



**GOVERNING COUNCIL**

Regular Meeting of the SAMS Academy Governing Council on Friday, January 20, 2023

via Zoom.us

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Larry Kennedy, Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Brandy Bond, and Alex Carothers (late @2:08 pm)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mike Romo

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Bridget Barrett, Amanda Catanzaro, Lauren Chavez, Sean Fry and Kelly Callahan

**PUBLIC**

none

These minutes were approved on 2/17/2023

By a vote of 7 yes 0 no 1 absent 0 abstained

[Signature] President

[Signature] Secretary

**I. Call to Order**

Larry Kennedy called to order the Regular Meeting of the Governing Council for the Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics, and Science Academy on January 20, 2023 at 2:03 p.m. on Zoom.us.

**A. Roll Call**

Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Brandy Bond, and Larry Kennedy.

**B. Adoption of the Agenda\***

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mike Deveraux made a motion to approve the agenda. Farrah Nickerson seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Brandy Bond, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. Review/Approval of Minutes from December 9, 2022 Special Meeting\***

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the December 9, 2022 Special Meeting. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 9, 2022 Special Meeting. Brandy Bond seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Brandy Bond, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

**II. Public Comment**

Larry Kennedy asked Bridget Barrett and Amanda Catanzaro if there was any public comment. There were no public comments.

Alex Carothers entered the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

**III. Ongoing Business Matters**

**A. Aviation Program Update**

Dr. Lauren Chavez presented that they have flown about 16.5 hours since last meeting. Three students are scheduled take their check rides, the first is February 6<sup>th</sup>. Three 10<sup>th</sup> graders passed the FAA knowledge exam. The airplane is running fine. The Redbird SIM and smaller SIMS have all been moved into the new building. One student earned their drone license over break and another brand new student to SAMS received the drone scholarship. Young Eagles event is

scheduled for February 4<sup>th</sup> (correction from printed report). Nothing new to report regarding CAP but now that we are settling in the new building, that will hopefully get up and running. Shared monthly expenses and hangar rental fees which went up slightly to \$357/month. Question was asked about the RedBird completion status. The new part is in the aviation room, we just need to find some time to try and finalize the set-up and see if it works now that we have full power. Just trying to find the time right now to get that completed.

**B. Facility Update**

Larry Kennedy stated that we are promised the Certificate of Occupancy (CO) by end of business day today. Fire marshal final inspection is scheduled for 3:00 PM. Discussion about back-up plan if the school cannot be opened on Monday. Teacher's are ready to be back and hopefully kids will be in the building on Monday.

**C. SAMS Wellness Committee Update**

Laura Kohr presented and shared there are no updates this month as the focus has been on the move and getting that completed. Building took precedence. Next priority is to work on the mission statement. Alex is working on a timeline of milestones. Kelly Callahan stated that this is great and that this committee is always moving forward and working on continuous improvement.

**IV. Administrative Update**

**A. Student Achievement Update**

Bridget Barrett presented the Academics update and student progress numbers including breakdown of grades from semester one. We have set-up a Friday support classes for students that are struggling. In What's Happening, shared information about the move and awaiting the CO. During this period of remote learning time, teacher's reached out to every sponsor student to make sure that schedules were correct and students had what they needed to be successful. Discussion around the Air Force JROTC at Volcano Vista requesting the use of the SIM. Discussion about creating an MOU and bringing that to the board for approval before this takes place.

Current enrollment numbers are 286 and we are receiving new applications all the time.

Staff completed a professional development around "Meeting the Moment: Recognizing Racism through Recognition and Response."

There are no reported cases of COVID since we have been remote.

Shared Mission Minute; Joy Garrett is very excited to see our new school building. We will be having a Grand Opening/Open House very soon.

Laura Kohr asked if teachers were communicating with students only or with parents during the remote learning time. Discussion was that it depended on the

teacher, but that the expectation was to connect with the student. Administration shared that we are moving to a new communication platform, SwiftK12, that will allow for easier messaging to families. Board stated that they would like to have more communications from the teachers to the families/parents and hear from all the teachers, not just the sponsor teacher. Discussion around teachers sharing expectations with students and families at the beginning of each semester.

Alex Carothers stated that KOT filming is ready and excited to come to the schools Grand Opening. Board members should send Ms. Barrett any contacts that they believe should receive an invitation to the Grand Opening.

Farrah Nickerson asked questions about the JROTC from Volcano Vista wanting to use the SIM. Wanted to know who pays for damages if it gets broken? Would the MOU be approved by the GC prior to use? Would there be a charge for them to use? Discussion about allowing them to use the SIM at all and how does that benefit SAMS Academy? Vetting should take place and questions should be asked before we agree to any use from outside.

## **V. New Business Matters**

### **A. Bode Aviation Contract\***

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to table this until next meeting so that the contract could be shared with Bode following changes proposed by legal counsel. Farrah Nickerson made the motion to table the Bode Aviation Contract until next meeting. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Brandy Bond, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

### **B. PSFA Project Closeout\***

Amanda Catanzaro presented information regarding the closeout of two previous years of PSFA project funding. Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to allow board president to sign PSFA Project Award letters. Farrah Nickerson made the motion. Brandy Bond seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Brandy Bond, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

### **C. School Safety Plan\***

Mike Deveraux left the meeting at 2:56 p.m.

Amanda Catanzaro shared the School Safety Plan that was designed with assistance from Paul Aguilar. This plan will be submitted to the PED. Farrah Nickerson requested that the photo on the front cover be updated prior to submission. Larry Kennedy asked for a motion for the approval of the School

Safety Plan as written with an update to front cover picture. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Brandy Bond, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

**D. Inventory Disposal List\***

Amanda Catanzaro requested this be tabled until next meeting. Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to table this discussion until next meeting. Alex Carothers made the motion. Farrah Nickerson seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Brandy Bond, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

**E. Lease Purchase Agreement First Amendment Update**

Larry Kennedy shared that the LPA Amendment was approved by PED. Larry signed it on 1/5/2023 and sent it to Steve Nakamura who signed it on 1/16/2023.

**VI. Governing Council Development**

**A. Discussion with Kelly Callahan**

Kelly congratulated everyone on the new building. The Governing Council is sitting at 6 hours completed of required training for the year.

**B. SAMS Academy Governing Council Bylaws and Board Policy Discussion**

Larry Kennedy wanted to make sure that they get updated on the website. Ms. Barrett said that she is working on cleaning up the final document that was approved and will then get it posted.

**C. Strategic Planning Discussion**

1. New Facility Construction- completed
2. Mission Statement Revision- Wellness Committee is working on this
3. Aerospace Curriculum Implementation to Align with New Mission Statement- Wellness Committee is working on this
4. Planning and Preparation for Charter Renewal- Kelly Callahan shared PEC Charter Renewal Application Process Overview. Many elements are based on the site visit documentation that takes place annually. First thing to decide is if the school is planning on continuing with their current authorizer, in SAMS case, PEC. The application is due by statute on 10/1 but we should ask for that to be clarified because the PEC/CSD packet states due 9/15.  
Discussion around reasons for non-renewal. Material violations, not having substantial progress towards performance data that matches your charter goals, failing to meet fiscal management, or violation of provision of the law. Negotiation of terms of the contract and creating mission specific goals will follow the charter renewal hearing.

Kelly Callahan suggested that we check in with CSD and find out if SAMS Academy is on an expedited renewal.

For this semester, the main focus should be on getting the required parent and staff signatures of support. These are based on 120 day from SY23. If we are having any kind of event, we should try to get as many signatures as possible. Students over the age of 18 can sign for themselves.

## **VII. Finance Report**

### **A. Business Office Operations Update**

Sean Fry presented that SAMS Academy has received 51.14% of budgeted Operational revenue and expended 36.40% of budget through the end of the month. Expenditures are on track for the year. SAMS Academy is waiting on just under \$300,000 in reimbursements.

### **B. Voucher Approvals\***

Sean Fry presented the Voucher Approvals for November 2022. Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the Voucher Approvals. Farrah Nickerson made the motion. Laura Kohr seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Brandy Bond, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Sean Fry presented the Voucher Approvals for December 2022. Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the Voucher Approvals. Farrah Nickerson made the motion. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Brandy Bond, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

### **C. Bank Reconciliation\***

Sean Fry presented the Bank Reconciliations for November 2022. Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the Bank Reconciliations. Farrah Nickerson made the motion. Laura Kohr seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Brandy Bond, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

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**D. Budget Adjustment Requests\***

Sean Fry presented the BARs. BAR 2223-24346-0014-T is a transfer BAR of CRRSA funds. \$20,000 to be used on the new Chromebooks that were purchased for student use. BAR 2223-11000-0015-I is an increase BAR for the LANL Foundation who provided funding for students to attend the Governor's STEM Challenge in the amount of \$750. BAR 2223-11000-0016-IB is an initial budget for the Career Technical Education Program in the amount of \$6,832 to be used on paying a small portion of the salaries and benefits of STEM teacher. BAR 2323-23000-0017-I is an initial BAR in the amount of \$10,000 from student lab fees to be used on instructional materials online digital subscriptions. BAR 2223-26113-0018-I is an initial BAR in the amount of \$2,467 from E-rate to be used against expenditures already spent on the project.

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the described BARs. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the BARs. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Brandy Bond, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

**VIII. Announcements**

The next meeting of the governing council will be a regular meeting scheduled for February 17, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. in the new building.

**IX. Adjournment\***

Larry Kennedy called for a motion to adjourn. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to adjourn. Brandy Bond seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Laura Kohr, Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Brandy Bond, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

The regular meeting of the Governing Council for the Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics and Science Academy adjourned on January 20, 2023 on zoom.us at 3:45 p.m.

