

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

November 17, 2020 / 7:00 PM

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the above referenced corporation was held on November 17, 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 7:04 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

QUORUM PRESENT:

Yes

OTHERS PRESENT:

Katie P. Stellar, Dana Yates, Jana Tennyson, Allyson Solymosy, Heather Houpt, Craig Shreckengast, Alisha Yeager, Karen Emery, Jan Taylor, Jenn Leach, Michelle Noskin, Andrew Morales, Ashley Ellis, Shawn Tate, Whitney Walker, Jenn Leach, Steve Skidmore, Madison Fuentes, Christina Rokocz, Mandy Martin, Ashley Wroth, Raphael Cohen, Matthew Herring, Amy Ross, Benjamin Small, Michelle Massacci, Tresha Johnson.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No

RECEIVE AND APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S):

Approved minutes - October 20, 2020 - Motion made by Jaye Sanford, 2nd by Pam Hartwell (Unanimously Approved).

PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Updates and Discussion of the following:

RECOGNITIONS:

No official recognitions. Congratulations to Varsity Volleyball players Tori Houpt and Skylar King for receiving All-State Honors.

REPORTS:

· **Allyson Solymosy** – Our staff has completed all of the dyslexia training. Kristi Ballard has been working on getting the mobile food pantry together. Also, she created a Kindness Tree, which can be found on our Instagram page. I wanted to recognize some of our 6th graders: Caitlyn Houpt, Christian

Belcher, Kyra James, Kate Henderson.. They came up with an idea to benefit our community and set up a campus wide canned food drive. They set up a meeting and did an amazing job presenting their plans. The can drive is from the 9th thru 20th. The homeroom class that has the most will win a free dress day. Tomorrow night the board has been invited to meet with our new teachers.

· **Heather Houpt** – Jana, Diana, and I have almost finished our walk throughs of the staff. It has been really neat seeing all of the things that they are doing. Because we can't have the kids so close together, they are using dividers at the teachers tables and it is going really well. We sent a notification yesterday about the angel tree that we are going to do in December to help out some of the families that have experienced financial hardship. Within just a few hours of the notification going out we have had 22 families sign up. That will fill a great need and we are excited to be able to do that. With our clubs and family engagement being cancelled due to social distancing we are trying to come up with some virtual ideas to have clubs.

· **Craig Shreckengast** – Last board meeting we adopted a policy for students that are distance learners, which would require them to come back to campus. Two weeks before the changeover, I sent 26 notices out to students that were failing more than one class. Of those students, 14 came back to campus, and 12 filed for medical exemption. From talking to the teachers, those 14 are doing much better than they were doing online. We were doing a rotating A/B schedule. We have modified the schedule, the high school schedule has been modified so that Mondays are a distance learning day for all students. Then we have an A/B schedule which is Tuesday / Thursday for one set of classes and Wednesday / Friday for the others. The schedule is now set in that pattern for the rest of the year. So far lots of good feedback from teachers. For winter sports we are mainly in basketball, right now we are on a normal basketball schedule. We have a Varsity high school boys team, a JV high school boys team and a middle school boys team . Girls JV high school team and a girls middle school team. We didn't have enough high school girls for a Varsity schedule, so we are not going to have a Varsity team. They have all started playing and we're trying to ensure social distancing during the games and that is a challenge having to limit the families coming to see the games. So far it has been successful. We have 38 seniors this year, we have had 18 of those students accepted to colleges, which is very exciting.

· **Dana Yates** – We are not actually reporting attendance numbers to TEA since all schools are under the "Hold Harmless" ruling. Our attendance clerks have been staying on top of that and keeping track of it anyway, which is helpful to the Principals for tracking attendance. For our total charter district for the last six weeks, October 3rd to November 6th, we had a 95.44% attendance rate. Campus 001 HS/MS had 93.77%. Campus 002 Crowley Rd Elementary had 94.43%, and Campus 003 Elementary off of Jim Wright Fwy was at 97.23%. Our attendance clerks are working extremely hard to make sure that the data that we have is accurate. PEIMS submission is due December 3rd and I am getting all of the reports prepared for that.

· **Katie Stellar** – Because we currently lease our facilities, we are subject to property taxes with Tarrant Appraisal District. We have our attorneys working on a solution to provide tax relief for us. It looks like we may be making a little headway with that and as a result, we are very hopeful. I would like to give an update on the 8300 property. We have been interviewing for campus security personnel. The intent is to hire one person that would work full time. I would like to thank Joe Morrow for heading up the interviews for that position. He is one of our Assistant Principals and is also in charge of Safety and Security. American Charter Development will officially close on the property on December 9th, that will be when we can take down the for sale/ for lease sign. In terms of fencing, we are still uncertain on a date for install. I pointed out last meeting that we are waiting to see when and where the modulares will be located. I do believe that it would be definitely after December 9th, once that property is closed on, however they are still trying to clarify the location of those modulares, and I don't know what it will take to bring them on to the property.

· **Jana Tennyson** – I have been working with Katie, working with our lawyers to try to get the tax exemption pushed through, that would be a big deal for us. We are doing the best we can to work with them and see that through and make some headway and I believe we are. This time of year is filled

with requests and compliance submissions that are due to TEA. We are working on getting all of the submissions done for the business side. In terms of our audit, we are finalizing what the auditors require from us. Our hope is that we will have an audit presentation for our December meeting with Randy Walker.

Karen Emery – presented Financial Report - Motion made by B.K. Myles, 2nd by Pam Hartwell (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) Update By-Laws re: Virtual Meetings and Address Change - per Auditor Recommendation – Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2nd by Jaye Sanford (Unanimously Approved).
- b) Conflict of Interest Forms - No vote necessary.
- c) Governance Forms - Board Member Update (if needed) - No vote necessary.
- d) Distance Learning Discussion with the Board - Thanksgiving and Christmas – No vote necessary.
- e) Executive Session (Personnel/Financial) – No executive session this meeting.
- 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 2nd by Jaye Sanford to adjourn meeting at 8:08 p.m. (Unanimously Approved).

Adjournment Approved

Minutes submitted and certified by President Connie Barnett



Connie Barnett, Board President