

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

June 15, 2021 / 6:00 PM

A called meeting of the Board of Directors of the above referenced corporation was held on June 15, 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 6:28 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

QUORUM PRESENT:

Yes

OTHERS PRESENT:

Katie P. Stellar, Jana Tennyson, Dana Yates, Heather Houpt, Diana Greenhouse, Christy Mock, Mandy Martin, Karen Emery, Meg Sanks

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

RECEIVE AND APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S):

Approved minutes to include any and all misspelling - May 18, 2021 - Motion made by Pam Hartwell, 2nd by Jaye Sanford (Unanimously Approved).

PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Updates and Discussion of the following:

RECOGNITIONS:

None

REPORTS:

- **Katie Stellar** – I'd like to start first and foremost with staffing. We've got a couple of folks on the meeting tonight via zoom, who have moved into new positions. I would like to share those changes with the board. Diana Greenhouse, who was the AP at Campus 002, will be the principal at Campus 002. She will have two APs with her. One of them, who is new to High Point, is at the meeting today. Her name is Christy Mock. Jana Godkin, who was an AP this past school year will continue as an AP at Campus 002.

Heather Houpt has moved to be the principal at Campus 003. Heather took Macaila Misaki, who was a teacher on Campus 002, and is finishing her M.A.Ed. Macaila will be in a certification program to

complete her administrator's certification and act as an AP on Campus 003. Arliana Armstrong is also moving into an AP position at Campus 003.

For Campus 001, Middle School/High School, Craig Shreckengast will remain the principal, Wendy Woodley as the assistant principal. Ashley Deason will join them at 001 as an assistant principal.

Let's move to our report on the building progress. At this time, the general contractor has all the items addressed in response to the city when the permit request was submitted. The GC will be resubmitting to the city for permit approval. They expect the resubmission to occur mid to end of next week. I believe that the city has a period of time, possibly 30 days, in which to approve the submission. I was told in conversation with the developer and GC that once the permits are issued, the project will be completed within six months. Knowing that, I made preparations to keep the second through fifth grade classes, currently at 1256 Jim Wright Freeway, in the classrooms they're in now so they will not have to move. Instead, Craig has offered 10 of his classes to move and I've talked with Cris Powell at Castleberry Baptist Church. They are willing to allow our high schoolers to use 10 classrooms plus their auditorium space for music or choir. I have gotten the go ahead from the church since Pastor Powell met with his board of deacons. Craig feels because they're high schoolers, they should be able to manage the walk back and forth. This will offer some relief to the elementary students.

The portable buildings were purchased from Ramtech, located in Mansfield. They have been ready for well over a year. We have kept them in storage on the Ramtech property, however, Ramtech has said that the buildings need to be moved immediately. We knew that day was coming. It was proposed that the buildings be located on the 8300 property until they are ready to be placed on Campus 003. I had a conversation with our developer this past week and told them that the only way that we could move these units on site was to rent: temporary construction type fencing, locks, chains, and the fence screen that you can't see through. We will also want security cameras. After reviewing the property, they anticipate that the modular buildings can be placed in the middle section of the parking lot. Joe Morrow and Heather Houtt measured and walked the parking lot to ensure the drop off and dismissal process could still occur. Parents had raised concerns in the last meeting about a play space/playground. I've asked Joe Morrow to get some quotes on temporary construction type chain link fencing with a protective screen shield, to limit the view, so that we can designate an interim play space at 8300 until we have everything completely finished. We are looking at some different options for the kids to play on. I do not think it would be a playground in the true sense of the word. But it should alleviate some of the concerns that the parents have voiced. The last thing we want is the illusion we were more concerned about protecting the buildings than our students, since we had said we needed to wait on the fencing.

With the sixth to seventh month timeline from the date of permits, the agreement with Castleberry Baptist Church covers the variables we may encounter as we finish this project. The agreement gives a set number of months and then month-to-month leasing after that. I think we're in good stead in lieu of the situation.

Lastly, Arliana Armstrong, who is our district testing coordinator, has gotten the STAAR scores back. And she pulled together a spreadsheet that gives the percentages of our performance from 2019 and 2021. Since we did not have testing in spring 2020, the comparisons show our last two testing periods. I asked Heather if she would talk to us about the elementary scores. Also, if Craig does not join us tonight, Heather will also give information for the high school scores.

