

Covenant Keepers Charter School Board Meeting 05.19.14

Meeting called to order at 5:44 p.m.

All board members were present. Others present were Dr. Tatum, Mrs. Clancy, Mrs. Whipps, Mrs. Hill, and Mr. McClinton.

Minutes were accepted as read.

New Business

- Complaint received from Mr. Curtis Freeman a former Substitute teacher. He will be able to attend next board meeting.

Directors Report

- Preparing to finish strong for this school year
- ECS will no longer work with Covenant as a priority school. Really trying to find someone that can really work with the children. Will begin to work with APSRC (Barbra Hunter Cox and team).
- Dee Cox with ECS will still work with Covenant through a side contract.
- Personnel hiring has been going well. Currently running ads and interviewing for the few teachers positions that we have. Most teachers are returning.
- On last Monday, Covenant was listed as a school in Academic Distress. This means that the school had low test scores over the last three years. Specialist from ADE will come out and work with Covenant to see what we need to do in order to be removed.
- Tripp Walter from APSRC will assist with writing the appeal to the State Board of Education regarding Distress label.
- Charter School authorizing board will be the board that the appeal is presented to in the beginning. It could be where the school would have to go straight to the state board in November.
- SIG grant was not received. Dr. Tatum spoke with many different individuals at ADE to try and stir the pot. She wanted to show them that there are flaws in the scoring system.
- Roxie was very vocal in pointing out things that she felt as if were not correct. The team that reviews the application has realized that there are some flaws, and will keep these things in mind for future purposes.
- Filed application preparing to open up a CK North.
- Mr. DonterioPorter is on board with helping prepare things if the application is approved. Covenant has received an award of \$80K, and this will assist in paying him some type of salary to help get the new location ready.
- Dr. Tatum is looking for another space to move her office. After all of the threats and chaos over the last few months she feels it is in her best interest in order to be safe. Ms. Townsend and the board members agree that safety should be first.

In regards to complaints filed by parents:

- Mr. Jones asked does Dr. Tatum feel like the school did everything that they could. Response: During this school year Covenant Administration could have done some things differently in regards to behavior issues. For the upcoming school year all of these issues will be addressed and corrected.
- Ms. Townsend asked about Dr. Tatum using the profanity. Response: Dr. Tatum responded that she did respond to him in a negative manner. It was not to be against him, but merely to get his attention.
- Board recognizes that a great job has been done in record keeping with the discipline folders. Both students have an extensive file that includes numerous forms of documentation to support the school in there decision on removing students from the classroom.
- Mr. McClinton wanted to add that the teachers did want to put the students first. The teachers have been trying to work with these students throughout the year. He tried to do all that he could to get them to go in the right direction. It wasn't fair to allow them continue to disrupt the other students in the classroom. Nothing that had been done leading up to these events helped change the students behavior.
- A lot of the major behavior issues got out of control after benchmarks. The students told the teachers that they did not want to work anymore due to testing being over. Discipline up till this point had been progressive over the school year. The parents were called to meet with the teachers after behavior became unmanageable.
- Mr. Jones asked how will things be different for next year?Response: Clancy stated that all parents will be made to understand the level of discipline, and how things will be handled and tolerated. One major change next year is that testing will be different with testing in March and May. This will cut down on a lot of the down time after testing.
- Dr. Tatum request Ms. Townsend to please contact Kristan Gould to figure out how to proceed with Grievances if parents did not show up for meeting.

Assistant Director-Clancy

- New hires will be sent for next board meeting

Financial Report

- Cash balance was flat from month to month. (See attached report)

Board met in executive session following the meeting.

Final adjournment 7:06 pm

Next meeting will be June 19th, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.