

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

December 15, 2020 / 7:00 PM

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the above referenced corporation was held on December 15, 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 7:05 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

QUORUM PRESENT:

Yes

OTHERS PRESENT:

Katie P. Stellar, Dana Yates, Jana Tennyson, Allyson Solymosy, Heather Houpt, Craig Shreckengast, Alisha Yeager, Karen Emery, Meg Sanks, Sheryl Crohan, Sunny Myles, Ashley Wroth, Jennifer Knight, Sammye Wright, LeAwna Springer, Michaela Massacci, Mandy Martin, Michelle Noskin, Stepheney Pollard.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No

RECEIVE AND APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S):

Approved minutes - November 17, 2020 - Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nate Starmer (Unanimously Approved).

PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Updates and Discussion of the following:

RECOGNITIONS:

No recognitions.

REPORTS:

**Allyson Solymosy** – Our 6th graders food drive raised over 1400 canned/dry goods for the community. We were able to serve 49 kids and 23 families with our Angel tree. We broke our fundraising record receiving over \$2,000, so we were able to provide for 25 families and they could choose between an \$80 gift card for meals, or a \$75 gift card and a \$10 gift card from QT, if they were traveling they could have some relief from gas. We completed our instructional surveys for the next 6 weeks. Fourteen families have changed their choice for instruction, 7 changing from in-person

to distance and 7 changing from distance learning to in-person instruction. We remain 25% distant learners and 75% in-person.

**Heather Houpt** – Hope Goodwin and Gail Hartsfield have been working on our Angel tree, we will be able to serve 40+ kids. Our instructional surveys have come back with 29 choosing to go back distance and so we are still about 50% of distance learners on our campus. Without having all the festivities that we normally schedule during the holidays; we are doing a really great job of continuing with fun dress up days and activities that we can do with social distancing. The kids are still very engaged and making huge progress. I am excited when we get back in the middle of January to do the middle of the year testing just to see what reading levels are and TPRI. Having our elementary do so much guided reading, even our online teachers are doing guided reading groups every day, I think we are going to see some positive results from the middle of the year testing.

**Craig Shreckengast** – We have about 75% in-person and 25% at home and we have maintained that. We did push to have some of the students that were not doing well with distance learning to come back, and we were able to get some to come back. We still have a group of students that have not come back to in-person. Our biggest challenge has been our staff being out on quarantine on top of the normal number of absences. One major positive is the Monday distance learning, it has been very helpful for our teachers. This is the time of year that we are talking about college acceptance. This year we have 38 seniors and so far, 34 have been accepted to a university or college. Sixteen of those students have been accepted to 2 or more schools. Jenice Garza has done a wonderful job at helping those students get their applications together and turned in. If you visit the D building, we have a college wall to showcase our students and what schools they have been accepted to. Ms. Garza started using a program called SCOIR, which allows tracking of applications, ability to electronically send transcript and records to all of the schools. This year we have this program for free, but next year I think it will be \$1.50 a student. It is definitely a good program. We are also excited to see the scholarships that the kids are being offered.

**Dana Yates** – Our next six weeks ends this Friday. We are halfway through this year, but it is time to get ready for next year. The 2021-2022 applications will be posted on the website and go live January 6th at 8:00 am. We already have people that are contacting us interested in applying for next year. Intent to returns for our current students will start going out the week of January 11th - 15th. Our PEIMS submission was done on time, I will have to clean up some data on that.

**Katie Stellar** – We have proposed locations for the modulars at the 8300 West Freeway campus and there are probably 2 or 3 options that are viable based on the cost of development. We are trying to work through some of those to determine which is best. I am excited to announce that we have hired a full time campus security guard at the 8300 campus. Not only will he be able to monitor the campus at drop off and pick up, but also during the day. There should be an opportunity to use him for events like basketball games and once we are able to have performances again. We do have all of the door access security in place as well as the cameras on that campus. We are still waiting on the fence which will come to pass once we determine where the modulars will be and the other things that go into play with that building project. I sat in on a middle/ high school faculty meeting yesterday and was so impressed with the staff that we have. I can't say enough about all the good things that are going on with all of our staff. As parents I would hope that everyone feels secure and confident in the ability of the High Point staff to manage whatever comes their way. There is no shortage of hiccups, question marks, and challenges with this school year. I would like to give kudos to the spirit of all of our staff and the courage they show in facing the unknown and their unwavering efforts at educating our kids and trying to do their absolute best each and every day. I am very grateful and thankful for them.

**Jana Tennyson** – I want to give kudos to our staff as well. I have seen the emails that come out the days that we are short on Subs and it is amazing to see how quickly everyone steps up to help each other. We appreciate our staff so much. Kudos also to our principals for continuing to find ways to acknowledge those efforts and to Dana and Katie. I know this year we are not going to have the big

Christmas party so they found a way to provide lunch for the entire staff so that they could at least acknowledge during this time that we do appreciate them so much and everything that they have gone through and everything that they have done this year. TEA opened up another window of opportunity for reimbursement in technology and so I have been working with CSS and we were able to go back to anything that was purchased after May 21st, which included some of our technology purchases that were not covered in the first phase of reimbursement that TEA offered. We had the opportunity to submit those invoices for reimbursement and we were able to submit a fairly large sum that will be reimbursed up to 75% and possibly more.

**Karen Emery** – presented Financial Report - Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by B.K. Myles (Unanimously Approved).

#### 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) Presentation of 2020 Financial Audit (expected to be ready for January meeting)
- b) Discussion of 8300 West Freeway - Campus 003 Property (Discussed in Executive Session)
- c) Periodic Asynchronous Instruction Days (No vote necessary)
- d) Executive Session (Personnel/Financial) – Motion made to enter executive session at 7:59 p.m. by Nate Starmer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by B.K. Myles (Unanimously Approved).
- e) Reconvene to General Session from Executive Session at 8:58 pm - Motion made by Nate Starmer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jaye Sanford (unanimously Approved).
- f) Vote on Executive Session item – Item #1: motion made for approval by Pam Hartwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nate Starmer (Unanimously Approved).

#### **Adjourn**

Motion made by B.K. Myles, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pam Hartwell; Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. (Unanimously Approved).

#### **Adjournment Approved**

Minutes submitted and certified by President Connie Barnett



Connie Barnett

Connie Barnett, Board President