- **Heather Houtt:** We can start with 002 just in case Craig is able to join us.

Campus 002: For the most part, there were some declines this year in some of the overall grades.

Third grade: Reading in 2019 was at 78% and now in 2021 it has gone down to 50%.

One thing I did notice as a real positive was in Math. Our third grade meets standard in 2019 was 25%. Those same kids were fifth graders this year and their meets standard scores were up to 53%.

The same thing happened with fourth grade. The fourth grade Math in 2019 was 30% with those children as sixth graders are now at 38%. We had some improvement there.

We see the same occurrence among the masters achieved in 2019 at 8%. As fifth graders we had 9% of the students achieve the master's level. In 2019, fourth grade was at 11%. Now sixth graders on Campus 002, are at 15%. It is good to see some improvement there.

We didn't have fifth and sixth grade the first year. But just looking at a comparison of third grade for this year versus 2019, there was a decline. When you look at their scores for Reading and Math for 2021 and really compare them with our third and fourth graders, the first year (2019), we do see growth. I think the students that have been with us and received different interventions over the last two years are definitely making improvements.

The third grade at 003 did outstanding. If you look at both their Math and their Reading scores, especially in comparison to the other grades, they did really well this year. For third grade Math, 80% of them were in approaches, and 29% were meets. The 003 third graders who are now fifth graders, when you look at the meets column, have improved from 35% to 43% in Reading. And the fourth graders that were 27% in 2019 are now the sixth graders that improved to 33%. So again, we are seeing growth across the years.

Overall, though, we can tell that scores were down. In talking to some people from other districts, that's a trend that a lot of the state is seeing. And I think many different things dealing with COVID account for that. We also have to remember this is the first time these kids have taken an online test versus on paper. We feel this kind of changes some of the normal techniques and way that you teach them. Trying to do the cubes method or breaking things down just on the computer is now totally a new approach. Yes, there are highlighting tools and drawing tools, but it's just different than actually doing it by hand. This is how the kids practiced this year. This will be something we address in the next testing years. Staff has talked about what interventions need to be in place for next year. We hope to hire a testing interventionist for both campuses, to help us in addition to our normal tutoring program. Jana, Katie among others have been a part of these discussions.

Looking at the middle school/high school, we see a lot of the same types of trends. If you look at middle school Math as a whole, it was less than it was in 2019.

Eighth grade Social Studies was down this year too. However, all of the rest of middle school actually went up. I feel like that is a positive thing.

Looking at the EOC's: Biology, Algebra 1 and English 2 went down a little bit.

English 2 and Algebra went down quite a bit. I mean, it is hard to maintain 100% all the time.

And then English 1 and Social Studies both went up at the high school level.

There are definitely some positives when dealing with our STAAR scores. There is also room for growth and improvement.

This comparison has provided good data points and as we continue to breakdown comparison information it will provide further information for better decisions. I have the breakdown in place for Campus 002. We saw a big difference. Our kids that were in-person did really well, like in the high

80's and even 90%. I think that just also points to the fact that in-person learning really was a benefit to many kids. We had some distance kids that did well too, but just as a whole, the ones that were in person did better than the ones that were distance. We had only a few on Campus 002, maybe five or less that didn't test. One final thought, I failed to mention, our fourth-grade score seemed a little lower than some of the other grades. Fourth grade was also the grade that was most quarantined.

Campus 003 had quite a few more kids that did not test. Just as I was breaking down scores, I noticed there were a lot of kids who did not have scores there. And I have no idea how they did with the EOC's. I would assume most of them took it because they are required to pass the EOC's for graduation. But I think everybody is fully aware of that and knows what needs to be done to make sure we get back to proper good, effective practices and try to fill in as many gaps as we can with our students.

I have been meeting with staff. I've been scheduling with all of the staff at 003 trying to set up meetings with them. I know many of them from my previous time over there. But there's still a handful that I don't know. I feel like we're further ahead than maybe we've ever been at this point of the year. Diana, Jana, Michaela and I have a lot of our PD stuff figured out for August. Master schedules are complete. I'm starting to work on the class list, at 003, just to get those finished so we can get everything inputted into PowerSchool. We want the teachers to get those lists early on and be ready. This year, I feel like we have made really good progress with things.

