

# Red Lion Christian Academy

## School Board Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2010

- **Attendance**
  - Board: Shannon Dare – non-voting, Patrick Fieger, Rick Emerson, Jim Manning, Paul Brost, Tom Smith, Jamie Kaczowka, Jamie Swalm – non-voting (not present)
  - Guests: Steve Pearl, Ken Howard, Jonathan Graham
  - Parents: 18
  
- **Call to Order**
  - Patrick provided overview of the agenda
    - Meeting Called to Order
    - Devotion & Prayer (Jamie Kaczowka)
    - Administrative Update
    - Spiritual Life Update-Jonathan Graham
    - Open Session Q&A
  
- **Opening Prayer / Devotion - Jamie Kaczowka**
  - The Book of Jonah- Jonah prayed from the belly of the fish. Cross-reference in Psalms...Jonah was in trouble and recognized that he needed God. We never face adversity that is greater than His forgiveness. Jonah knew God's Word...what are we doing to prepare this next generation to deal with adversity through a Scriptural response? As parents of RLCA students, we are trying to do that. The Bible teaching at RLCA is connecting with my son....it is reinforced at home and at church. It takes the community of Christ to help ALL families raise their kids....that is certainly true at RLCA.
  
- **Administration Update-Shannon**
  - In general things are going well
  - Last Thursday night and again on Nov. 17 we will show the "Bema Seat" video. Video details the judgment of the works of Believers....great drama. Worth the hour and twenty minutes.
  - Parent Teacher Confernces and Homecoming weekend this week
  - Craft show scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Enrollment – 727 with 2 new applications pending; continues to climb a bit
  - Information Technology: Steve Pearl leading the IT refresh. New wiring, new server, new phone system....IT issues slowly being resolved.
    - Patrick: Last year was difficult due to our IT challenges-we apologize for the difficulties this presented. Definite improvement this year and looking forward to getting our message out better. Suggested going on the RLCA website and checking out the new site/functionality.
  - Currently planning 2011-2012 calendar...most likely will start a week later next year
  - Finances: Still working on reducing the deficit budget...being good stewards...but need to raise additional funds so we don't impact programs. Strategy is to focus on our marketing efforts to attract new families/students and to raise additional funds.

- Steve Pearl: Soft launch of the online “Tell a Friend Campaign” ...\$5,750 given so far. Marketing of this program will increase over time.
- Final version of DIAA self report will go out this week.
  - Parent Question: Will we hear of DIAA’s decision before it goes public? Concern raised if the negative publicity is affecting admissions to colleges.
  - Steve: We are not having any issues with placing our kids in schools...still very strong. Our academic strength is as strong as any school in the area.
  - Shannon: We will tell you as soon as we can...but unfortunately we can’t control what DIAA does, but we will certainly try to get you the decision as soon as it becomes available.
  - Patrick: We can’t control how DIAA disseminates their information...please keep in mind that their initial investigation letter wasn’t sent to the school, but was mailed to the home addresses of select church members.
  - Parent Question: Is the mountain of paperwork a method of burying them to ensure a delay?
  - Answer: We are providing them what they have asked for. We had to be exhaustive due to the ambiguity of the allegations. They continue to ask for more and more information and this has resulted in an increase in volume.
  - Rick Emerson: DIAA did not accuse of anything...allegations were sent to DIAA via others...this resulted in us having to defend ourselves.
  - Shannon: DIAA has to sort through the information. They will come back and ask questions....not sure when it will be over.
  - Parent Comment: Expect it to show up in the paper.
  - Shannon: We have a communications team to insure consistency and accuracy. Unfortunately, we can’t control how the News Journal will portray the outcome.
- **Jonathan Graham- Director of Spiritual Life**
  - Ran into a UD leader and they said they were excited what we were doing at RLCA after seeing the Outside the Lines...
  - Teaching Ministry 101: Really a Servant Leadership program. Class has all Seniors and 1 sophomore. Big project for first marking period is working on being able to articulate their testimony.
  - Service Projects: Figure out a way to aid and serve another group...ex: aiding orphans...Green Bag Ministry
  - Chapels: starting a small group chapel....involving all faculty in the program. Using 1 Tim 4:12.
    - Prayer Request: Please pray for the formation and fruit of the small groups.
  - Spiritual Renewal Week: January will consist of a more service focus-projects. Want the community to see RLCA students performing service.
  - Will be working more with athletic department. Have experience with this in professional sports for 8 years, now taking this to our football team, but plan on being more visible with all sports. Meeting with the Athletic Director (Ken Howard) to strategically plan for athletics.
    - Patrick Question: Will this plan for extracurricular activities be incorporated into the overall integrated spiritual development school plan?
    - Jonathan: Yes...will be integrated into the curriculum...will work with Ron Cheadle.

- Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan's Purse...will be K-12. Pack shoe boxes to present the Gospel in concert with RLEFC.
  - Parent Question: Have you heard of Teen Challenge? Might be able to get some good speakers.
  - Jonathan...yes, I am familiar with them...will consider it.
  - Parent Question: Do you find that the students have good testimonies...do they fully understand it?
  - Jonathan: Kids are in different places with their testimony...90% can articulate it, but there is an opportunity for them to improve, hence why we are focusing on it.
  - Parent Question: Is there a way to quantify the number of students who are saved. Can this class be the vehicle to take the pulse of the student body's spiritual health?
  - Jonathan: We're working with Shannon/ Ken to develop a survey to get at that understanding...difficult to get to the heart and truth though. What is the true measure of their spiritual life?
  - Shannon: This is the Student Outcomes plan we are putting in place. Galatians 5 is the best measure, but we want them to be able to both articulate it and demonstrate it via their actions/fruit.
  - Patrick: We never want to assume people and in particular our students are saved. Ultimately the school can't fulfill its mission if the student is not Born Again.
- Parent Question: Cell Phones-should cell phones be part of our tactical safety plan? If there was an emergency how will students be able to communicate?
  - Steve Pearl: This is a natural tension between safety and distraction. We have a Safety Team that addresses this...we have dozens of people with cell phones including teachers, but we will consider it. The parent was invited to participate and provide expertise.
- Closing Prayer: Rick Emerson