****

**Face to Face Academy**

**Board Meeting Notes**

**February 24, 2025**

Attendance included Academy School Board Members Bryan Bakke, Mike Nord, John Vasecka (*online*) Willie Suttle and Rachel Blawat (*in person*.) Also present for the meeting was Darius Husain (*Academy Director*) and Tom Kigin (*Advisor to the Board Members.)*

Absent: Board Member Shannon Lowe.

***This Board Meeting was conducted both on campus and via Zoom so that all attendees could attend. There remains one open Board position.***

**1) Review of Agenda & Conflict of Interest Regarding Agenda Items**

There were no conflicts of interest noted.

**2) Public Comment Period**

There were no Public Comments made to the Board.

**3) Review of January 2025 Board Minutes**

*\*Board Members prefer the protocol of reading the Board Minutes before the meeting.*

**Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the January 27, 2025 School Board Minutes were accepted as submitted.**

**4) Finance Report, Credit Card, Checks, and Wire Statements**

1. Financial Statements were received through January 31 for the school year 2024/25 and shared for the Board to review.
2. Revenue is at 54% received.
3. Expenditures are 58% spent.
4. The school year is 58% complete.
5. Reconciled cash balance is $1,044,341.
6. Holdback is noted at $106,955.
7. Donations are noted at $18,770.
8. The remaining balance of ESSER funds was received.
9. Rent and operating expenses are always paid one month in advance.
10. The Food Service fund was reviewed. Sometime the community lunches are entered into the Food Fund; Mr. Husain will follow up on this error in coding.
11. The budget currently reflects an ADM of 91/92 which is higher than normal at this time of the school year.
12. Checks and wires, Amazon purchases, and the credit card statements were circulated for the Board members for review.

**Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the financial documents were accepted as submitted. Approval noted by Mr. Nord, Mr. Suttle, Mr. Vasecka, Ms. Blawat, and Mr. Bakke.**

**5) Sam Nordquist Remembrance & Board Action**

1. Conversation about Sam Nordquist’s four year Academy enrollment and 2020 graduation and recap about the timeline leading up to his death.
2. Discussion about how the Academy wanted to present a “counter-narrative” of Sam, one that focused more on Sam’s life. Mr. Husain wrote a blog post and it continues to be viewed and reshared. Blog post was shared with Board Members.
3. Sam’s mother, Linda Nordquist, has visited the Academy several times and was thankful for the narrative.
4. Ms. Nordquist shared her approval and appreciation of an Academy scholarship and memorial garden in Sam’s name. The *Stand with Sam* Scholarship and Memorial Garden handouts outlining the initiatives were shared with Board Members.
5. There have been 25-30 different donations already made to these Academy funds honoring Sam.
6. The Office of Neighborhood Safety and the Mayor’s Office has indicated support and interest in being a part of any dedication to the new garden space.
7. There are two memorials for Sam - Monday’s is open to the public and Tuesday’s is a private service and burial.
8. Discussion of how to balance the initial Memorial Garden and the *Live for Olivia* scholarship with these two initiatives honoring Sam.
9. The Memorial Garden currently reflects a meditative space to reflect on grief and loss and acknowledges three Academy students with engraved stones who were killed due to violence. This garden would be moved and expanded under the new design for the outdoor space.
10. The idea behind the new *Stand with Sam* scholarship would be to honor 1-2 graduates while the *Live for Olivia* scholarship is available for all graduates.

**Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the two initiatives to honor Sam Nordquist were accepted as submitted. