

Minutes for the Tempe Preparatory Academies

Special Session Board Meeting

April 26, 2018

Item 1: Call to Order: The Board meeting was called to order to 6:09 pm on April 26, 2018 at 1251 E. Southern Ave. Mesa, AZ 85281

Item 2: Board Members Present:

Lisa Borawski Pickard

Becky Cryder

Roberta Fischer

Dr. Newfeld (telephonic)

Mr. Sampson

Mr. Foreman (telephonic)

Non-voting members present:

Dr. Wayne Porter

Item 4: Special Item: Information and discussion regarding the statewide teacher walkout.

Linda Nagy: Parent: Concern about the potential action about teacher's certificate or reprimand due to the AZ State Superintendent of Instruction statements as such. Mr. Sampson states that, speaking as a member of PPAC, he feels there would be little chance that a teacher would receive a reprimand in their file. Mr. Sampson is the chair of the Professional Practices Acting Committee and in his professional opinion that would not happen. **Dr. Salcido: Faculty member:** Feels there is little disclosure regarding teacher pay and who makes what and how pay is allocated. Would like to have more disclosure regarding finances in the future. Dr. Porter recounted the three years he has been here and how the current pay situation came to be. There is a beginning pay salary that was determined by Dr. Porter, Dr. Cryder, Ms. Fischer, and Mrs. Borawski-Pickard. Being that there has been no real increase in financial stream besides what the state has provided, that is what has been passed on. As far as finances, Mrs. Borawski-Pickard noted that it has been a process that has been long in coming and we are finally to a point where we have some flexibility in finances. Dr. Newfeld notes that he was surprised that the policy regarding not paying new teachers more than current teachers, "salary inversion," occurs. Mr. Sampson mentioned that the 22:1 model and lack of the ability to raise tuition makes it necessary in some cases to have flexible salary models. Community investment has been one way that we have gotten more money into to teachers. Dr. Salcido mentioned that some classes have more than 22 students, which can affect classroom usability. Dr. Porter notes that there are

only a few language classes in this situation but that they are doing what they can to make sure **Mrs. Nagy** asked about financial surplus and why it wasn't going back to the teachers. Dr. Porter said that 90 days cash on hand is almost a million dollars. We have about 140 days cash on hand. But, we have many priorities for the money, potentially moving to the new campus, etc. He mentioned that we are expecting to offer an additional bonus this summer along with the Prop 301. **Mr. Nagy** mentioned that the teachers don't get paid even as much as the QT manager. Dr. Cryder mentioned that this is known by the Board, as she is a teacher, but until the state figures out their budget there is little we can do to allocate money that may or may not be provided. **Deborah Hire: Faculty:** The pay scale for many districts is online, but TPA doesn't pay for many of the perks that public schools do. **Emma Moriarty: Senior at TPA:** Asked the plan for students: is there school tomorrow or Monday? Dr. Porter: There will not be school tomorrow, it will be a non-instructional day. He hopes that there will be school on Monday. There are anonymous polls for the faculty to gauge their desire to return to school. Emma notes that there are many seniors who do not want to return to school after graduation and wants her points on record. **Vickie Kuntzelman: Faculty:** the AZ State Senate has left the session. **Mitchell Rines: Junior at TPA:** supports the teachers, congratulates the teachers and appreciates all the hard work they have given to him and his family. He is very thankful for the opportunities they have given him. He is nervous about the walkout and how it may affect his schooling. Mr. Sampson notes that the current model of payment for students is based on the number of hours of students' attendance. If we don't have enough hours, then we may be penalized financially. Students can also be put into audit status if they don't meet the basic number of hours. Dr. Porter assured students and staff that the hours after the walk out ends that the school is working to minimize the number of hours. **Dr. Kelly: Faculty:** The walkout is hurting students and faculty, but the goal of the walkout is to limit future hurts to students as they currently stand (decreased revenues from the state). **Dr. Newfeld:** How many days cash on hand is enough? Just a rhetorical question to think about in the future. **Mrs. Magana: Support Staff:** Enjoys working with the faculty here. But what about support staff bonus payments? Dr. Porter notes that next year's budget includes pay increases for support staff. Mr. Sampson mentions that we could increase funding if we would increase class size.

Item 13: Next regular session board meeting May 15 at 6pm in student union.

Motion to adjourn: Mr. Sampson second by Mrs. Fischer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Rebecca Cryder, Secretary