

**JOINT MEETING OF TEMPE PREPARATORY ACADEMY AND TEMPE  
PREPARATORY JUNIOR ACADEMY BOAD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 20, 2015**

The meeting of the Tempe Preparatory Academies Board of Directors was called to order by President Chad Sampson, at 6:03 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at the Student Union of Tempe Preparatory Academy, 1251 East Southern Avenue, Tempe, AZ, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice having been duly given.

**Roll Call**

Voting Board Members Present

Chad Sampson, President  
Dr. Stuart Newfeld, Vice President  
Dr. Rebecca Cryder, Secretary  
Roberta Fischer, Treasurer  
Richard Foreman  
Lisa Borawski-Picard

Voting Board Members Absent

Trevor Bush

Non-Voting Board Members Present

Andrea Guiney, Parent Organization Representative  
Mitch Sweet, Faculty Representative

Non-Voting Board Members Absent

None

Staff Present

Dr. Wayne Porter

**Call to the Public**

None

## **Consent Agenda**

### **Reading/Approval of the minutes of previous meetings**

Dr. Stuart Newfeld made a Motion to remove item (a)(iii) from the Consent Agenda. Roberta Fischer seconded the Motion. Vote passed.

Richard Foreman made a Motion to approve the remaining items on the Consent Agenda. Dr. Stuart Newfeld seconded the Motion. Vote passed.

## **Regular Agenda**

### **Headmaster's Report**

Dr. Porter reported that the first quarter ended and that fall break and parent-teacher conferences went well. He also reported that the 9<sup>th</sup> grade Catalina trip was a success and thanked Karin Moffitt for her efforts in organizing and attending the trip. He further reported that the varsity football team qualified for the playoffs and would host a game. Dr. Porter indicated that the athletic director was working with the AIA to find a venue for the home game.

Dr. Stuart Newfeld requested Dr. Porter report on the ADA/ADM numbers. Dr. Porter indicated that the ADA/ADM report was attached to the agenda packet and would be part of the minutes. The ADA/ADM report indicates a total TPA/TPJA enrollment of 413 students.

President Chad Sampson exercised his discretion to move items 5(b), 6, and 7 to the end of the agenda.

## **Update on Science Curriculum**

Dr. Porter reported that he met with the science department chair and faculty regarding the new science curriculum previously approved by the Board and that the chair and faculty propose to extend implementation of the new curriculum. The current plan calls for implementing the curriculum such that the class of 2017 would be the first to take the senior elective courses after taking Chemistry in their junior year. The chair and faculty feel that it will take longer to prepare the 12<sup>th</sup> grade elective courses than initially thought and believe it would be appropriate to postpone implementation by one year. As such, the chair and faculty propose having the class of 2017 take the current Physics II curriculum. Dr. Porter indicated that the chair and faculty indicated they would like to further discuss the science curriculum and class sequence in general and make additional proposals early next year.

Lisa Borawski-Pickard indicated that she would be interested in seeing a financial analysis of what it would cost to go forward with the additional electives extended out in the future and not just for the first year.

Dr. Rebecca Cryder expressed concern with the senior science project that was part of the original plan in addition to the three elective classes. Dr. Cryder indicated that she would like to see a discussion of the electives separate from the senior science project.

Chad Sampson clarified Dr. Cryder's comments explaining that the current plan included a Capstone project that was akin to the senior thesis in addition to the three 12<sup>th</sup> grade elective courses. Mr. Sampson asked that the chair and faculty address that issue in its future proposal as well.

Lisa Borawski-Pickard suggested asking alumni what they think about adding a Capstone project in terms of workload.

Dr. Stuart Newfeld introduced a written proposal for first read to modify the Revised Science Curriculum by: (1) having the Class of 2017 take Physics II next year instead of the 12<sup>th</sup> grade electives, and (2) to minimize the disruption of the one-time modification to the teaching assignments of multiple teachers and to allow the modification to be executed with existing teachers, maintain the current offering of sciences courses (Biology, Chemistry (2 years) and Physics) in 2016-17 such that next year 9<sup>th</sup> grade would have Biology, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade would have Chemistry, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade would have the original Physics II. Dr. Newfeld explained that children tend to learn better with this sequence of science courses. Dr. Porter agreed and indicated that Chandler Preparatory Academy teaches chemistry before physics because physics requires more math. He also indicated that using a standard course sequence helps with transfer students.

Chad Sampson indicated that the Board would have to vote on two issues: (1) sequence of science classes, and (2) postponing the implementation of the 12<sup>th</sup> grade science elective.

Karin Moffitt indicated that if students had questions about the process, they should talk to Dr. Porter.

Chad Sampson also invited e-mails to the Board regarding these issues.

Marion Rhoades inquired as to whether the students' grades improved at Chandler Prep when the class sequence was changed. Dr. Porter indicated that the change was not done for grades, but for content retention due to the use of math.

Dr. Newfeld suggested scheduling an appointment with Dr. Porter to discuss the science curriculum issues. Dr. Porter agreed but indicated that he wanted to include the department chair.

### **Dual Enrollment**

Dr. Porter reported that Rio Salado Community College was requiring that the Board president execute a contract, which provided that the school had authority to offer a dual enrollment class.

Chad Sampson reported that the dual enrollment class consisted of a 12<sup>th</sup> grade math class taught by Dr. Hickernell that would give the enrolling student credit at both institutions for successful completion of the course.

Chad Sampson made a Motion to permit the 12<sup>th</sup> grade dual enrollment class and authorize the Board president to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the dual enrollment program.

Dr. Stuart Newfeld inquired as to whether there was a written document regarding the dual enrollment program. Dr. Porter reported that he had a contract for the Board president's signature after appropriate Board action.

Dr. Rebecca Cryder made a Motion to amend President Sampson's Motion to expand the dual enrollment program beyond the 12<sup>th</sup> grade math class. After further discussion, Dr. Cryder withdrew her Motion to amend President Sampson's Motion.

Karin Moffitt advised that the dual enrollment class was Math 125 and suggested that the Minutes reflect the proper class code. After further inquiry, Ms. Moffitt clarified that the dual enrollment class was Math 221.

Chad Sampson made a Motion to permit the 12<sup>th</sup> grade dual enrollment class, identified as Math 221 or whatever number is listed for the course in Rio Salado's course guide, and to authorize the Board president to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the dual enrollment program. Lisa Borawski-Pickard seconded the Motion. Vote passed.

### **Board Member Selection Practice and Policy**

Chad Sampson reported that Trevor Bush will be leaving the Board and that the Board may be announcing an opportunity to apply for a position on the Board of Directors. Mr. Sampson advised that Mr. Bush has not given a date for his departure but had informed the Board of his intention to step down. Mr. Sampson thanked Mr. Bush for his service and indicated that his shoes will be difficult to fill.

Dr. Stuart Newfeld inquired as to whether the Board had already decided to allow an opening. Chad Sampson indicated that no such action had been taken as of this time.

### **Faculty Report**

Mitch Sweet reported that the first quarter was successful and that parent-teacher conferences went well. Mr. Sweet indicated that the parent-teacher conference schedule was exhausting and that the faculty would meet to discuss ways to improve the process.

Chad Sampson inquired as to the faculty's morale. Mr. Sweet advised that the faculty morale was high and that the faculty was happy with the leadership and the direction of the school. Mr. Sweet indicated that the faculty was looking forward to tweaking the long term plans for the school.

Lisa Borawski-Pickard inquired as to whether the parent-teacher conference schedule was more condensed than prior years. Mr. Sweet indicated that in the past, some conferences ran through Friday and some conferences were done after school.

### **Parent Organization Report**

PO President Andrea Guiney reported that volunteers provided snacks for the teachers during parent-teacher conferences. She also reported that the PO had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Porter and the financial team to address the family rebate issues. Ms. Guiney reported that the kinks and bugs were worked out and that the program was running fine.

Ms. Guiney also reported that the first quarter family SCRIP rebate check was given to the office. Ms. Guiney thanked volunteer Sonia Hernandez for her efforts in coordinating the program.

Ms. Guiney also reported that the PO was working on the TPA Winter Market fundraiser to be held on December 5, 2015. Ms. Guiney explained the details of the fundraiser and how it would be advertised to the community. Ms. Guiney also reported that she met with the events coordinator at Grace Community Church to discuss joint promotions. She further reported that she met with the City of Tempe to work out issues as to how the events could be promoted without violating Tempe signage regulations.

Ms. Guiney thanked the faculty for holding parent-teacher conferences and indicated that holding such conferences was a selling point for the school due to the fact that many schools have discontinued such programs.

### **PAC Report**

Arturo Urias reported on the October PAC meeting where Dr. Evans presented a lecture on the meaning of Truth based on the Western Tradition.

Mr. Urias also reported that Dr. Porter attended the meeting and engaged in a discussion of possible improvements to the math curriculum. Dr. Rebecca Cryder attended the meeting and thanked Dr. Porter for his efforts in leading this discussion. Dr. Porter

confirmed that the purpose of the discussion was to elicit input from the community regarding the math curriculum.

### **Foundation Board Update**

Foundation President Marion Rhoades recognized new board members and reported on the content of the meeting the previous week. Ms. Rhoades reported that the Foundation Board would focus on developing a strategic plan regarding fundraising and grants. Ms. Rhoades reported that the next meeting would be held on November 12, 2015.

### **Executive Session**

Richard Foreman made a Motion to go into Executive Session. Roberta Fischer seconded the motion. Vote passed.

Executive Session commenced at 7:12 p.m. The Board held discussion regarding Legal Advice regarding employment personnel changes and associated negotiations including insurance coverage and Bond exit and refinance terms. The Board did not discuss Item B on the Agenda. Executive Session ended at 8:30 p.m.

### **Presentation of Annual Financial Reports for 2015**

Forrest Valora explained that the purpose of the AFR is to show the public where the money is spent. The report is reconciled against the budget to ensure compliance.

Dr. Stuart Newfeld inquired as to whether there are any dramatic differences between the budget and the actual expenditures. Mr. Valora indicated there were no dramatic increases or decreases.

Chad Sampson asked Mr. Valora to look into figures and prepare a report.

Chad Sampson made a Motion that the Board adopt the AFR. Dr. Stuart Newfeld seconded the Motion. Vote passed.

### **Review and Possible Adoption of Revised Budgets for 2016**

Board counsel Hugh Hallman advised that the revised budgets were put together to facilitate the bond re-refinance.

Dr. Stuart Newfeld noted that the original budgets were prepared in the context of the uncertainty arising from the small school weight legal issue that was pending at the time.

Chad Sampson made a Motion that the Board adopt the proposed Revised Budget for 2016. Roberta Fischer seconded the Motion. Vote passed.

## **Regular Agenda Continued**

None.

## **Motions from the Executive Session**

Chad Sampson made a Motion that the Board approve the settlement agreement with former employees as the agreement was presented in executive session. Dr. Stuart Newfeld seconded the Motion. Vote passed.

Chad Sampson made a Motion that the Board approve and accept the insurance settlement agreement as explained in executive session and authorize acceptance of the settlement and authorize the Board president and headmaster to finalize and execute the settlement agreement to effectuate the settlement. Richard Foreman seconded the Motion. Vote passed.

Chad Sampson made a Motion that the Board approve the corporate resolution regarding the bond exit and refinance and that the documents be included in the minutes. Dr. Stuart Newfeld seconded the Motion. Vote passed.

## **Announcements**

None.

## **Next Regular Board Meeting**

Chad Sampson announced that there were several schedule conflicts among Board members on the regularly scheduled meeting date and that the president will take the matter under advisement to determine whether a meeting in November is necessary and, if so, when it will be scheduled.

## **Adjournment**

Dr. Stuart Newfeld moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. Robert Fischer seconded the Motion. Vote passed.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*/s/Joel DeCiancio*

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By: Joel DeCiancio, Board Scribe