



GOVERNING COUNCIL

Regular Meeting of the Southwest Preparatory Learning Center Governing Council on

Thursday, January 28, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Aaron Redd, Marvin Larsen, DeEtte Peterson, James Burton

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Alissa Mavridis

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE

Jonas Cossey, Maria Foster, Lisa Mora

PUBLIC

Jennifer Vigil

Note – Due to COVID-19 and social distancing regulations, this meeting was held using Zoom Video Conferencing.

Note - Governing Board members visually raised their hand when saying, “All in Favor” when voting and during roll calls.

These minutes were approved on **February 18, 2021**

By a vote of **X** yes ___ no ___ absent ___ abstained

Aaron Redd President

Tonya McCullough Secretary

I. Call to Order

By Aaron Redd

Thursday, January 28, 2021, at 5:01 PM

Regular Meeting of the Governing Council for Southwest Preparatory Learning Centers

Meeting held via Zoom and hosted by Jonas Cossey

A. Roll Call

Tonya called Aaron Redd, Alissa Mavridis (absent), Marvin Larsen, DeEtte Peterson, and James Burton

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Aaron Redd

C. Adoption of the Agenda*

Motion by Aaron Redd that we ADOPT the Agenda

Seconded by James Burton

Carried All in Favor

D. Review / Approval of Minutes from December 17, 2020, Regular Meeting*

Motion by Aaron Redd to APPROVE the December minutes

Seconded by Marvin Larsen

Carried All in Favor

II. Financial Update

A. Finance Committee Report (Committee met January 28, 2021, at 4:30 pm)

The finance committee met and went over all the reports and expenditures, which looked good. Marvin said they went over all the financials. Things are going great. Our cash on hand increased and expenditures are looking good.

B. Budget Adjustment Requests*

Jennifer explained the following BARS to the Board.

1. SPLC_BAR_530-000-2021-0014-IB: This BAR is to budget in the award per HEPA Air Purification Final Award Memo. The Function was Operations & Maintenance of the Plant.

2. SPLC_BAR_530-000-2021-0015-M: This BAR is to adjust the budget for current spending. The Function is Instruction.

Motion by Aaron Redd to APPROVE BARs 14-IB and 15-M

Seconded by Marvin Larsen

Carried All in Favor

C. Business Office Report

Maria said the business office is very busy. She asked the Board what they wanted to hear from her as she oversees several functions. Aaron suggested she work with Jonas to determine what policy type issues they felt the Board would need to be aware of and brought to their level.

Maria reported they are taking care of the roof of the Spanish portable. They are also getting stipends ready for staff.

III. Public Comment

(5 minutes per individual with the right to allow more time from Governing Council President)

IV. Ongoing Governing Body Business Matters

A. Review of 2019-2020 PEC Authorized Performance Report

Jonas went over the PEC Authorized Performance Review with the Board, which was a reflection on last year's site visit. He highlighted several areas within the document and focused on the requested follow up areas and how the school addressed and explained them. Board members asked questions throughout and Jonas was able to answer and clarify all inquiries.

B. Election of Finance Committee Chair*

Jonas and the Board discussed if they needed to vote on a chair for the Finance Committee and agreed they should. James and Aaron are currently on the Finance Committee. After a brief Board discussion, Marvin nominated himself as the Chair.

Motion by Aaron Redd to elect Marvin as the Finance Committee Chair

Seconded by James Burton

Carried All in Favor

V. SPLC Administrative Reports

A. Head Administrator Report and Summary

1. Annual Site Visit

Jonas reported our next site visit will be mid to late February. They will be conducting virtual file reviews of SAT, Special Education, and employee files. They will also relook at the outcomes and updates from our last visit.

2. Structured Literacy Fund

Jonas gave the Board a brief background of the fund and explained we were given money through SEG to create a structured literacy program. Jonas and other school leaders have pushed back. There is no autonomy to operate as a mission specific school because they are dictating what kind of reading program schools should have. Jonas explained he filled out the application but he will try to find a way to expend the funds that meet our needs. He does not want them to assign a curriculum that doesn't serve our student populations.

3. Teacher Evaluation System

Jonas explained that we are in our 2nd year of using the Elevate program for our teacher evaluations. He is currently conducting walk-throughs and providing employees' feedback. He said this year we may not be doing full evaluations as teachers will not receive a summative report. This could potentially affect our teachers with little teaching experience as they are still required to level up.

