

Minutes for Meeting for the Board of Directors  
The Experiential School of Greensboro  
Tuesday, June 13th, 2023  
5:30pm  
Virtual/Zoom (Meeting ID: 856 6568 3740, Passcode: 222690)

Present: Leila Villaverde, Carl Lashley, Greg Bush, Joanna Lower, Travis Laughlin, Roy Carter, Fred Adams

Guests: Beth Meyer, Kris DeBell, Caroline Kernahan, Kristen Kevorkian, Kristen Lowe, Satonya Golding, Rachel Morton, Lexi, Gray, Kimberly Mebane, CW

Leila Villaverde called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Leila Villaverde called for a motion to approve the agenda. Carl Lashley motioned to approve the agenda, Greg Bush seconded, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Approval of May Board Meeting Minutes**

Leila Villaverde called for a motion to approve May minutes (May 4 – Finance Committee Meeting, May 9 Board Meeting, May 15 Special Meeting, May 15 Sub-Committee Meeting). Greg Bush motioned to approve the minutes, Carl Lashley seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Comment: Kristen Lowe, Kristen Kevorkian**

Kristen Lowe shared that on May 8 her student brought a phone to school to be used during nonacademic time and used at recess. A friend was upset that the phone was taken away and was going to put a spoon or foil in the microwave. The friend suffered a consequence, and the decision has been detrimental to her student. Her student has been diagnosed with adjustment disorder after a stressful life event, the stressful event was unfair punishment to the friend. The student has had 3 panic attacks, is scared of conversations that could lead to punishment. There were 5 students involved and 1 received punishment. Kristen Lowe spoke to TESSG's website and asked what happens when teaching injustice from this experience. The recommendation of the student's doctor was to not complete EOGs and she was facing a summer of uncertainty with her student's mental health before school started back.

Kristen Kevorkian shared that she is a parent of 3 students, that she loves TESSG and the teachers and families. For 5 years she has supported the school, and the administration and Board are not following the philosophy when recommendations to the Board are punitive discipline. TESSG's website says the staff model to the students and the teachers have been phenomenal but there has not been the same cooperation with administration and the Board. She gave an example of a student breaking an item and paying for it. She also stated, if suspended, the student should meet with the Director, and this did not happen in a situation with her student or other students. She spoke to federal and state law and the administration failing to identify and support students

when the school website and handbook include equitable practices. She is asking for recommitment of the school to do what the original directors and founders intended.

Leila Villaverde thanked both speakers for their statements and transitioned to Tinisha Shaw's report.

### **Report from Executive Director**

Tinisha Shaw acknowledged staff that supported EOG testing. She shared that in May and June her focus was on testing, and she is now reflecting on next year. She noted that Angela Horton has been following up with parents on enrollment. She indicated that she would provide a detailed report to the Board looking at MAP data, shifting from fall, winter, and spring and a deep dive into EOG scores. She indicated a preliminary summary was shared by Ms. Jenny Gundersdorff. Tinisha Shaw noted she was also sharing some observations and recommendations for next year for PLCs and coaching time, and resources to help students.

#### **The Healthy School Food Collaborative**

The state has approved our request for USDA lunch program, the county approval from health department to serve prepared meals from vendors has also been received.

Concerns are time frame and logistics. May need to start the school year with myhotlunchbox.

#### **Annual Charter School Health Services Report Is Open**

- Due mid-June and Mrs. Angela Horton is working on that too.

#### **SIT Team**

- There were some questions posed by the SIT team seeking feedback.

#### **June and July Focus**

- Get data cleared up, waiting on state to release student reports.
- Report card pick up – EOG results are to arrive Thursday to be included with progress reports, map assessment, start sharing those through 23rd and any after will be mailed home.
- Looking at assessment data for school wide goals for reading and math, making sure we are strategic in instruction for both math and reading, organize a coaching plan, thinking about interventions and assessments.
- At the last board meeting I mentioned MTSS cohort, we were not selected but we still have access to MTSS training, connected to MTSS contact for process. Streamline training for Beginning Teachers and Beginning Teacher Mentors.
- SEL curriculum – integrate – Harmony (elementary based, been reviewed by CASTLE), thinking about adapting in K-5, can be adapted to middle grades or we could think about middle grade and adding for next year, and ELL supports.
- Planning and prepping for next year, how we use data for coaching and instruction.
- Immediately for next month – making sure we are addressing the instruction goals and working on class schedules and arts schedules for next year and coaching and PD planning.

Leila Villaverde asked if communication was being sent to families when to pick up report cards. Tinisha Shaw concurred. She also noted there was 100% pass rate for Math 1 students.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

There were no standing committee reports.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

### **New Business**

1. Related services contract approvals.

Leila Villaverde reported that the Occupational Therapist recently notified us that they won't be able to return, the demand for the clinic was more than estimated. Psych Services and Speech Service contracts were shared for approval. Leila Villaverde asked for a motion to approve both contracts. Joanna Lower motion to approve the Psych Services contract and the Speech Services contract, Fred Adams seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

2. 2023-2024 budget discussion and approval.

Leila Villaverde noted shifts in the budget for next year to build a buffer for next year depending on enrollment trends. Increasing funding for field trips since we know that is a significant need. She noted this budget is a draft in terms of what we know at this moment. Once we get more information from the state and EC funding and costs related to nutrition and transportation, we will be able to adjust in real time. Leila Villaverde asked if there were questions and then asked for a motion to approve the budget. Fred Adams motioned to approve the budget, Joanna Lower seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Announcements**

There were no announcements.

Leila Villaverde thanked everyone for their hard work this year and appreciated the efforts and continued dedication to TESS. She noted we are a school of choice and looking forward to next year.

### **Adjourn**

Leila Villaverde called for a motion to adjourn, Greg Bush motioned to adjourn, Joanna Lower seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried unanimously. Leila Villaverde adjourned the meeting at 5:58 pm.