

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

January 19, 2021 / 7:00 PM

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the above referenced corporation was held on January 19, 2021 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 7:02 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Connie Barnett, Pam Hartwell, Nate Starmer

QUORUM PRESENT:

Yes

OTHERS PRESENT:

Katie P. Stellar, Dana Yates, Jana Tennyson, Allyson Solymosy, Heather Houpt, Craig Shreckengast, Alisha Yeager, Karen Emery, Mandy Martin, Katherine Kinsler, Katya Volkova, Randy Walker.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No

RECEIVE AND APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S):

Approved minutes - December 15, 2020 - Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2nd by Nate Starmer (Unanimously Approved).

PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Updates and Discussion of the following:

RECOGNITIONS:

School Board Appreciation Month

REPORTS:

- **Allyson Solymosy** – This week we are wrapping up TPRI for K-2, which also serves as our dyslexia screening. We hired two new teachers. We are setting up for benchmark testing. Because the benchmark is a proctored test we are having distance learners come on campus, keeping them separate from in-person learners.
- **Heather Houpt** – Currently we are doing distance learning. Last Wednesday we only had 163 students present, which is 34% of our student body. We will come back this week. TPRI testing has been a challenge, but we are working through it and getting it done. Next week is benchmark testing. We have sent out surveys to distance learners and about half are willing to come in at staggered times to keep them separate from in-person students. We are already looking towards Kindergarten graduation and awards programs and planning on some of those things, utilizing outside time.
- **Craig Shreckengast** – We are on a Monday distance learning and a four day in-person schedule, and it is going well. We are still struggling with some distance learners and encouraging those students to come back in-person. For our benchmark testing, we are having our distance learners come to school on a Monday, while our in-person students are doing distance learning. Basketball season has about three weeks left and our teams are doing really well. Of our 38 seniors we have only 2 that have not yet been accepted to colleges.
- **Dana Yates** – Last time we talked about how we would be opening up applications for the 2021 - 2022 school year and doing our intent to returns for our current students. As of right now with a total of 1,529 students: 904 will be returning, 12 are not returning, and 613 are undecided. I will continue to send out emails to them on a weekly basis. We have a little over 200 applications that have been turned in. Our lottery will be held on March

3rd, more information to come on the details. We are going to try to come up with a way to stream or video the lottery so that parents will be able to view it. Attendance for December was rough, we dropped to 92.28% for attendance for the 3rd six weeks. Each campus is contacting families to work to get attendance back up.

- **Katie Stellar** – With the challenges that Covid has presented to all schools, our teachers have been managing distance learners and in-person learners along with the concerns of exposure. The ones that are healthy and present pull extra duty covering additional classes, it is a big strain on them. It's very difficult when you are short on subs and short on staff because we have had some staff turnover. With all that in mind, I have sent out two surveys. The first was a mid-year survey asking things such as did they feel supported, appreciated, did they feel they had the necessary tools to do their job. The second survey was an observation of the campus leadership. I am trying to get a feel of what the climate of each campus is and what could be made stronger in terms of professionalism, interpersonal relationships, building those relationships and leadership skills. I know there's a lot of folks that feel like things are going well or as well as can be expected. But I also know that there are a lot of folks who feel they need more. I want to try to address those concerns and help them feel like they are heard, so we are working on that. As of yesterday morning, they have started the interior final phase at the 8300 West Freeway campus. They are putting up the walls which will allow them to separate the construction workers from the student and staff traffic. I sent out an email with safety measures that are being followed for the construction workers background checks, separation from students, and additional monitoring during the day with our on-site security guard. I am still awaiting updates for the modulars.
- **Jana Tennyson** – PPRP has been extended allowing us to submit additional items for technology reimbursement, we are working on that. We have several data applications due this month we are continuing to work on, and continuing to work on our HR onboarding to get all spots filled and everything taken care of.
- **Karen Emery** – presented Financial Report - Motion made by Nate Starmer, 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) Approval of 2020 Financial Audit (Presented by Randy Walker) - Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2nd by Nate Starmer (Unanimously Approved).
- b) Charter FIRST Meeting set for Tuesday, January 26, 2021 @ 7pm via Zoom
- c) Discussion and Approval of Campuses and Grade Levels Served (Non-Expansion Amendment) - Motion made by Nate Starmer, 2nd by Pam Hartwell (Unanimously Approved).
- d) Discussion and Approval of Proposed Enrollment Policy Changes - Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2nd by Nate Starmer (Unanimously Approved).
- e) Discussion and Approval of Proposed Employee Handbook Amendment (Personnel)
- f) Approval of Resolution to Authorize the Extension of FFCRA Leave (Families First Coronavirus Relief Act) (Financial)
- g) Executive Session (Personnel/Financial) – Motion made to enter executive session at 8:13 p.m. by Nate Starmer, 2nd by Pam Hartwell (Unanimously Approved).
- h) Reconvene to General Session from Executive Session at 9:11 pm - Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2nd by Nate Starmer (Unanimously Approved).

Vote on Executive Session items –

- Item #1 (e)- Approval of Proposed Employee Handbook Amendment: Motion made by Nate Starmer, 2nd by Pam Hartwell (Unanimously Approved).
- Item #2 (f) - Approval of Resolution to Authorize the Extension of FFCRA Leave: Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2nd by Nate Starmer (Unanimously Approved).

Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn made by Nate Starmer, 2nd by Pam Hartwell (Unanimously Approved).

Adjournment Approved

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Minutes submitted and certified by President Connie Barnett.

Connie Barnett, Board President