

RSSAA Joint College/Board Meeting for Collaborative Accreditation Work

March 25, 2021

5:30pm – 7:00pm

College Attendees:

Paul Trombley (Chair), Wendy Abate, Gary Banks, Anne Birney, Rob White, Noelle Frerichs, Peggy Wilson, Abby Kurlfink, Angela Gladstone, Perla Schaeberle, Karen Sheridan, Sian Owen-Cruise, Yoni Paz, Erica Choberka

Board Attendees:

Don Remboski (Chair), Anni Fox-Maniglia, Knut Hill, Elizabeth Head, Daryl Honor, Gary Banks, Jim McCauley, Mike McFall, Heather Rindels, Tim Standke, Paul Trombley

Other Attendees:

Carolyn Raschke

Sian Owen-Cruise called the joint College/Board meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

The goal for this meeting is to begin work on the Accreditation Self Study.

Sian reviewed the agenda and the following items:

- This bifurcated process is a less self-reflected process.
- Schedule/calendar.
- The first draft was written in February 2020 and has been rewritten as of January/March 2021.
- Principle work will be done later.
- We will address all 11 areas over the next 2 months.
- The first, Identity and Independence, will be our focus today
- The final draft will be completed during the summer.
- Due to AWSNA in the second week of September.

Breakout groups were assembled and asked to discuss Mission and Identity.

Input on Mission and Identity:

- Commitment to Waldorf education: concern that we continue to bring Anthroposophical study in all areas: College, Board, Parent/Council, to retain our foundation.
- Professional Development – hoping there are more ways to assist faculty. It is difficult for teachers at their pay level.
- Mission reflects the school well.
- Revise Against All Odds heading.
- Ensure DEI work is mentioned. Possibly wording such as “we educate the child based on her/his developmental moment and the moment in history”
- Be sure to detail Covid-19 impacts
- Wording of last sentence in our mission – “striving to give our graduates” and “lifelong learners”
- For the Handbook: in the “Our commitment to Waldorf education” section, more fully explain Waldorf education and what it means
- Concern about HS faculty not having time and space to have regular studies
- Add DEI work as a bulletpoint also

Input on Policy and Procedure Area One: Independence

- Include local AIMS/ISACS efforts for parent education and admissions
- Collaborative relationships with HRWC, Leslie Science Center, Art Programs held at HS
- Promoting community businesses on our website
- Immunizations – at certain points in their school life??
- Neighbor relations and new initiatives, relationship with previous HS owner
- Title II money, EANS, COVID-19 Teacher Grants, Child Care Grants, Public funding
- COTS – shelter organization
- Dual enrollment between HS and UM
- List investment firms? TIAA Bank, Rudolf Steiner Foundation, Raymond James/McLaren Financial
- Community Farm, Anthroposophical Society
- City of Ann Arbor, Ann Arbor Township
- Corporate Give Back programs: Arbor Farms, Busch's, Kroger – where does this belong?

Sian then introduced and reviewed the AWSNA Self-Assessment Tool

- The tool needs to be completed for each section – starting with B1.
- Each of us will receive a survey asking us to rate the school in these areas.

Remaining questions were answered, everyone was thanked for their time and efforts. The meeting ended at 6:42pm.