



Governing Board

Meeting Minutes for 09/18/2023 | 6:30p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Call to order at 6:32 p.m. by Adam Caskey.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Adam Caskey, Zennie Lynch, Walter Bell, Kelly Mandy, Veronica Johnson, Neal Christian, Allison Nealy, Danny Brewington

I. Administrative Functions

- A. Motion to approve agenda
Zennie Lynch – 1st; Walter Bell – 2nd. Unanimous Approval.
- B. Motion to approve meeting minutes from Board Meeting on August 10, 2023
Kelly Mandy – 1st; Walter Bell – 2nd. Unanimous Approval.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Academic Related Reports

Head of School Report

Highlights

Golf Team. For the season, they are 4th out of 13 teams after 3 matches.

Boosterthon. Annual fundraiser begins tomorrow.

Enrollment

Current enrollment stands at 556. We are nearly at capacity in every classroom.

Academics

Digital Learning Day on September 15, 2023.

- Mastery Connect PD helps teachers to identify good resources for teaching a particular standard rather than the teachers having to search for them. There is a Dashboard that shows how each student is doing on each standard.
- Write Score PD. This is a writing resource. Three times per year our students will take a writing benchmark and this tool is aligned with the GA Milestones. The feedback will identify which areas each student needs to work on. This removes a lot of burden on teachers to grade a lot of writing assignments and puts it on the company.

- AIMS Web PD. This is a progress monitoring tool that is used to ensure that students are working on goals or if they need interventions on the MTSS Tiers.

Finance

Boosterthon. The company comes in daily and gets the students excited. Giveaways are being given out. Looking to get corporate sponsors.

Discussing other fundraisers like hosting a 5K and Capital Campaign.

October FTE count looks solid. Focus is to retain those students through the end of the year. The DOEs system will open October 3, 2023 for BIA to begin to enter data. We budgeted for 540 students.

Surety Bond. Everyone's signatures were needed for this and that should now be secured.

Operations

Nothing new to report.

Academic Committee

Relatively light on data but that is in line with where we are at this stage in the school year.

Reviewed iReady and MAP data. We do not yet utilize the personalized learning plans with MAP. Goal will be to eventually transition completely to MAP testing as it is more nationally normed and is a more challenging test.

IV. Finance Committee Report – Zennie Lynch

Met on Sept. 5, 2023.

Financial statements have been provided in our Board packets.

Many of our expenses are front-loaded and we pay a large principal and interest payment at the beginning of the year. For the month of July, we show a net loss of ~\$347K at the Operating Income line and ~\$340K of that loss is related to the interest payment that is paid on July 1. We also made our once per year principal payment of \$175K. This is an "accounting loss", not a "cash loss".

School's liquidity remains strong with just over \$3.1M cash in the bank and ~200 days of cash on hand.

Ongoing audit expectations. Focus is on completing things on time and with few to no errors. No current concerns.

Credit card process discussed. Goal is to get merchant card process up and running. We are also working on a petty cash policy.

Debt policy to be finalized soon and will come before the Board for approval in the next meeting or two.

V. **Operations Committee Report – Walter Bell**

Met on Sept. 12, 2023.

Facility and space needs discussed.

Working with the church to secure space within the church for 1 hour per day for an Algebra I class and other uses. A proposal has been sent to the church. Some changes to the space have been recommended, however the church has not yet addressed them. T-Mobile has provided the school with 75 Hot Spots for free for needy families. Some of the fixes are fairly small and simple. The larger items still need to be addressed. We do need more space, but we are making due without it at the moment. We now have two cheerleading squads that require space. \$500/month for the church's gym.

With the increased enrollment, we have had to get creative with the use of furniture as we await new furniture to arrive.

Replacement of vinyl flooring on the stairs.

Projector purchase upcoming from Boosterthon funds raised a few years back. K-2 projectors will be installed later this week.

Arrow Exterminating had to help remove a raccoon that got into the school.

There is an odor in parts of the building. There is a sewage line that runs parallel to the school. Classroom is almost unusable. Fred Schroer is working with an environmental expert to try to address.

Awning discussed. Neal has discussed with Southern Mechanical. Discussion of making it more of an interior space rather than a breezeway to the gym. This could also help with energy escaping during transitions between the buildings. Awaiting a report from Southern Mechanical on the costs.

Water bill has recently tripled. Southern Mechanical noted damage to water pump and other HVAC systems.

Staffing. We are short 1 Special Ed teacher. Still on the hunt to fill this position.

After school offerings. Art, Fitness, Cooking classes, Grandparents' day, Golf are all some of the new offerings we have.

Technology. 1/3 of the computers we have been expecting have been delivered. We will finally be installing a projector in the cafeteria.

Parent communication discussed.

PikMyKid. This is the tool that we use to make announcements at carpool pickup. Student names are no longer called out loud.

Intruder drill coming up soon.

Data Reports. We have the Title 1 survey complete. Emergency plans submitted. Child Find is done. IDEA amendments are now complete.

Discussions around BIA recruitment and working within the local community.

VI. **Governance Committee Report – Adam Caskey**

No new updates to report.

VII. **Consultant’s Report (Ed Innovation Partners) – Danny Brewington, Allison Nealy**

Cross-functional monitoring is coming up soon.

Federal programs team is being supported by Allison. Some discussions around student challenges and needs. It is particularly challenging to recruit SPED teachers and college education programs just are not pushing through a lot of new candidates. We have salary challenges when compared with surrounding districts

VIII. **Old Business**

None.

IX. **New Business**

Federal programs budget. Will be discussed in Executive Session.

Site monitoring update. Due in four hours and we are on target to meet the deadline.

X. **Executive Session**

Motion to move into Executive Session

Veronica Johnson – 1st; Walter Bell – 2nd. Unanimous approval.

Motion to move out of Executive Session

Walter Bell – 1st; Veronica Johnson – 2nd. Unanimous approval.

XI. **Required Actions following Executive Session**

Motion to approve slate of new hires:

- Paula Sanhueza – Spanish I / ESOL Teacher
- Eden Beach – Special Ed Teacher

Walter Bell – 1st; Veronica Johnson – 2nd. Unanimous approval.

Motion to approve the recommendations as presented by the Head of School with regards to federal expenditures

Walter Bell – 1st; Veronica Johnson – 2nd. Unanimous approval.

XII. **Next Regular Meeting: October 19, 2023**

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn at 7:44p.m.

Walter Bell – 1st; Zennie Lynch – 2nd. Unanimous Approval