

Damar Charter Academy
Board Meeting
February 27, 2013
11:30 am
Damar Board Room

Attendance: Greg Johnson, Dr. Jim Dalton, Leta Echelbarger, Rich Harcourt, Lori Veshia, Doug Stewart, Dr. Jim Van Tassel, Karen Snyder, Nicole Lloyd, Chuck Ellis, Tamra Wright, Elaine Showalter and Katie McCoy
The meeting was called to order at 11:50 am.

Packets with the following information were presented to all attendees:

*Board meeting agenda

*Finance Report

- Audit
- Management letter
- Damar Charter Academy school calendar for 2014

*Administrative Report

Greg Johnson opened the meeting and welcomed the guests. Ms. Tamra Wright Liason from the Mayor's office was introduced to the members and staff. The minutes from the December meeting were approved.

Financial Report

Audit Update

The bound copies of the audit were presented to board.

The Audit process has been slow and frustrating. Damar Services has also been disappointed with the current audit firm, specifically around the cost of the audit. Mr. Harcourt recommends that the board accept RFP's from other firms and consider a possible change in our auditor. Motion was made by Dr. Jim Van Tassel and seconded by Ms. Karen Snyder and the following resolution was resolved;

RESOLVED, that Damar Charter Academy will request RFP's from new Audit Firms.

Financial Summary

The December income statement numbers continue to track surprisingly close to the budget. Although some variances exist in different expenses categories, both revenues and operating margin are within \$10,000 of the budget.

The school met with representatives of the Mayor's office (DCA's authorizer) on February 15, 2013, to review the school's financial position. The Mayor's Office (also known as the Office for Education and Innovation or OEI) has cobbled together a matrix of financial test or ratios that they believe high performing schools should meet. The DCA met those tests at the December reporting period.

Building Move

The new school building renovation continues on schedule and close to budget. As expected, the project should be finished relatively close to the original budget projections. Grants from an anonymous donor for cameras coupled with some of the PCSP grant money has allowed for a better than anticipated end product.

Damar's construction crew anticipates turning the school over to the DCA staff the first part of March and the move is scheduled to occur over spring break which begins March 22 and concludes April 5. (Actually, some classrooms are available for the school to begin working in today.)

Damar Services has made the rent payments on the new space that the Academy will use such that the Academy is not paying dual payments thru the construction period. The CLASS move (next door) occurred on time at the end of November as the renovation did not require as many permits as the school.

DCA update

Dr. Dalton and Principal Echelbarger updated the board on the A-F accountability process. DCA will present a written proposal to the Mayor's office which represents a modified A-F model and expectations that will rigorously measure DCA student progress and achievements. DCA has studied the Colorado model and it has several similarities to the grading expectations that DCA could follow. DCA staff will meet with legislative leaders to discuss future options for the academy.

A 2014 school calendar was presented to the members.

The DCA lottery will be April 25, 2013 at 6 pm.

Four Mascot drawings (the DAMAR DRAGONS) were viewed by the members and staff and all were in agreement to combine the four and make a design.

A formal request will be made to board member Latonya Keaton regarding future meetings. She has moved out of state and is unable to physically attend bi monthly meetings.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:35.

