

University Schools Board of Governors January 13, 2021 Minutes

Board Members Present: Erin Clark, Mark Jones, Bill McAdams, Stephanie Wille
Board Member Present Virtually: Rodney Constance, Amanda Haas, (faculty rep), Christopher Hughes, Ethan Miles, Chance Morse, Alexis Sanchez (student rep), Tina Whitcomb
Board Members Absent: Jeff Weber
Staff Present: Jennifer Weaver, Ed Clark, Sue Toricelli
Staff Present Virtually: Michael Mazurana, Charlene Baumgartner
Guests Present:
Guests Present Virtually: Jessica Meeker

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mark called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. A quorum was present

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Chris (Ethan) moved to approve the agenda with the addition of 9.2 Legal Advisor. Motion passed.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rodney (Stephanie) moved to approve the minutes of December 9, 2020. Motion passed.

4.0 COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

- None

5.0 JUNIOR BULLDOGS-JESSICA MEEKER (presenting virtually)

- Due to Covid there is not much going on right now.
- We are hoping to hold our summer camps if possible.
- We will be awarding \$500 scholarships to Seniors who have participated or helped with Junior Bulldogs at some point.

6.0 SAFETY/SECURITY – ED CLARK

- I am glad to be back at school with the students and staff.
- Last week we checked cameras and security systems to make sure everything was in working order.
- Steve and the rest of the security team did a good job while I was absent.
- Screening procedures are working.
- I was glad to see our drop off and pick up procedures seem to be working even though still a little long.

7.0 STAFF REPORTS

7.1 Director's Update

- Winter Break seems to have been a rejuvenating time for our faculty and staff. They returned in January ready to meet the ongoing challenges of the year with enthusiasm and passion. I think this is an essential way to support our teachers during these unprecedented times. We will continue to look for opportunities to give teachers time to rest and recharge.
- Thanks to USPTO for providing us with a grant for Bulldog gear. It was a pleasure to get out in our community and visit teachers to deliver their gear. I had the privilege of going with Mr. Clark and I am in awe of his ability to navigate without GPS. Teachers expressed appreciation for the gear and the visits.

- I am proud that teachers are continuing to learn and grow even during these stressful times. All levels are continuing to work with BJ Stone, many of our teachers are participating in a variety of book studies, and attending virtual conferences.
- K-8 is back in school!
 - We got off to a terrific start yesterday, faculty, staff, students and families seem very happy to return to in-person learning.
- High school will be returning to hybrid learning on Tuesday.
 - Extracurricular activities are resuming. Next week we will be starting high school basketball, wrestling, cheer, dance and pep band and middle school volleyball and wrestling.
 - We are working to seek approval for a plan to include spectators in our events.
- The calendar committee has been working on preparing the calendar for the 2021-22 school year. Faculty and staff are currently providing input and we anticipate sharing a draft for your review at our February meeting.
- A University parent, Lacie Lame, facilitated Kenton Manor gifting us 1500 COVID testing kits. This will provide us expanded opportunities to make testing easier for our faculty/staff and possibly students.

7.2 Principal's Update – Michael Mazurana – Elementary Principal (presenting virtually)

- ES is currently in a hybrid learning situation which means we still have days when we are remote (M and F) as well as days we are in the building. Next week, (Jan 19-22) we will return to full time in-person if the number of COVID cases in the county and state continue to hold or decline.
- ES is still able to offer full remote learning for those students who requested it, but we do not have live streaming in the ES that the MS and HS have for various reasons. We survey our parents of remote students each trimester and plan accordingly. We also have a class of remote students in our building who need help with Wi-Fi, tech issues like logging in, getting work completed or help with assignments. We have a 3-5 class and a K-2 class.
- ES teachers and staff have been working all year around recognizing gaps (in literacy especially) that our students have returning from last spring. We are looking at priority standards and ensuring our students are getting intentional instruction in each grade level.
- In-person staff has been fantastically flexible in being able to work around quarantines, going remote in November and also returning to full in-person instruction this week. I want to personally thank all of our teachers and staff, both remote and in-person for the professional job they have been doing.

7.3 Business Manager's Update

7.3.1 Financial Reports (pgs. 8-11)

- We are at 50% of budget.
- Year to Date surplus is \$438,511 split \$478,307 mil levy and a (\$39,796) for other General Fund items not related to mil levy.
- We would have been in the black for General Fund if the Capital Construction for December was received in December, but it wasn't received until the first week in January. So the negative would have turned to a positive \$4,220. We are really doing well so far with the General Fund expenses with the assistance of the Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars.
- On the Revenue side we are running slightly ahead of the 50% and on the Expense side, we are just under that 50%.
- The amended budget which is being presented this evening will explain and correct the line item overage so I'll talk more about those during that presentation.
- In the Capital Fund, 99% of the activity has been expenses paid to vendors for work performed under the D6 bond or the Coronavirus Relief Fund. Those expenses are being reimbursed to us by those grant fundings.
- I still have Title II and Title IV expenses to submit for reimbursement to the District so that will also help our General Fund bottom line.
- Moving forward, we were initially awarded ESSER funding, also under the CARES Act. It was

\$265,000. This is being administered a little differently than the Coronavirus Relief Fund. We actually had to write grant language, similar to what we do with Title II and IV grants for these dollars. Basically that means we need to keep our expenditures directed to those categories, so we simply don't have a lot of leeway with those dollars as we did with the CRF funds.

- However, the good news is that with the most recent Federal Stimulus package, there were additional ESSER dollars allotted to states. There are preliminary allocations published on CDE's website, but D6 will calculate our specific allocation. I am assuming we will need to write grant language on these funds like the other ESSER funds, being specific in the use of these funds.
- Our current ESSER funding is four times less than the Coronavirus Relief Funding and we still have some of the same needs the second half of the school year as we did the first half of the school year. Without the additional ESSER II funding, the General Fund will have to pick up those costs. I just don't know how quickly this will happen.

8.0 ITEMS FOR ACTION

8.1 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.

8.1.1 Personnel

- Ethan (Erin) moved to approve the recommendations for hire. Motion passed.

9.0 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

9.1 Amended Budget Proposal

- Business Manager, Sue Toricelli presented the Amended General Fund Gross and the Amended Capital Fund Budget.
- Erin (Stephanie) moved to approve the Amended Budgets.

9.2 Legal Advisor

- Discussion was held about adding a Legal Advisor position to the Board and what that might look like.
- Director Weaver will work on a description of what that position might look like and bring it to the Board next month.

10.0 BOARD REPORTS/COMMUNICATION

10.1 BOG Report – Chairman

- None

10.2 Communication from the Board

- Rod said kids are glad to be back in school seeing their friends.
- Ethan wanted to thank teachers for their hard work and dedication to their students. He also wanted to thank Mr. Mazurana for help with a scheduling issue.
- Amanda said teachers were grateful for the hazard pay.
- Erin stated a concern she had about the hazard pay.

10.3 Foundation Report

- Working on sponsorships for golf tournament.

10.4 Joint Use Report

- Next meeting will be February 16, 2021

11.0 FUTURE BUSINESS

- Legal Advisor

12.0 NEXT REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 10, 2021

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

Rod (Chris) moved to adjourn at 7:10 pm. Motion passed.

REMINDERS:

JANUARY 18 – MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED