

Meeting Minutes for the Board of Directors  
The Experiential School of Greensboro  
Tuesday, January 16th, 2024  
5:30pm  
Virtual/Zoom (Meeting ID: 871 2828 9584, Passcode: 496834)

Present: Leila Villaverde, Joanna Lower, Roy Carter, Jeannette Alarcon, Carl Lashley, Travis Laughlin

Guests: Beth Meyer, Kristine DeBell, Brandon Morrison, Jennifer Smith, Peter Antognetti, Jessica Glenn, Kristen Lowe, Joe Sledge, Bethany Morris, Demareis Butler, Samsung, Tabia, Stephanie Kriner, Erika Leiseth, Selina Brown

Leila Villaverde called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm.

Leila Villaverde welcomed everyone to the first board meeting of the new calendar year. She shared we first needed to take a moment to honor Mr. Greg Bush, a long time board member, who passed away in December. We sent our respects to his family and during his service. His family had sent us a program from his service allowing us to learn a little more about him. We are mourning his loss. She explained that Dr. Jeannette Alarcon graciously agreed to step in for the remainder of this academic year in place of Mr. Bush.

**Approval of Agenda**

Leila Villaverde called for a motion to approve the agenda.

Carl Lashley motioned to approve the agenda, Joanna Lower seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried unanimously. .

**Approval of Board Meeting Minutes**

Leila Villaverde called for a motion to approve the December 12, December 18, and January 9 Board Meeting Minutes. Jeannette Alarcon motioned to approve the minutes, Joanna Lower seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Report from Executive Director**

David Jarmon shared condolences with the loss of Mr. Greg Bush. He noted that he was a true Aggie and recognized his contributions as a TESG Board Member. David Jarmon thanked Dr. Jeannette Alarcon for stepping in to serve on the Board.

**Student Enrollment**

To date, we have 265 students enrolled at TESG.

**Proposed Calendar for 2024-2025**

We created a proposed calendar for the 2024-2025 school year based on this year's calendar and the proposed calendar for GCS. It has not been shared with parents for feedback yet as we wanted to get feedback from the Board first. The calendar is shared in the Google Drive. We have developed a proposed calendar for review for the 2024-2025 school year.

#### Tutoring (Grades 3-8)

Our tutorial program began Monday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. Students will receive tutoring 2 days a week on Mondays and Tuesdays. The program will run for about 18 weeks. Students will not be tutored on 1<sup>st</sup> Monday and 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday to allow teachers to attend Leadership Team meeting and Staff meeting.

#### Student Services

##### SEL Needs Assessment

As part of a required Mental Health and SEL Plan for NCDPI, the MTSS/Leadership Team chose to use the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire as a school-wide needs assessment. 3 Versions of the questionnaire will be shared among the TESSG community (Teachers, Families, & 5-8 Students). All assessments will be sent out by 01/19 and should be completed by 01/31. The MTSS/Leadership Team will review and analyze the data to implement need-specific SEL support for classes/Houses.

##### Individual Counseling Sessions

- Continued support for individual student needs (Trends include topics related to behaviors, emotions/feelings, hurtful/harmful language and behaviors, and peer conflict resolution.)
- No new SI reports.
- High School Planning & Meetings with Students/Families

##### Small Groups (Created Based on Data/Reports from Trimester 1)

- 3/4 House: Weekly SEL Small Group (Behaviors, Emotions/Feelings, Anger Management, Conflict Resolution)
- 7/8 House : Weekly Wellness Wednesday Small Group (Expressive Arts)
- 7/8 House: Mentorship Group (Working with Students Who Have Had Past Behavior Incidents)

##### Classroom Lessons

- K House: Bi-Weekly Lessons (Emotions/Feelings & Emotional Regulation; Kindness; Working Together)
- 1/2 House, 3/4 House, & 5/6 House: Student Ambassadors Planning Project/Work with Students
- 5/6 House & 7/8 House: Youth Advocates: Rights, Respect & Responsibilities Curriculum
- Prior to Winter Break, 5th-8th grade students received "See Something, Say Something" training through Sandy Hook Promise. The purpose of this training was to teach students how to: (1) recognize warning signs and threats of harm/danger, (2) take it seriously and take immediate action, and (3) say something to a trusted adult.

##### Student Services Family Support Initiatives

- Mrs. Vaughn has been instrumental in providing support for our McKinney Vento Family, students needing lunch, and Backpack Beginnings initiatives. Backpack Beginnings: Continuing to Serve 9 Students/5 Families
- Continuing to collect breakfast and lunch donations.

## Partnerships

### NC A&T Cooperative Extension Visit

We were thrilled to welcome visitors from NC A&T Cooperative Extension on Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup> to meet with Ms. Findlay to discuss resources and opportunities to further enhance our Garden Arts program. There is a partnership in the works here that will surely benefit the TESG community. Special thanks to Ms. Findlay for her vision.

The Innovation Station from NC A&T will be on site on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and January 24<sup>th</sup> for our 1/2 House and 3/4 House to visit. The bus has 14 workstations (1 per student), so it would take strategic planning to get all students on during the day. Our area of focus will be Robotics. 1/2 House will visit on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and the 3/4 House will visit on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Here is the proposed schedule for each day:

Bus Arrives	8:30
Setup	8:30 - 9:00
Session 1	9:00 - 10:15
Session 2	10:25 - 11:40
Lunch Break	11:45 - 12:15
Session 3	12:25 - 1:40
Session 4	1:50 - 3:05

The Innovation Station is 41 ft long and 8.5 ft wide. More than likely, it will park in the lot across from the playground. Unfortunately, we are unable to get all students on during this week, so we have put in another request in the Spring for the remaining Houses.

### Bennett College Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Dr. Harrison, with Bennett College has submitted the proposed MOU for our partnership that would begin with student interns. The MOU has been added to the Google Drive for review.

David Jarmon opened for questions. Joanna Lower thanked David Jarmon for arranging the Innovation Station visit to TESG. She asked if the experience would be integrated into curriculum before and following the experience so that students would have the opportunity to engage with the learning concepts beyond the one-day visit to support deeper learning. Mr. Jarmon concurred that the Houses would be working on integration. Mr. Brandon Morrison (5/6 Science Teacher) further thanked Mr. Jarmon for seeking out the opportunity for exploration and experimentation.

## Standing Committee Reports

Finance Committee report – Leila Villaverde shared that the finance committee meeting went well, and we would be meeting periodically to review the budget in support of the bottom-line. She also noted that a couple grants have come in.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

### **New Business**

#### 1. Policy revisions

Leila Villaverde noted that there was one more piece of the parents' rights policy to be approved, The Parents's Guide to Student Achievement form. She noted that we already had content in our handbook that was structured in response to the specific questions that needed to be answered in response to the legislation. Once approved it will be available on our website, under the SB49 tab. Leila Villaverde asked if there were questions from the Board. There were none. Leila Villaverde called for a motion to approve the Parent's Guide to Student Achievement based on the Parents' Bill of Rights – SB49; Session Law 2023-106. Roy Carter motioned to approve the Parent's Guide to Student Achievement, Carl Lashley seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Announcements**

- Jeannette Alarcon thanked everyone for the warm welcome and shared that she was happy to serve in this role again and it was good to see so many familiar faces from TESSG.
- Roy Carter shared there was an opportunity at the African American Atelier in downtown for classes. The Director may be contacted to schedule a tour of the Founders Day Exhibition including the works of Willie Nash. He noted its gorgeous and a great opportunity in celebration of African American culture. He also shared that there is an exhibit of the Henry Clinton Taylor collection at the Dudley building at A&T focused on education with a collection from Maya McAdoo out of Charlotte that includes source information and signed documents, historical references, newspapers, etc and would be great for Teacher tools. He noted that will be up for a month in February and to reach out to Lisa Phillips at A&T Gallery to schedule a visit and tour of the exhibition. Leila Villaverde added that the A&T Gallery is within walking distance but, buses are an option too. Roy Carter noted that there is a classroom accessible in the building of the Atelier and with notice that studio/classroom space could be activated with sufficient notice.
- David Jarmon shared that Shavonne Oliver recently published an article. He also shared he was excited to have Mr. Peter Antognetti join TESSG and this meeting. He will be teaching math and ethnic studies, starting tomorrow in the 7/8 House. Mr. Antognetti responded that he was looking forward to starting.

### **Adjourn**

Leila Villaverde noted that she appreciated everyone's time and called for a motion to adjourn. Jeannette Alarcon motioned to adjourn, Roy Carter seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried unanimously. Leila Villaverde adjourned the meeting at 5:56 pm.