



MEETING MINUTES

UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF GOVERNORS
6525 W 18TH STREET · GREELEY, CO 80634 · 970-506-7000

**Wednesday, September 14, 2022
Main Building Room 1414**

Board Members Present: Jake Daggett, Eric Fitzsimons, Ryan Mayeda, Justin Nelson, Jake Pierce, Thomas M. Roche, Tina Whitcomb, Amanda Haas (Faculty Rep), Jaemason Long (Student Rep), Staff Present: Jennifer Weaver, David Jones, Kyle Schuyler

To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/pax-zbxo-bzk> Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 929-367-8924 and enter this PIN: 357 800 190#

6:00 P.M. Regular Board Meeting

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

- Call to order at 6:00

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA WITH MOVING PERSONNEL FROM CONSENT AGENDA TO ACTION ITEMS - THOMAS (JAKE) PASSED

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 [AUGUST 10, 2022](#)

- MOTION TO APPROVE - TINA (THOMAS) PASSED

3.2 [AUGUST 26TH, 2022](#)

- MOTION TO APPROVE - ERIC (JAKE) PASSED

4.0 COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

- CHRISTIAN IS A PARENT AT UNIVERSITY AND ADDRESSES THE BOARD CONCERNING THE CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS POLICY. HE DOESN'T SEE ANYTHING "BROKEN" WITH THE SYSTEM AND IS WONDERING WHY THE BOARD IS DISCUSSING IT. HE IS CONCERNED THAT THE POLICY IS TOO VAGUE. REGARDING THE CLUBS POLICY, HE IS CONCERNED THAT POLITICS ARE DRIVING THE CLUB POLICY.

- ETHAN BRATT ADDRESSES THE BOARD ON A PROFESSIONAL LEVEL AS A THERAPIST. HE WAS APPROACHED BY PARENTS WITH CONCERN. PARENTS ARE CONCERNED THAT THE CLUB “PRISM” IS BEING TARGETED SPECIFICALLY. HE SPEAKS TO THE RISK OF REMOVING A CLUB THAT PROVIDES A SAFE PLACE FOR STUDENTS WITH A HIGH SUICIDE RISK. HE STATES A STRONG POINT AGAINST STUDENT EXCLUSION AND THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY.
- SEAN WYATT ADDRESSES THE BOARD ON BEHALF OF THE HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TEAM. THEY EXPRESS THE NEED FOR A SOFTBALL FIELD AND VOLUNTEER THEIR SUPPORT TO HELP GET THE BALL ROLLING. SHAN PERSONALLY VOLUNTEERED TO BE A PART OF THE FACILITIES COMMITTEE.
- ALEC KOROLAINEN IS A STUDENT AND WANTED TO ADDRESS THE BOARD REGARDING THE CLUB POLICY AND THE CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS POLICY. HE EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR THE CLUB POLICY AND SHARES THAT RESTRICTION IS THE WRONG DIRECTION. REGARDING THE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES POLICY, HE DOESN'T BELIEVE THAT ISSUES ARE PRESENTED UNFAIRLY OR BIASED. HE SHARES SUPPORT FOR THE TEACHERS THAT ARE INVOLVED WITH THESE CLUBS AND HOW THEY HANDLE THESE ISSUES WELL.
- MESCINNA KOROLAINEN ADDRESSES THE BOARD AND EXPRESSES THAT THE BOARD SHOULD TAKE MORE THAN TWO READINGS BEFORE POLICIES GO TO A VOTE. SHE SHARES THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR A POLICY COMMITTEE. SHE ALSO SHARES HER SUPPORT FOR THE CLUBS AND THE COMMUNITY THEY OFFER TO STUDENTS. SHE IS ALSO IN FAVOR OF KEEPING THE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES POLICY THE WAY IT IS. SHE IS AGAINST RESTRICTION AND CENSORSHIP.

5.0 Booster Club & USPTO

- Marlin reports to the board regarding the Booster's financials. He also shares plans to fix problems in the school's concession stands. There have been a few issues with the booster club taxes and they are currently getting caught up. There has been a decision to discontinue the bingo program and Marlin expresses the need to keep bingo going. Marlin also updates the Board regarding raffles and the license that goes with sports teams running raffles. Eric asks about other fundraising methods. Marlin shares how some of that is up to the coaches being creative. Concessions have been a big part and bingo has been in effect since 1996. Tina shares how the Booster Club is in a tough spot and shares the need for the board to support the booster club. Jake Peirce asks why the Bingo program is being dropped and where it came from. Marlin shares about some lack of communication. Thomas also asks about bingo attendance from the teams. Boosters will vote in their October meeting whether or not to keep bingo.

- USPTO reports their financials and budgets to the board. Their president also shares USPTO's plans for several of their upcoming events.

6.0 STAFF REPORTS

6.1 [Director's Update](#)

6.2 Principal's Update - Kyle Schuyler

- Mr. Schuyler starts by sharing how much he enjoys his position here. MS summer book project is in full swing. The MS is planning to take next steps towards NWE testing and collecting data. He shares how much fun MS has had with the USPTO big kahuna fundraiser. Student spotlights will be kicking off soon. Lots of sporting events, clubs and concerts are coming up.