Hiring is going pretty well. We still have just a few teacher spots, interventionist, and a couple of other key positions that we're looking for. Over the last couple of weeks, we have been doing the summer camp. HPA sponsored an academic camp for our Kinder through fourth graders at 003 and they are getting anywhere from one to three weeks of interventions. Very small groups with no one group larger than eight.

- **Diana Greenhouse** – We've been busy at 002 with summer camps. We are running about 90 kids including our fifth graders who didn't pass reading and math.

We're getting the building ready and looking forward to 'Meet the Teacher.' Some parents have popped in and already introduced themselves.

Summer hasn't even really started and we're already thinking about next year; it's pretty exciting. The planning phase is a really exciting process.

- **Dana Yates** – We ended the year with 96.12% for attendance. That is definitely a plus! Our administrators and attendance clerks worked very hard to get the kids who were struggling with connectivity back on campus. I think that really helped. Some kids did fantastic with the remote learning environment while others struggled and it was not a good choice for them. Our admin team worked to get them back on campus. We ended our sixth six weeks at 96.12% for the year.

At this time, we have 1,503 that are either completely registered or almost registered (they're missing maybe one or two things). We have 137 that either have just been offered placement or they have not responded yet. Our registrar's on each campus are reaching out to them one last time this week. The deadline for registration was this past Friday. We are doing final communications and then will begin using our waitlist to fill open spots. We currently have 242 students on the waitlist, K through 12. Some grade levels are full and some are not. Also, each campus has different grade levels of applicants.

Amy Hudson does attendance for Campuses 001 and 003. She is an amazing rock star because she does a fantastic job of counseling the young parents to tracking every period for our middle and high schoolers for credit. Shannon Beauchamp is the registrar and attendance clerk for Campus 002. She

has also done a fantastic job. TEA changed some reporting items throughout the year. One of them was a truancy record in real time. Amy's and Shannon's days worked are complete for the 2020-21 year, but I didn't have all the data in and asked them to send their spreadsheets so that I can finish the TEA report. Their spreadsheets were so detailed, I was able to complete everything necessary towards our truancy prevention measures and hearings that were required by TEA for this submission.

- **Jana Tennyson** – We are applying for the ESSER 2 and ESSER 3. The process has been started and they are telling us exactly what we have to do to complete those applications. There are several things that we must develop.
 - A Use of Funds Plan
 - Public notification
 - Stakeholder Engagement- surveys and documented input

These items will be due at the end of July.

I attended a webinar today on an expansion of the operation connectivity. Knowing funds are available to help us meet the needs we encounter will be tremendous.

Sharon Benka and I have been working on our federal dollars and spending codes.

Karen Emory and I talked today and we're going to meet. We've identified a few areas that will allow some spending to provide needed items. Karen will explain more on this later. We still have 2019-2020 funds to get caught up on and use.

We also had a meeting this week with AIM, our vendor that provides some of our special education services and consulting. I wanted to say that they distinctly noticed our two coordinators and said what a great job these ladies do. (Bonnie Brannon and Stephanie Pollard) It's not very typical that we have an outside vendor come in and rave about someone the way they have done.

We are working on continuing the budget. Everything has been submitted for the bond process, it is in review and we're waiting to hear back from them to meet again.
As always, this time of year we are consumed with HR and onboarding.

- **Karen Emery** – Presented Financial Report - Motion made by Jaye Sanford, 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 Proposed 2021-2022 Annual Budget - Motion made by B.K. Myles, 2nd by Jaye Sanford: (Unanimously Approved).
- b) Executive Session (Personnel/Financial) – Motion made to enter Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. by Pam Hartwell, 2nd by B.K. Myles (Unanimously Approved).
- c) Reconvene from Executive Session/Vote on items discussed in Executive Session – Motion made to exit Executive Session at 9:22 pm by Jaye Sanford, 2nd by B.K. Myles (Unanimously Approved).

d) 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 B.K. Myles, 2nd by Jaye Sanford (Unanimously Approved); Meeting adjourned at 9:23PM

Adjournment Approved

Minutes submitted and certified by President Connie Barnett

Connie Barnett, Board President