

**Minutes of the Joint Board of Directors  
A Colorado Non-profit Corporation  
October 19, 2021  
6:00 p.m.  
Zoom Meeting**

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

Ms. Sorice called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The guests were welcomed. Roll call was taken and the following Board members were present: Mr. Ennis, Mr. Kim, Ms. Quillen, Ms. Vartanova and Ms. Sorice. Mr. Hawk and Ms. LaBerge had an excused absence. The following ex-officio board members were present: Ms. Grantham, Mr. Matlick, Ms. Scarato and Ms. Taussig. Mr. Ennis led the guests and the Board of Directors in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Sorice presented the agenda. Ms. Quillen moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Ennis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. There was no Public Comment.

**Consent Agenda**

Ms. Sorice presented the Consent Agenda. Ms. Quillen moved that the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Ennis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**General Agenda**

**A Informational**

**1 COVID Update and JA's response**

Mr. Matlick provided a presentation with an update on Jefferson County's positivity rate, hospital admission rate and vaccination status with the hospitalizations. He shared the JA COVID Dashboard noting the only quarantines were at the secondary and these numbers are lower than last year. Mr. Matlick pointed out that we remain on track with the four goals in the Flexing Forward plan. There are no updates for schools from JCPH or Broomfield Public Health orders. There have been no outbreaks in any of our facilities. Mr. Matlick reported that one of the biggest challenges so far are students acclimating to school norms, lack of substitute teachers and staff feeling tired. Mr. Matlick noted that unvaccinated staff will continue to test, but will now test at home. Mr. Matlick stated that music events may take place as long as they are considered to be part of their curriculum. It was clarified that when a staff member tests positive, all that information must be sent to JCPH.

**B Strategic**

**1 Comprehensive Communications**

**a Approve and distribute staff survey**

Ms. Quillen reported that the committee has developed six questions for the staff survey and five questions for the family survey. Ms. Quillen read the questions and noted that there are no open-ended questions. The Board members provided feedback. The specific campus will be noted in the survey. Ms. Vartanova moved that the Board approve the staff survey as presented. Mr. Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. It was determined that the questions for the family survey be added to the SAC fall survey. This will be approved in SAC Committee-fall C3b.

**b Overview of new website, communications progress**

Ms. Crawley provided an overview of the communications committee. She shared that social media is merging into one account. The communications manual is in the beginning stages with the committee. Ms. Crawley shared that the K-12 website has moved over to the new design and invited everyone to provide feedback.

**2 Innovative Academic Environment**

**a Unified Improvement Plan**

Mr. Matlick noted the district and state moved up the due date to this week and administration has been working very hard to put together the plan. Ms. Grantham shared that her leadership team has met and is using this time to look at the data that is meaningful to the teachers to measure their effectiveness. They are streamlining the process and focusing on one or two goals in the school concentrating on each content area. The UIP does not apply to the Summit programs.

**3 Healing from COVID**

**a Update on COVID survey**

Previously covered.

**4 Multiple Pathways to Success**

**a Student withdrawal updates**

Ms. Cohen reported that the elementary school had two students withdrawn during the first quarter. The elementary school lost 86 students from the end of May to the beginning of this school year and added 77 new students for the 2021-2022 school year. The number of students leaving JA is much higher than normal.

Ms. Grantham reported seven high school students and six junior high students transferred during the first quarter.

Ms. Scarato reported 106 withdrawals since July 27, with 18 of those since the beginning of school. Ms. Scarato noted that this number is much higher than in past years. 53 students left due to the masking mandate. Ms. Scarato shared that about 20 students are in their remote program.

Ms. Taussig reported that they lost four students. She said that their highest enrollment was at 211 and their October count is 188. Ms. Taussig pointed out that most of the enrollment drop was in the south program and not in Conifer.

It was noted that the budget is not impacted by the loss of enrollment.

**5 Character and Values**

**a Update from core values group**

Mauice Williams shared that the next meeting is on the 28th and he will provide an update next month. Mr. Matlick shared that Michelle Fox, Human Resources, has been focusing on how to make staff members feel valued and cared for, and how she has been reaching out to each staff member in building relationships.

**b Update on impact of Tik Tok challenges**

Mr. Matlick noted that the only issue at the elementary school was a student trying to take the bathroom door off with scissors. Ms. Grantham shared that a boys' bathroom had to be closed for a period of time due to issues. Mr. Williams reported that there were three suspensions related to Tik Tok. Mr. Williams stated that a number of students came forward identifying the students attempting to do the challenges and it appears the number of incidents are declining. Parents have been very supportive of the administration.

Mr. Matlick explained that charter schools are not allowed to expel students. They must request an expulsion from the district and then a hearing is held at the district level. If a student is suspended and the parent questions the suspension, a hearing is held through the charter school board. The charter school board's decision on suspensions are final.

Ms Grantham shared that they receive a lot of support through their school resource officer. Ms. Grantham believes her staff to be informed of these possible situations and is confident that they will handle themselves in a professional manner.

**C Generra Board Governance/Updates/Other issues**

**1 Facilities**

**A Update to JA Building Corporation Members**

Ms. Sorice noted that Pat Wall needs to be removed from the Building Corporation and Ms. LaBerge requested to nominate James Suckow for the position. Ms. Vartanova moved that Pat Wall be removed from the JA Building Corporation. Mr. Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Kim nominated James Suckow as a member of the JA Building Corporation. Ms. Vartanova seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**2 Financials****a Draft audit presentation**

Ms. Vartanova reported that the audit is not yet completed. The deadline is October 31. This will be on next month's agenda.

**b Approve FRCC invoice payment**

Ms. Vartanova reported that the FRCC invoice has not come in yet. Ms. Vartanova suggested that the Board approve the invoice payments for fall 2021 and spring 2022 not to exceed \$175,000 each. As a point of reference these amounts would exceed the amounts paid last year. Ms. Larson reported that the invoice was not received last year until December 3 and the Board approved payment in advance. Ms. Vartanova moved that the Board approve in advance the invoice of the academic school year of 2021-2022 to be compensated but not to exceed \$350,000. Mr. Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Vartanova noted that the updated budget needs to be approved by the Board and sent to the district in December. It was noted that the Board generally does not meet in December. It was determined that the budget will be presented for the November meeting.

**3 Committees****a Update from committee leads on committee activities**

Ms. Vartanova reported that parents have expressed interest in committees, and she noted that there are still openings on several committees.

**b SAC committee - fall survey**

Ms. Vartanova reported that the committee reviewed the questions from the prior year to provide consistency. She reiterated that the COVID questions will be incorporated into the fall survey. The survey will not be distributed to Summit due to their model. The Board had previously received the survey to review. Ms. Vartanova moved to approve the fall family survey for the elementary and secondary school to include the five COVID-related questions as presented to the Board. Ms. Quillen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**D Task-Oriented****Action Items**

These were reviewed and revised.

**Board communication to parents**

It was determined that the following would be included in the communication to the families: no changes to the COVID protocol, Tik Tok challenges, website makeover, fall survey, and the strategic plan to support staff. Mr. Ennis will generate a draft and have it reviewed by Ms. LaBerge.

**E Policy****1 None****F Miscellaneous Board items****1 Approve Minutes September 21, 2021**

Ms. Sorice presented the Minutes of September 21, 2021. Mr. Ennis moved to approve the Minutes of September 21, 2021 as presented. Ms. Vartanova seconded the motion. Ms. Sorice abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Vartanova moved to enter Executive Session at 8:11 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f). Mr. Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**G Executive Session****1 Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f)**

Mr. Ennis moved that the Board exited the Executive Session at 9:08 p.m. Mr. Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Ennis moved to adjourn at 9:08p.m. Mr. Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Shelly Cohen, Clerk

Jefferson Academy Board of Directors