6.3 [Business Manager's Update](#)

7.0 ITEMS FOR ACTION

7.1 Consent Agenda: Board members will be asked if they wish to discuss any issues listed on the Consent Agenda. If so, these items will be moved from the Consent Agenda and placed under Items for Action. Items remaining on the Consent Agenda will be voted on together.

7.2 [Facilities Planning Committee](#)

- Motion to approve the committee - Tina (Jake) Passed

7.3 [Board Agreements](#)

7.4 [Board Member Resignation/Special Election Resolution](#)

- Motion to accept Justin Martinez's resignation - Jake (Thomas) Passed
- The Board discusses whether or not to fill the vacancy with a special election. Members also discuss the timeline and how to get the most participation from the community in a special election.
- Motion to proceed with the special election - Thomas (Eric) Passed
- Members pick November 1st to have their special meeting to approve the winner of the special election

7.5 [Personnel](#)

- Director Weaver shares a few details about the two counselors who have resigned. Hailey gave notice and has moved to work at her former school and Mrs. Prichard resigned to address personal issues. The school is hoping and has made plans to fill those vacancies quickly
- Motion to approve personnel - Thomas (Stephanie) Passed

8.0 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

8.1 Financial Advisor- [Draft Seventh Amended and Restated Bylaws](#) - Second Reading

- Language was added to explicitly state the non-voting position of the financial advisor

8.2 [Director](#) Goals

8.3 [Student Organizations/Club Procedure](#)

- Ryan expresses that the Board is drafting a policy regarding how the Board addresses policies.
- Thomas requests a list of active clubs. He also expresses that clubs should meet annually to review/revise their general or mission statement.
- Tina shares that she would like to see the policy stay the same.
- Amanda shares that clubs come and go and constantly updating the list would be complicated
- Director Weaver shared that both her and the school's lawyer do not have any recommendations for changing the policy
- Members share that there should be a list of clubs added to the website.
- Jake Pierce asks about club renewal. Director Weaver says that faculty and principals are in close contact with each of these clubs.
- The only changes proposed by the board is to have a few clerical and procedural updates. No big changes

8.4 [Teaching About Controversial Issues Policy & Criteria for the Teaching of Controversial Issues](#)

- Amanda shares that several charter schools in Colorado have similarly written policies. Thomas shares a possible amendment to the policy that teachers should only have material in their classrooms that have to do with teaching materials. Tina disagrees and shares her support for maintaining that freedom for teachers.
- Director Weaver shares in support of academic freedom and consulted the Schools lawyer as well.
- Ryan expresses that the first two paragraphs of the policy should be removed because they don't add or subtract from the general direction of the policy. He also shares how dictating what teachers can have in their classrooms is a slippery slope and cautions against it.
- Tina asks where the line is and who can decide what is a controversial topic.
- Director Weaver states that the principal's daily interaction is how these situations are normally handled.

- Jeff shares how it normally comes up if he sees it or hears from a parent. He shares how principals have many conversations clarifying the intentions bringing up controversial topics.
- Eric asks Jeff if the policy gives principals what they need to handle these situations and if he would change anything. Jeff says the policy is a good document to give parents to clarify intentions. He doesn't see anything that should be changed.
- Weaver shares that most of these conversations stop at teachers or principals and only a small amount cross her desk. She doesn't see the need to change anything.
- Thomas shares that he wants to keep this issue on the agenda under items for discussion. He will also share what he has found with the rest of the board.
- Jennifer also offers to share what she has found.
- The board will keep this under items for discussion.

8.5 Board of Governors Training with League of Charter Schools

- Director Weaver says that the League can do a four hour training and has a few recommendations for several training sessions that might be helpful.
- Members discuss possible dates for training.
- November 4th and November 9th are possible dates.

9.0 BOARD REPORTS/COMMUNICATION

9.1 BOG Report - Chairman

- Ryan reports on homecoming and invites the rest of the board to attend the events. The audit is wrapping up and he shares about a future meeting. He also shares that there will be a video recap of the board meetings.

9.2 Communication from the Board

- Tina shares that it's nice to have community members come to meetings. Justin seconds that as well.
- Justin Nelson wants to add the school library selection policy to items for discussion in next month's meeting.
- Stephanie shares excitement for a good start to the school year.
- Eric shares that there are some fun things happening in the city that offer good opportunities for the school.
- Jake shares that it's nice to see the community come and participate
- Thomas clarifies his intentions about bringing up policies and shares his support for the school and how he wants to make it the best place possible

9.3 Joint Use Report

- None

10.0 FUTURE BUSINESS

10.1 [POLICY PROCESS](#)

11.0 NEXT REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 12, 2022

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

- MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 7:59 - THOMAS (ERIC) PASSED

- CHECK SPELLING ON COMMUNITY DIALOGUE NAMES
- SPELLCHECK COUNSELOR NAMES
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