



The Academy for Technology and the Classics

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**ATC Governing Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 19, 2015
5:30 p.m. Regular Session
ATC Phoenix Center**

I. Opening Activities

a. Call to Order

President Tannis Fox called the Governing Council to order at 5:30 p.m.

b. Roll call of Council members

Members present: President Tannis Fox, Secretary Leslie Fagre, Larry Mirabal Caleb Raymer and Courtney White. Absent: Vice President Marilyn Fitzgerald.

c. Approval of agenda

Ms. Fagre moved to approve the agenda with the amendment to move agenda items under VII. Council Discussion- a. Swim team continuation and b. Start of JV basketball teams to April agenda as Athletics director was at a track meet. Mr. Mirabal seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Approval of minutes from February 19, 2015 meeting

Mr. Mirabal moved to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2014 meeting. Mr. Raymer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Swearing in of new Council member, Karen Velarde-Lashley

President Fox swore in new parent member Karen Velarde-Lashley.

III. Presentation/Reports

a. Student Representative Report

No representative present. Ms. Lumley gave an update from Sam Lewis, Student council president. He sent his regrets as he had to work. Student Council sponsored "Pie" (3.14) day on March 13. Many activities were enjoyed by students and staff including a "pie" contest where students recited pie out to as many decimals as they could remember. There was also a pie eating contest, pie throwing at the teachers, all to raise money for Student Council. Student Council is also working on spring activities such as a spring clean-up day and the annual Tiki Tango dance.

b. PTSC Representative Report

No representative present. Ms. Lumley reported the PTSC is arranging a spring yard sale. More details will be forthcoming.

c. Teacher Representative Report

Mr. Devin Ayers, English teacher, was present and gave this report. ATC had another guest author come and read to the students. ATC's SWAT team has attended several trainings and is a model team in the Santa Fe area! SWAT (Student Wellness Action Team) is a citywide program in middle and high schools in which, with the help of a faculty sponsor, students try to help prevent substance abuse (tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs) and promote wellness.

d. Foundation Representative Report

No representative present. President Tannis Fox informed the council that Mr. Cliff Reese will no long serve on the ATC Foundation due to his appointment to the SFPS Board.

e. Principal report on PARRC testing and opt out provision

Ms. Lumley gave background and history of common core and PARRC, (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers). A recent federal government study has shown that students entering college are not as prepared as they should be. Common core requirements and PARRC are government mandated programs, and school districts that do not participate in them do not receive federal education funding. This is the first year of PARRC testing; however, last year's SBA tests had PARRC questions imbedded in it to see how students handled them. PARRC replaces SBA for writing, reading and math. SBA will still be given for science. These tests are federal requirements/laws. Opting out of tests can have many negative ramifications: students not taking or passing PARRC can't graduate, affects teachers 50% student competency, affects school grades, 95% of students statewide have to take the test for New Mexico to receive federal funding (for ATC, 15 students opting out will cause a loss of a letter grade and funding).

Ms. Lumley then asked the governing council if they had any questions. Mr. White inquired about the nature of recent protests. Ms. Lumley commented that there has been a general lack of information provided to students and parents, and the media is not giving accurate information either. There have been rumors that the PARRC test is harder. The reactions have been fear based and things weren't made clear. Transition years are always a challenge because of resistance to change.

Mr. Raymer commented on the ease of setting up PARRC compared to SBA. Mr. Morgan also agreed and stated, in his opinion as test coordinator/administrator, the computer based PARRC was much easier to manage than the paper book and answer sheet SBA. Ms. Fox recommended a policy be developed for ATC regarding testing and opting out. Mr. Mirabal agreed that the media provided poor information.

Devin Ayers, English teacher, gave his opinion about the practice tests he saw for PARRC. (Teachers are not allowed to look at the actual test.) He felt the practice tests were better quality and in line with common core. They had better, more relevant question and were not an insult to intelligence.

Mr. Morgan used the math component as an example: In the SBA math test, students were tested on various areas of math, whether the student had been taught it or not, with the PARRC test, students are tested at the level they are at. Example: if a student is enrolled in Pre-algebra, they will be tested for competency on pre-algebra, not on geometry or algebra 2.

IV. Public Comment

The governing council received several emails regarding PARRC testing and students whose parents didn't want them to take the test. Ms. Fox invited these individuals to the meeting to speak of their concerns. Parents, students, faculty and community members expressed their concerns, opinions, and observations about PARRC testing at ATC.

V. Action Items

a. Approval of check and warrant for February 2015

Mr. Mirabel then motioned to approve the check and warrant for January 2015, Ms. Fagre seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval account balance report for February 2015

The motion was then made by Mr. Mirabal to approve the check and warrant and account balances for January 2015. Ms. Fagre seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of BAR 071-024-1415-0012 IB

Motion made by Mr. Mirabal to approve BAR 071-024-1415-0012-IB. Mr. Raymer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

d. Approval of BAR 071-024-1415-0013 IB

Motion made by Mr. Mirabal to approve BAR 071-024-1415-0013 IB. Mr. Raymer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

e. Approval of BAR 071-024-1415-0014 T

Motion made by Mr. Mirabal to approve BAR 071-024-1415-0014 T. Mr. Raymer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

f. Approval to negotiate ATC charter with SFPS

Approval of Ms. Lumley and Ms. Fox negotiate contract with SFPS. Mr. Mirabal made the motion to approve. Ms. Fitzgerald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

g. ATC policy regarding opt out provision for PARRC testing

After a brief discussion, it was agreed to table the discussion until more research can be done on the subject.

h. Approval of updates to the ATC technology plan

Mr. Morgan proposed more technology updates to ATC. A new intercom system, passive optical network and more security cameras are in the plan. Mr. Mirabal made the motion to approve. Mr. Raymer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Principal's Announcements

a. Budget planning

Ms. Lumley mentioned that planning for next year's budget is coming up with a draft expected to be done for the April 16th Governing Council meeting.

VII. Council Discussion

a. Swim team continuation

Tabled until April meeting.

b. Start of JV basketball teams

Tabled until April meeting.

c. Use by Council members of SFPS email addresses

Discussion about governing council members having SFPS email addresses for official business.

VIII. Advance Planning

a. Next Meeting: Thursday, April 16, 2015, 5:30p.m.

IX. Meeting Adjourned

a. Meeting adjourned at 8:01p.m.

Tice Fox

Tannis Fox
President

4-16-15

Date

Leslie Fagre

Leslie Fagre
Secretary

4-16-15

Date