana Sand; Don Swetala; Executive Director Margaret O'Brien, ExOfficio

The following board members were absent; Mike Stanchfield; Steve Wendorf

OTHER ATTENDEES: Tess Bademan, Chris Bewell, Lisa Carlin, Liz Ekholm, Claire Emery, Janelle Mellgren, Michelle Pollis, Suzi Splinter, Laurie Wagner

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA: Moved by M. Nelson, seconded by J. Sand to approve the agenda – unanimously passed.

Three Steps

1. **Understanding** – where we came from – basis for Mission Statement
2. **Discussion/Acceptance** – not necessarily all agreeing
3. **Move to Support**

History of Strategic Plan, Don Swetala

How do we support the Mission

What does it mean to be a classical school?

Sue Pearce talked about the history of classical education discussions by the Board and Jerry Reedy's input

Statement on classical education brought to the Board and adopted September 2007

Background on Governance Committee & Policies/Procedures Process, Mary Ann Nelson

Policy 104 looked at in November 2007. Took classical education statement from the September 2007 Board Meeting and combined with the MSBA 104 policy and presented to Curriculum Committee. Sue Pearce didn't communicate this clearly to the Curriculum Committee so there was some confusion.

Listed changes – comparison from the initial draft Sue Pearce sent – highlighted things the Curriculum Committee wanted changed.

Governance Committee made formatting changes – numbers instead of bullet points. Some language changes to be consistent.

Now going over the 3rd document - Governance Committee changes vs. Curriculum Committee changes

- Paragraph removed
- Numbers instead of bullet points
- Added line to #1
- #4 changed active to responsible
- #5 removed hard work
- Removed warm community & in community

Julie Ball representing the Curriculum Committee as Curriculum Director spoke about the charge given to the Curriculum Committee and discussion about the Curriculum Committee process.

Spoke about educating the community (parents etc.) about what classical education is. Curriculum Committee wants it to be clear and easily understood. Statement that could be pulled out to put on the website so everyone could understand classical education. Curriculum Committee is looking at how we present ourselves to the general public.

Community Comments

- Western culture/western civilization/western thought
- Easy to understand/get rid of hot button words.
- Jerry Reedy's draft statement: Classical education has focused on the origin and history of western civilization, but not to the exclusion of other cultures or to the emerging global culture.
- Insert the purpose paragraph back in under definitions.
- #4 using strong instead of responsible
- #6 OK to remove warm and in the community
- Leave Latin in
- Review every three years
- Bullets are OK – Curriculum Committee wants to leave bullets (instead of numbers) because this removes prioritization.
- Define trivium in #2 for a better understanding

Board Chair asked everyone to consider what worked well at this meeting and send her the comments. What should the Board and Director consider for implementation.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Next Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, May 13, 2008.

Submitted by Chris Bewell, Administrative Assistant
Approved May 13, 2008