

MINUTES OF THE  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FIAFW, INC.  
SCHOOL BOARD OF HIGH POINT ACADEMY – FORT WORTH

October 20, 2020 / 7:00 PM

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the above referenced corporation was held on October 20, 2020 by video conference/teleconference in accordance with Governor Abbott's temporary suspension of Open Meeting Laws. Meeting was called to order by President Connie Barnett at 7:09 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Connie Barnett, B.K. Myles, Pam Hartwell, Jaye Sanford, Nate Starmer

QUORUM PRESENT:

Yes

OTHERS PRESENT:

Katie P. Stellar, Dana Yates, Jana Tennyson, Allyson Solymosy, Heather Houpt, Craig Shreckengast, Alisha Yeager, Jan Taylor, Jenn Leach, Michelle Noskin, Andrew Morales, Meg Sanks, Arliana Richards, Sacha Spoonemore, Sammye Wright.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No

RECEIVE AND APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S):

Approved minutes - September 15, 2020 - Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jaye Sanford (Unanimously Approved).

PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Updates and Discussion of the following:

RECOGNITIONS:

No recognitions at this meeting.

REPORTS:

- **Arliana Richards** – We had several different assessments that just took place on campus. We had beginning of the year assessments for 1st through 3rd grade. We did their assessments through DMAC and they did just math. The reason they did math is we had other reading assessments for

the early childhood grades. K through 2 also did TPRI. Also, 4th through 8th grade took part in the new TEA beginning of the year platform, so that was fully done through Schoolnet. Some tests are being distributed to parents. TPRI parent reports will be sent home this week for Kinder through 2nd grade. The DMAC and TEA platform do not have parent reports, they are more for seeing initially where students are academically. All the results have been sent to admin and teachers. Some platforms like TPRI and DMAC, teachers are able to go in and look at the results themselves. The TEA platform that was 4th through 8th, the data has already been downloaded for those reports and been given out to the teachers.

· **Craig Shreckengast** – The last few weeks have been focused on the changeover at middle/high school to having students in person and those students who are distance learning. Because of the size of our high school and middle school and because of the configuration, we weren't able to dedicate teachers to distance learning separate from in person. All of our teachers are covering both at the same time. It is hard to express how hard and difficult it is to do both at the same time. We had kind of an abbreviated fall athletic season, soccer, cross country, and volleyball. We tried to have that as they came back in person. We appreciate all of the coaches for making that happen. We have a few volleyball games left, cross country has a big meet coming up, and soccer has a few games. We are getting ready to start basketball season. We started the process for social distancing for fans and people coming to games. It will be a real challenge for basketball, those crowds are usually bigger. We are trying to get our procedures ready to do that safely. Craig presented item B on the discussion and action items.

· **Heather Houpt** – We have been focused the last couple of weeks on getting in the swing of in person learning. The kids are doing a great job of following the different health and safety protocols. The teachers are doing a good job of trying to limit any kind of exposure and keep the kids separate, but still make them feel like it's school too. On the tables there at the district office, you are borrowing some of our dividers that we made. Those are on all of our different tables where kids are seated next to one another. Especially with our kinder, 1st and 2nd, because the majority of them do sit at tables, rather than desks. We really appreciate Matt and Glenn for making the frames, and my specials teachers and tutors covering them with vinyl. We have been meeting with the teachers to go over the benchmark data. We have been pleasantly surprised with a lot of it, but there are definitely some areas that need improvement. Jana Godkin and I have been meeting with teams to come up with creative ways to make sure that we are filling all of the gaps that the kids have that we are able to tell from the benchmarks. Teachers started pulling small groups this week. With our table dividers, the horseshoe tables are really only able to sit 3 kids in a small group at a time. In the past they have pulled four to five kids and now they are only able to pull three. We are juggling schedules to make sure all of the guided reading and math is happening. We have a built in RTI period in our schedule and that has been really helpful, that is when dyslexia and tutors have been pulling their kids. We have some kids that are being pulled to the teachers table for guided reading, guided math, and RTI time. We are really hoping that the intensive intervention that we are giving kids is going to pay off in the long run and that we will be able to fill in some of those academic gaps that we are seeing right now. Next week we are having our Red Ribbon Week. Varsity soccer, varsity volleyball, and middle school volleyball all made the playoffs.

· **Allyson Solymosy** – We have spent this month getting the teachers, students, and families acclimated. We are making sure the Covid procedures are being followed and adjusting where needed. We were just spot-checking temperatures, but now we are checking every student as they come in the door. We have moved and added some hallway sanitation stations. I would like to say

thank you to our PTO, they did our k-2. Thank you to Brian and Jerry Berry, Sasha Spoonmoore, Josie Baldry, Victor and Vivian Martin, Laney Stansbury, Stephanie Clayton, Shay Moore, Meg and Michael Sanks. Also, thanks to Glenn Scalf and Matt Woodley, they did our 3-6 dividers. That was well over 100 for each group to work on. The benchmarks have all been given, we are still finishing the reading in one grade. We have been sifting through all that data. Our teachers have been pulling small groups for the last 2 to 3 weeks. With this data we are going in and looking more at breaking down our special pops and areas of intervention for them. We are redistributing our small groups so that it matches the TEKS that have missed so that we can kind of group them in that way and address those needs for each student. So far, the benchmarks look okay. We also have our Red Ribbon Week next week. It has been a month of making sure our kids, families, and teachers are as comfortable as possible and making sure we are taking some of the stress off.

· **Dana Yates** – We don't really do the FSP reporting anymore, at least not for right now. Our attendance will be taking an average of our previous attendance, and if our current attendance is better higher they will use that. Our attendance for the first six weeks as a district, was 97.05%. Campus 1 was at 95.03%, campus 2 was at 96.96%, and campus 3 was at 98.36%. The tricky thing about attendance is that it is not what it used to be, and it is not what it was at the end of last year where students just had to turn something in once a week. Engagement is a huge part of their attendance. For middle and high school there has to be engagement in every class, every day. We still have to abide by the 90% rule. It is tricky tracking all of it. It is extra work for the teachers, and triple the work for our attendance people who are contacting students, parents, and teachers. It is a long process and our attendance people on each campus are doing an amazing job keeping track and making sure all of our kids will be able to have their attendance reported accurately. Saturday school starting will be starting back up soon.

· **Katie Stellar** – I would like to thank our teachers, staff, and admin. They do so much, and I know that each of the principals said that our teachers are juggling multiple things with distance and in person. The amount of work that they are putting in is immense. I think about our teachers and staff and everything that they are doing. Each day they are manage multiple things. I would like to offer a word of thanks and also a word of encouragement. You are appreciated and you may not always feel that way, but I guarantee you that those of us who are separate from the campus - we appreciate the work that you do. We have a great staff across all campuses, and I am very thankful for the work that everyone does because in many ways, it makes our work a lot easier. Thank you for all that you do. You are the reason we are successful as a charter district. Without all of you, we would not see success, so thanks. The asynchronous plan was submitted prior to the end of September and it was approved in early October, retroactive to the start of school. Update on the 8300 campus - the new building. This is our kindergarten and first grade in White Settlement. The application for permit has been submitted with the city of White Settlement for the additional interior construction. I believe that the proposal for the placement of mods is in conjunction with that permit application. We had some folks that came out to locate the utilities that run beneath the parking lot and I believe they have marked that parking lot in the areas where the utilities run. I have had some folks that have reached out to me with questions about when we would be getting the fencing put up. We are getting bids on that. The mods are moved in sections and they will have to be brought onto the property. I have been cautioned that it may not be good to put the fence up until the mods are on the property, at least in their sections, because if we put fencing on Western Hills Blvd., which is the front of the property, then we may very well have to take it down to put the mods in. Also, I know that I have told you that we would have access-controlled entry located at all exterior doors, that is all in

place. All of our networking is in place at the new campus, it is fiber optic. Our campus on Crowley Road has had all their networking upgraded with additional access points added for new students and for connectivity traffic we will have on site. The goal is that we will have 1GB, high speed fiber optic at each campus. The campus at 1256 has already had all of their networking upgraded, in terms of additional access points too. We have a PA system in place at 1256 that allows for an all call which is A, B, C, and D building, and I think you can do all of the buildings separately. The biggest challenge there is that the elementary can't receive the calls separate from the middle and high school. Over the last couple of weeks, we have had updates to our websites, and we have had a few challenges, we may still be working out a few things. We are working to make that better. Katie presented item C on discussion and action items.

**Jana Tennyson** – presented Financial Report - Motion made by Jaye Sanford, 2<sup>nd</sup> by B.K. Myles (Unanimously Approved). Presented item A on discussion and action items.

#### DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

The following Corporate Actions were taken by appropriate motions duly made, seconded, and adopted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors entitled to vote (unless a higher voting approval is stated)

- a) Board Approval of Final 2019-2020 Budget – Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jaye Sanford (Unanimously Approved).
- b) Discussion and Approval of Onsite Academic Success Initiative - Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by B.K. Myles (1 opposed, 4 approved, Passed).
- c) Proposal and Discussion Regarding Middle School - No vote necessary.
- d) Executive Session (Personnel/Financial) – Motion made to enter executive session at 8:45 p.m. by Jaye Sanford, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nate Starmer (Unanimously Approved).
- e) Reconvene from Executive Session/Vote on items discussed in Executive Session – No Items voted on during this meeting. Motion made to exit executive session at 9:20 p.m. by Nate Starmer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by B.K. Myles (Unanimously Approved).
- f) Request(s) by Board Member(s) for item(s) to be placed on agenda for next board meeting – None at this time

#### **Adjourn**

Motion made by Pam Hartwell 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jaye Sanford to adjourn meeting at 9:23 p.m. (Unanimously Approved).

#### **Adjournment Approved**

Minutes submitted and certified by President Connie Barnett

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Connie Barnett, Board President