

University Schools Board of Governors December 9, 2020 Minutes

Board Members Present: Erin Clark, Bill McAdams, Jeff Weber, 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: Mark Jones
Staff Present: Sue Toricelli, Jennifer Weaver
Staff Present Virtually: Charlene Baumgartner
Guests Present:
Guests Present Virtually:

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Jeff called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm. A quorum was present.

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Rod (Ethan) moved to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tina (Stephanie) moved to approve the minutes of November 11, 2020. Motion passed.

4.0 COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

- None

5.0 BOOSTER CLUB – FRANK JONES

- None

6.0 USPTO – AMANDA LINDENMAYER (presenting virtually)

- We have been busy paying out grants.
- Gifts cards will be given out to staff members as an appreciation gift.
- There will be two officer positions opening this spring. We hope to have nominations by March and a vote at our April meeting.

7.0 STAFF REPORTS

7.1 Director's Update

- We have completed almost three weeks of remote learning. Our top priorities have been to support all families in providing supervision and getting students engaged in learning.
- ABC is currently providing childcare in our building since they operate under different guidelines from CDE/CDPHE than public schools. We have about 30 students that are attending each day. So far, we are able to provide care, free of charge for children of faculty and staff members. ABC has also provided scholarships for families that are not able to afford their rates.
- District 6 has provided us with free Comcast internet access for families that did not have internet access.
- We have set up a technology support line for families that is available during all school days.
- We are participating in the District 6 feeding program to supply food to any family in need for all children under 18.
- Our attendance has been good so far. We are averaging above 95% at all levels. As students are showing us that they are struggling to attend, we are reaching out with teachers, administrators

and home visits. Moving forward we will look to find additional ways to support those students in a supervised learning situation in the building.

- Teachers are working hard to maintain connections with students. One example is that all elementary homeroom teachers and middle and high school advisors will be sending a personalized postcard to each student in the mail.
- Next steps with remote learning - Dr. Pilch has been asked to join a special reopening committee and has been working with the Governor to explore opportunities to safely reopen our schools. She intends to discuss options at the District 6 School Board Meeting on Monday and announce a decision by 12/15. I anticipate receiving notice of the decision Tuesday. We will review the District 6 decision and modify as necessary to fit the needs of University Schools and notify faculty, staff and families as soon as possible.
- We have received notification from CHSAA that their plans for Season B have not been approved. They have recommended delaying the start of Season B until late January. This revised plan has not been approved, and the taskforce has indicated that they will not evaluate it until at least mid-January. We have suspended all sports conditioning, open gyms, etc. while Weld County is designated as red.
- I received a USPTO grant to provide all faculty and staff with some Bulldog Gear of their choice. We will be delivering those items next week (if things arrive as planned).

7.2 Principal's Update – Jeff Casey – High School Principal (presenting virtually)

- Teachers are working hard to connect with students.
- I have made home visits to students; some are just encouraging visits and others are to students who are struggling, and I wanted to know what we could do to help get the student back on the right track.
- We have delivered items and/or supplies to students who could not make it to the school to pick up.
- We now have two people working on tech support for students besides Dave and Jeffrey.
- Knowledge Bowl has had a virtual meet. It was hosted by Grand Junction and our team placed 5th.
- New courses have been approved for next year and some changes will be made to the course catalog. We are working on the processes for course requests for next year.

7.3 Business Manager's Update

7.3.1 Financial Reports (pgs. 9-12)

- We are at 41.77% of budget.
- The YTD surplus is \$285,360. It is split \$355,000 for mil levy unused dollars for the year and a negative (\$70,000) in the General Fund. This deficit in the General Fund was anticipated, but it's less of a deficit than was budgeted so I'm happy with where we sit five months into the fiscal year.
- On the General Fund Balance Sheet, the Accounts Receivable are the Coronavirus billings to D6 for October and November. We should get reimbursed for those two billings this month.
- On Revenues, the state is a month behind in giving out the Capital Construction funds so if they were current, our General Fund deficit would decrease to a negative (\$25,500) which, is again, better than budgeted.
- We also have a billing to do to USPTO and on Title II and IV which will also ultimately help that General Fund deficit.
- We did receive the ELPA funding in the amount of \$37,327. Last year, we received \$32,213 which, surprising, is a \$5,000 increase. Apparently, those dollars did not yet get cut in the State's 2020-2021 budget process.
- On Expenditures, salaries and benefits are running well and as anticipated.
- The only other line items that is higher than anticipated are the phones/internet/website and the water. I will adjust those line items in the revised budget.
- On the Capital Fund, the Accounts Receivable line is a billing to D6 for primarily reimbursement for our costs for replacement of the main building gym bleachers. These will be paid by the D6

bond from the November 2019 election.

- I am hoping to have the hazard pay paid out to staff by the middle of next week.
- The final Coronavirus billing is due to D6 by January 8, 2021.

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

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

9.0 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

9.1 Leave Policy – First Reading

- Jeff (Rod) moved to approve the Leave Policy. Motion Passed.

10.0 BOARD REPORTS/COMMUNICATION

10.1 BOG Report – Chairman

- None

10.2 Communication from the Board

- None

10.3 Foundation Report

- The Foundation received an anonymous donation of \$1,100.00 from the Denver Foundation.

10.4 Joint Use Report

- A meeting was held Nov 17 where the budget was discussed.

11.0 FUTURE BUSINESS

- None

12.0 NEXT REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 13, 2021

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

Rod (Chance) moved to adjourn at 6:50 pm. Motion passed.

REMINDERS:

DECEMBER 21 – JANUARY 1 WINTER BREAK, SCHOOL CLOSED

JANUARY 4 – FACULTY INSERVICE/WORKDAY, NO SCHOOL K-12