

Meeting Minutes for the Board of Directors
The Experiential School of Greensboro
Tuesday, June 8th, 2021
5:30pm
Virtual/Zoom

Meeting ID: 856 6568 3740

Passcode: 222690

Present: Leila Villaverde, Yacine Kout, Roy Carter, Greg Bush, Jay Hawkins, Travis Laughlin, Fred Adams

Guests: Beth Meyer, Anna Martinek-Jenne, Kerri Clavette, Jennifer, Sayonara Herrera

Leila Villaverde called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Approval of May Board Meeting Minutes

Leila Villaverde called for a motion to approve the agenda and the May minutes. Travis Laughlin motioned to approve the agenda and the minutes from May, Greg Bush seconded, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment - none

Report from Executive Director

Tracy Shaw shared the current enrollment was the same at 307. Enrollment is 365 for next year. She is asking families to please let us know if they are moving, that number may fluctuate, but we will meet projection of 356.

20-21 MAP Scores:

Reading: beginning of year = 67.8%; middle of year = 61.6%; end of year = 54.7%

Math: beginning of year: 55.1%, middle of year = 39.6%, end of year = 42.3%

Tracy Shaw shared possible reasons for dip in reading including timing of assessments (close to EOG's/testing fatigue, students guessing and rushing). She also noted there was a dip in math mid-year but, came up some at end of year.

EOG Scores:

- 18% of students (grades 3-8) are considered proficient in Math
- 100% of students who took Math I EOC scored a 3 or higher
- 57% of students (grades 5 & 8) are considered proficient in Science
- 36% of 3rd graders are considered proficient in Reading-However In reporting for Good Cause Exemption-this allows if a student does not perform well on the Reading EOG3 we can use other data to show the student is proficient. Based on our first round of MAP Growth Reading

Assessments 70% of our third graders were performing at the proficient level as deemed by the state.

- 97% of students participated in the EOG
- Drilling down on the data, 40% of the students were one or two points below what was considered proficient
- Reading EOG scores will not be available for grades 4-8 until August 2021

95% of students demonstrated growth based on Progress Reports and Report Cards throughout the year.

As of June 4th-Average Daily Attendance is 91%. This is based on Morning Meeting attendance.

Tracy Shaw shared the following additional points:

- Presented to the Charter School Advisory Board on Monday, June 7th. Had to present data regarding our “D” grade from 2018-2019, where we are today, and where we hope to be going. They had minimal questions for us. Leila Villaverde was also there. Leila Villaverde noted that Tracy Shaw was prepared to answer all questions and that it went well.
- 8th grade celebration is set for July 9th @ 6:30 PM.
- 50 students will be participating in Summer Program- 131 students were invited to participate
- State has voted on returning to mClass for Grades K-3 for the Read to Achieve Data
 - Grades 4-8 will continue to use MAP Growth for Reading and Math
 - Grade K-3 will continue to use MAP for Math
 - Grades 5 and 8 will continue to use MAP for Science
- State has also voted to implement Science of Reading as the literacy program. Unclear at this point and time if Charter schools will also be required to use this program.
- Also unclear as to State’s expectations for schools next year regarding COVID (is hybrid and option? Can we offer a virtual option for families not comfortable with in person?). We are prepared to be in person in the Fall. Of course, this could change depending on vaccination availability, rates, etc.

Joanna Lower asked about the air ventilation in the building. Leila Villaverde shared that 23 air handlers with air purification filters have been installed. They filter the air for allergens and odors and improve the quality of the air. Tracy Shaw noted that you could tell a difference in the air in the building with these installed.

Standing Committee Reports

- Curriculum Committee report –Yacine Kout reported that the Curriculum Committee met on June 1 and went over three main points: 1) class/assessment data and how to collect it and improve that process; 2) vertical and horizontal planning for next year, meaning Curriculum Facilitators assisting in houses and aligning instruction from one house to the next, 3) feedback from Curriculum Facilitators on how to further support their work, ideas on implementing readers/writers workshop and PD, school-wide approach to math instruction, and professional instruction to do their job better.
- Finance Committee report – Greg Bush reported that the finance committee met and looked at budget from last year, we started with a deficit, noticed some redundancy, and looked at moving things around, and were able to balance the budget moving into next year.

- Grievance Committee report – did not meet.

Old Business - none

New Business

1. Approval of 2021-2022 proposed budget

Leila Villaverde shared that this was the first year where we plateau for revenue, enrollment stays constant, what it should have been this year, and staffing should stay pretty well the same, so this is a true picture of budget and what activity we need for grants and fundraising because will not increase with revenue/students. Questions? Hearing none, Leila Villaverde entertained a motion to accept the budget, Fred Adams moved to accept the budget, Greg Bushed seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Policy revisions

Leila Villaverde noted that there were 3 policies that needed revision based on conversation during curriculum committee meeting: Policy 803 – classroom assessment to make sure that was aligned with both quantitative and qualitative data, formal and informal data, acceleration, and scaffolding needs, and continuing to work on portfolio as we move to face to face. Policy 804 – aligning timeline with trimesters, starting next year, narrative at end of year. Policy 805 - promotion and retention, key items that needed to be consistent for making decision for students, not made lightly, involving teachers, and quantitative and qualitative data. Leila Villaverde asked for questions or comments.

Yacine Kout noted that he had a few questions. He asked if these policies reflect updated practices, how long these practices were updated, how long it took us to update the policy? Leila Villaverde shared that after the first year we updated the policies slightly, since then there have been a lot of changes in reporting student outcomes, too many from our perspective, it leveled off when we moved to trimesters, but then things changed to electronic with the pandemic so probably a year lag. Also, last summer we went through the whole policy handbook and revised policies, and these were overlooked. We also addressed policies related to Covid Guidance with an addendum. Joanna Lower noted that she believed these revisions are clearer and more interpretable. Leila Villaverde added that there is a balance to clarity and not being too constricting so, it's a work in progress. Leila Villaverde called for a motion to approve the revisions to Policy 803, 804, and 805. Joanna Lower motioned to approve the policy revisions, Travis Laughlin seconded, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion of vaccine requirements

Leila Villaverde shared that she had checked in with our attorney regarding requiring staff to be vaccinated for next year as an employer. At this time there is no guidance for students. Joanna Lower noted that given teachers work with the 5-11 population at they are unable to be vaccinated currently that we should require vaccinations (with the legal exemptions). Yacine concurred. Jay Hawkins shared that he was having a hard time with requiring versus recommending due to religious and cultural differences. Leila Villaverde clarified that religious and medical exemptions are already legislated. Jay Hawkins asked what the staff's opinion? Tracy Shaw shared that they have all gotten vaccinated except

for two who are making plans to get vaccinated. Leila Villaverde shared that we can table this if we need more time and that she wanted to bring this up so folks could have enough time. It is June so we do have time. Yacine Kout stated to Jay Hawkin's point, we need to see the list of exemptions, what it includes, but what's key here, we all think it is needed. Jay Hawkins added I'm all about safety, required versus strongly recommend, but we need to be ready for push back if there is push back. Travis Laughlin shared in thinking about the window of time, accessibility, providing clinics at the school for anyone eligible including students. Leila Villaverde noted that at this time with students we can only recommend, but as a side note we require vaccinations at different points, and for college, but have not heard requirements for vaccine like this one but can offer anyways to facilitate. Leila Villaverde noted that we will table for next month and get a list of the exemptions. Yacine Kout noted that if we do require it, we have to think about the consequences for people who may not meet the requirement.

Leila Villaverde noted that next we would be voting to go into closed session and she could move guests into a waiting room.

4. Leila Villaverde called for motion to go into closed session to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes and to consider qualifications of prospective employees per GS. Travis Laughlin motioned to go into closed session for the reasons stated, Jay Hawkins seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried. We entered closed session at 6:02 p.m. and exited closed session at 8:20 p.m.

Leila Villaverde called for a motion to vote on the decisions made during closed session. Travis Laughlin motion to vote on the decisions made during closed session, Jay Hawkins seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried.

Announcements – none.

Leila Villaverde called for a motion to adjourn. Roy Carter motioned to adjourn, Fred Adams seconded, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously. Leila Villaverde adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m.