

Minutes for the Joint Board of Directors of Jefferson Academy
A Colorado Non-profit Corporation
November 15, 2022 6:00 p.m.
Summit Academy & Zoom

Preliminary A., B., C., D., E., F.

Mr. Mathai called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The guests were welcomed. The following Board members were present: Mr. Ennis, Ms. Lilyblade, Mr. Mathai, Mr. Quintana, Ms. Sorice and Ms. Vartanova. Ms. Mills had an excused tardy and Ms. Vartanova had an excused absence. The following ex-officio members were present: Ms. Grantham, Mr. Matlick, Ms. Scarato and Ms. Taussig. Mr. Quintana led the guests and the Board of Directors in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Mathai presented the agenda. Ms. Sorice moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Lilyblade seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

During Public Comment, James Suckow introduced himself as a parent of a 5th grade student and a member on the PTO Board. Mr. Suckow addressed the school being a K-12 school and shared that he is in full support of the K-12 ideology. Mr. Suckow shared his concern with the perception of lack of communication and synergy across the campuses. He would also like to see more cooperation between the campuses.

Consent Agenda

A Review & Approve

Mr. Mathai presented the Consent Agenda. Ms. Sorice moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ms. Mills seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

General Agenda

1 JA K -12 Foundation Presentation

Michael Garioto introduced himself as the president of the foundation. Mr. Garioto mentioned the success of the Jag Jog, grants, and the upcoming Colorado Gives Day. The foundation supports families in financial need, and certain needs for the schools and students. Mr. Garioto noted the importance of sharing with the community where any donations would be allocated.

A Informational

1 Principal Presentation and Facility Introduction

Alyssia Taussig, Principal at Summit South, introduced one of her teachers, Amy Vander Kooi. Ms. Vander Kooi stated that she teaches many different classes, including science and social studies. She shared that she was the recipient of two foundation grants and how she used the grant money in her classroom. Ms. Vander Kooi presented the Summit Experience showing examples of the work and learning experiences that she has provided to her students.

Ms. Taussig reported that they have an enrollment of 237 students. She shared that they have had a fall dance, collaborating with other homeschool programs, and is working on a steering

committee with her staff. Ms. Taussig noted the space issue with the Conifer campus and that limits their enrollment, which is currently at 117. There is an additional area upstairs that may be available.

2 General Executive Director Update

Mr. Matlick reported that schools are back to normal with events, dances and athletics in all the buildings. Mr. Matlick shared that he dropped off 22 gifts to staff members and departments at the district. He noted that he is working with new district personnel to assist them in gaining a better understanding of charter schools.

3 General principal Updates (not covered in the consent agenda)

Metrics and goals compared to other schools

Ms. Grantham shared that their leadership team is going through adaptive training for free, working with communication and setting standards. She noted students are starting mock trials. Also, two students will be presenting at the League of Charter School conference.

Mr. Mathai requested that the metrics and goals compared to other schools be on January's agenda.

B Strategic

1 Strategic Plan

a Strategic plan - update on progress

Mr. Matlick provided a summary with the updates in the strategic plan. Providing hot spots to families without internet and working with the foundation to assist families in financial need. Also, addressing mental health issues and infrastructure.

C General Board Governance

1 General

a Review class size

Mr. Matlick reviewed the current enrollment at each school and program. It was noted that Policy 8.2 needs to be revised. Ms. Grantham will send suggestions to the Policy and Governance Committee.

b Resolution to prioritize students from closing Jeffco Schools

Mr. Matlick presented the resolution that would give students currently attending a Jeffco school that is closing next year priority in open enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year. Discussion ensued. Mr. Mathai moved to accept the resolution. Ms. Mills seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

c Colorado's Family & Medical Leave Insurance Act

Mr. Matlick presented the new policy by the state with the recommendation that JA not participate in the Colorado Family Leave Act. Mr. Matlick reported that Jefferson County Public

School's Board of Education opted out of the program. Mr. Matlick explained that by opting into this plan, it would be a payroll deduction for everyone. Staff members may still participate on their own. It was noted that staff members were notified that they could participate on their own. Ms. Sorice made a motion to approve Mr. Matlick's recommendation that Jefferson Academy opt out of Colorado's Family Leave Act. Ms. Lilyblade seconded the motion. Mr. Mathai made a friendly amendment to include both portions. Ms. Sorice accepted the friendly amendment. The motion passed unanimously.

d Review and approve staff survey to be sent out in January

Ms. Lilyblade presented the draft of the survey. Discussion ensued about differentiating with building administrations, compensation, and getting feedback regarding academic rigor, core values and strategic goals. It was determined that given the number of changes this item will be revised and placed on the January agenda. Board members will send their suggestions to Mr. Ennis.

e Create executive director's annual goals to be included in the next employment agreement

Ms. Sorice reviewed the evaluation process and the timeline. It was determined that the employment agreement will be in January and executed in February.

Financials

a JA Compensation Schedule

Ms. Larson presented the compensation schedule. It was noted that this schedule is affordable, transparent and sustainable. Ms. Larson requested that the increase be effective beginning August 2022 to be paid on December's paycheck due to the increase in PERA that will take effect January 1, 2023. It was noted that the total salaries should not exceed 70% of the budget. It was suggested that the Policy & Governance Committee along with the Finance Committee be tasked with generating a possible 92% fail safe in the compensation scale and present this to the Board. Ms. Sorice moved that the Board approve the recommended faculty compensation schedule and COLA for the support staff to be implemented for the 2023-2024 academic year retroactive to August 2022. Mr. Quintana seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b 2022/23 Amended Budget (October 1 Count)

Mr. Quintana presented the amended budget. Holocher presented the elementary budget and noted the additional funding in PPR and the increase in SPED funding. Mr. Holocher made adjustments in the budget due to the lower than expected October 1 count. He explained the bond payment and district services that are calculated according to the FTE. He noted no issues in the budget. Mr. Holocher explained how the ESSER III monies may be spent.

Mr. Melville reported that the secondary and Summit campus had increases in enrollment. Mr. Melville noted the big contracted projects in their budget.

3 Committees

a Update from Committee Leads on Committee Activities - if needed

b Review Parent Survey Results

Michael Westfield presented the parent survey results. The results were reviewed. It was noted that there were 312 responses from the elementary families, and 212 responses from the secondary families.

D Policy

1 None

E Task-Oriented

1 Approve Minutes from October 18, 2022

Ms. Sorice presented the Minutes of October 18, 2022. Ms. Sorice moved to approve the Minutes of October 18, 2022 as presented. Mr. Quintana seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Ennis abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

2 Action Items

These were reviewed and revised.

3 Board Communication to Parents (Top 5)

It was suggested that the following be included: Joan Larson retiring, staff compensation schedule, parent survey and the foundation members.


F Executive Session

None

Adjournment

Mr. Mathai moved to adjourn at 10:22 p.m. Mr. Ennis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Shelly Cohen, Clerk

Jefferson Academy Board of Directors