

**Twin Cities International Schools  
School Board Meeting**

**Minutes of the School Board Meeting held on Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 4:00 pm on Google Meet.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chair Mr. Warsame Shirwa  
Parent Representative Abdirizak Botan  
Teacher Representative Heidi Tesfaye  
Community Representative Abdi Elmi Guled

**ABSENT:**

Community Representative Mohamed Mumin  
Teacher Representative Ms. Marian Aden  
Teacher Representative Mr. Cyprian Marubi

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ex-Officio Members Mr. Abdirashid Warsame

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Andrew Grice and Ms. Kelli Smith

**1.0 Call to Order**

Chair opened the meeting at 4:00 pm. The Chair acknowledged a quorum was present, and thanked them for attending the meeting.

**2.0 Open Agenda**

Chair acknowledged the Open Meeting.

**3.0 Approve Agenda**

Warsame Shirwa, Board Chair, asked to add 10.5 regarding virtual meeting attendance discussion. Abdirizak motioned for the Agenda to be approved with addition. The motion was seconded, and the motion carried.

**4.0 Minutes from the Previous Meetings**

**4.1 Minutes from the Previous Meetings of November 18, 2021**

Heidi motioned for the Board Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2021 to be approved. The motion was seconded, and the motion carried.

**5.0 Business Arising from the Minutes of November 18, 2021**

No Business Arising from the Minutes of November 18, 2021.

**6.0 Audit's Report**

Mr. Andrew Grice presented the Auditor's Report.

In addition to the annual District Financials Audit, a single-source audit in the areas of Child Nutrition and Title I programs were also audited this year - no findings were found for any programs or the annual audit financials. Total ADM was up approximately 50 students for the 2020-21 school year. Fund balance increase of \$993,000 to 27%.

Abdirizak motioned for the Audit's Report to be received. The motion was seconded, and the motion carried.

## **7.0 Treasurer's Report**

### **7.1 Revised Budget**

Item Tabled

## **8.0 Authorizer's Report**

Item Tabled

## **9.0 Director's Report**

Mr. Abdirashid and Ms. Kelli reported:

1. Enrollment: K-4 --- 548, 5-8 --- 455, **Total as of Monday, December 13, 2021: 1003**
2. TCIS Administration, in consultation with our Board Chair, made the decision to shift learning models for the end of this week, after a swift uptick of COVID positive student cases within the building in a 48 hour time frame last week.
  - Wed. 12/15 - Live online based on a distance learning schedule
  - Thurs. 12/16 - Live online based on a distance learning schedule
  - Fri 12/17 - Asynchronous learning day - post assignments based on a Friday Schedule
3. To facilitate this move, all students have been given a chromebook and charger on loan from the school. These devices are expected to be returned in January. This will also facilitate extended learning over the winter break as families choose to participate. Online programs such as iXL and Raz-kids are available as well as teachers posting winter break assignments for additional practice on their google classroom pages. In addition, meal bags were sent home with students on Tuesday to provide meals for the remainder of the week.
4. The school will be closed for winter break from Monday, Dec 20, 2021 through Monday January 3rd, 2022. Staff will return to school on Tuesday, Jan. 4th for a PD day with students returning on Wednesday, Jan. 5th, 2022.
5. Winter Benchmark testing with MAP will take place when we return in January so there are no additional PUC Goals to discuss at this meeting.

Abdirizak raised the question of further discussion regarding outreach to families to encourage them to get their vaccinations and what are the requirements for schools to be able to offer vaccinations on site. Kelli responded as the COVID Coordinator with information on the CLIA waiver, MIIC verifications, etc...

Heidi motioned for the Directors Report to be approved. The motion was seconded, and the motion carried.

## **10.0 Other Reports, Discussion, and Action Items**

### **10.1 First Policy Readings for the month of December 2021**

#### **10.1.1 426 Nepotism in Charter Schools**

#### **10.1.2 521 Student Disability Nondiscrimination**

Abdi Elmi motioned for Policies 426 and 521 to be approved as first readings. The motion was seconded, and the motion carried.

## **10.2 Final Policy Readings for the month of December 2021**

9.3.1 **145 Volunteer Policy**

9.3.2 **506 Discipline**

9.3.3 **514 Bullying Prohibition**

9.3.4 **703 Fund Balance**

9.3.5 **413 Harassment and Violence**

Heidi motioned for Policies 145, 506, 514, 703 and 413 to be approved as final readings. The motion was seconded, and the motion carried.

## **10.3 Board Training Plan**

We will have more details next month. We will try to find someone to do a weeknight training following the board meeting in February.

## **10.4 Contract Goals Review**

Academic and Non-Academic Goals

Both the academic and non-academic goals will be presented at the February Board Meeting after winter conferences and MAP testing in January.

## **10.5 Discussion Regarding Virtual Board Meeting attendance**

The Board Chair and Executive Director will check on open meeting law and follow up on this. This will be addressed next month in the business arising from the previous minutes agenda item.

## **11.0 Adjournment**

Heidi motioned for the meeting to adjourn, noting the time at 4:42 pm. The motion was seconded, and the motion carried.