4. State Testing

Jonas stated the PED had said they would be allowing schools to apply for a waiver for federally mandated high stakes testing; however, the waiver was not filed. This could be a logistical issue especially if we remain remote as it will create confusing data that we cannot track when students do not attend school.

5. School Safety Plan

Jonas explained the School Safety Plan was originally due in December but is now due March 1st. However, the PED has failed to provide training for the threat litigation portion. Once we can get the training in place our plan will be updated. We have already updated our surveillance systems and intruder protection plan, and have made upgrades to the building and cameras.

6. Return to Hybrid

Jonas said the Governor announced on Tuesday all students could resume on-site learning on February 8th. The statements made were misleading and schools are still unclear on how to proceed. This is only the case for a few select schools that were already in hybrid mode, had site visits, and had upgraded their HVAC. Jonas shared that due to the age of our building we cannot upgrade to the required MERV 13 filters, and are unable to put HEPA filters in all our classrooms. Additionally, we do not have windows for clean air requirements, and social distancing would be challenging as we share the building and bus with the high school. Jonas shared that our staff completed a wellness survey, which concluded at least 30% of staff were not willing to return to the building due to underlying medical conditions or not wanting to put other family members at risk. Some staff members expressed they would like to be vaccinated first or wait three to five weeks to see how other schools do and see what epidemiology suggests.

7. Background Checks

Jonas stated we covered this topic in the Performance Report. He added we are in compliance and have our own ability to pull criminal checks. We just cannot view them yet.

B. Dean of Students Report

1. Website

Lisa said they are making minor adjustments. They added financials to the website and applications and new announcements have been posted.

2. Social/Emotional Learning Sub-Grant

Lisa informed the Board they have applied for a social/emotional learning grant for \$10k to be used for our SE curriculum. The selection process is underway and they have a few ideas on how to spend the grant if awarded, which will need to be used by June 30th.

3. Student Devices

Lisa said they have distributed 122 devices, many that are new laptops, and there are zero students on the waitlist. They are making minor adjustments as students find they need to disable/enable some settings. They may be reissuing more new laptops due to some not working with one of our instructional programs.

4. Attendance

Lisa shared that she ran all attendance reports today. Eight students are receiving attendance interventions. Some students have improved in their attendance and have dropped down a tier. Four new students are in the highest tier (chronically

absent) which places 23 students in this tier. We continue to hold meetings and teachers are providing outreach. Unfortunately, some of these students' parents are reluctant to attend meetings.

C. IT Report

Jonas read the IT report from Tim: We have filed our E-Rate application for July 2021 to June 2022. We have no bids for our Internet provider yet. We are currently using Century Link but are hoping to get a bid from a different provider. We are working with Microsoft for our Lenovo laptops and getting other issues resolved.

VI. Closed Session*

(Public will be moved into the waiting room during this portion.)

A. Limited personnel matters as permitted under Section 10-15-1(H) (7) NMSA 1978, specifically to address Head Administrator contract extension.

Motion by Aaron Redd that we GO INTO Closed Session and that the Board will discuss limited personnel matters as permitted under Section 10-15-1(H) (7) NMSA 1978, specifically to address Head Administrator contract extension.

Seconded by Marvin Larsen

Carried All in Favor

Roll Call

Tonya called Aaron Redd, Alissa Mavridis (absent), Marvin Larsen, DeEtte Peterson, and James Burton

Closed Session began at 5:58

VII. Open Session*

Motion by Aaron Redd that we GO BACK INTO Open Session and that the Board engaged in discussions regarding limited personnel matters as permitted under Section 10-15-1(H) (7) NMSA 1978, specifically to address Head Administrator contract extension.

Seconded by DeEtte Peterson

Carried All in Favor

Roll Call

Tonya called Aaron Redd, Alissa Mavridis (absent), Marvin Larsen, DeEtte Peterson, and James Burton.

Open Session began at 6:08

VIII. New Business Matters

A. The date for the next Regular SPLC Governing Council Meeting – scheduled for Thursday, February 18, 2021, at 5:00 pm.

IX. Adjournment*

Motion by Aaron Redd to ADJOURN

Seconded by DeEtte Peterson

Carried All in Favor

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Note: * Indicates Action / Approved Item

If you are an individual with a disability who requires a reader, amplifier, qualified sign interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact Tonya McCullough at tmccullough@sslc-nm.com or (505) 363-4875 at least one week before the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats.