

Boston Arts Academy
September 27, 2004 Board of Trustees Meeting Summary
Location: Assembly Room, Boston Arts Academy

Attending: Tory Bullock, Ann Carter, Fernadina Chan, Joyce Crain, Katherine DeMarco, Michael Douvadjian, Manuel Fernandez, Sandra Gordon, Richard Grubman, Tony James, Todd Krohne, Linda Nathan, Lana Niles-Malcolm, Richard Ortner, Sung-Joon Pai, Sheryl Pollard-Thomas, Jonathan Poorvu, Sue Pucker, Mary Regan, Richard Rudman, Marc Seiden, Kay Sloan, Rick Tagliaferri, Carmen Torres, Barry Weisman

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 pm.

Introductions

All attendees of this meeting were requested to give a brief introduction of themselves. Trustees who were not in attendance will be mailed the materials that were distributed at the meeting.

Student Presentation

Several BAA students were invited to the beginning of the meeting to offer their thoughts on the following question that was given to them in preparation of the meeting.

What challenges and successes have you had at Boston Arts Academy this year?

The students offered a wide variety of responses that were well received by board members.

- Every study made mention of the schedule change and the new Advisory Group and S&E classes. Most found these schedule changes to be positive ones, but the new schedule was a little disconcerting for some students.
- Advisory Group: students enjoy but feel is too short and they don't get to spend enough time with advisors.
- The new Support and Enrichment (S&E) classes are very helpful, especially when studying math.

Sample schedules to be shared with the board at a subsequent meeting.

Chairman's Report

Richard Grubman outlined 3 main initiatives for the forthcoming year:

1. Strategic plan
2. Database of student information
3. Working committees of the Board:
 1. **Development Committee** – Assist the Boston Arts Academy Foundation in it's fundraising endeavors.
 2. **Nominating Committee** – Designed to recruit new members to the Board of Trustees and create appropriate expectations for all members.
 3. **Finance Committee** – Responsible for reviewing and projecting the school's budget.

4. **Ad-Hoc Community Affairs Group** – An informal group available to advise on community-related matters.

Budget Approval

The Trustees reviewed the final budget for this year. A copy of this budget was included in the packets distributed during the meeting. The final draft is very similar to the previous version that was presented and provisionally in June.

After thorough review and discussion, the Trustees approved the budget.

Headmaster's Report

Linda Nathan requested that every Trustee give a copy of the October Newsletter to a friend, co-worker, etc. that is not familiar with the BAA. The goal of this initiative is to inform others about the school.

She also requested that the Trustees read the Handbook and offer feedback to her about it. This will help make this book better and more useful.

On page 2 of the Handbook, there are new school-wide goals created for 2004-2005. Ms. Nathan requested that the Trustees take a look at these goals and offer discussion about them. Both goals were discussed so that all attendees felt comfortable with the language in it.

The Trustees requested that they be provided with more examples of how faculty at the BAA are responding to these goals.

Carmen Torres gave an enrollment summary of the freshman for this year.

420 students applied.

123 students were accepted (1/3 of these students were from Dorchester).

60% were female.

40% were male.

approx. 66% were from the Boston Public School System

approx. 33% were from a private school, parochial or recent residents of Boston.

36% African American

33% Caucasian

23% Latinos

2% Asian

6% Other/unidentified

Below is the showrate percentage of students who were accepted and actually attended.

96% showrate of music students

93% showrate of dance students

100% showrate of theatre students

58% showrate of visual arts students

The 58% showrate for visual arts is being reviewed for how we can improve on this in the future.

Next year's recruitment plan is currently being developed. BAA's goal is to create strategies that increase diversity in the applicant pool and to recruit in a wide variety of communities in Boston. Once this plan is finalized, it will be sent to the Trustees for informational purposes.

Development Report

The annual appeal will be mailed out in the last week of October/first week of November. This year's appeal is special because a Leadership Challenge Match Grant has been established. This grant will match the difference, \$1 for \$2 (50 cents on each dollar) between last year's contribution and this year's gift if you are a new donor, or as a current donor you increase your gift to specified amounts. The match will apply to any gift amount from BAA parents and caregivers.

In the packets that were distributed at the meeting, there were green sheets with a list of donors from last year and one of lapsed donors. Trustees were requested to take a look at these lists and contact Joyce Crain if they recognize any names to which they would be willing to write a simple note. We would like to try to personalize as many appeals as possible and this is a great way to do that.

The first development cultivation breakfast is on November 16th at 8:15 a.m.

The spring annual benefit will be held this year at the Boston Public Library on May 3, 2005. Richard Grubman and his wife, Caroline Mortimer, have agreed to co-chair the event.

The BAA is participating again in the CIBC Miracle Day. This is an opportunity for the school to receive funding if investment traders use CIBC to conduct their trading business on a selected day. Last year, the BAA received \$5,000 from being a part of this program. Please contact Rick Tagliaferri if you can offer assistance with this effort.

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will be on December 6, 2004 from 5:30-7:30 PM.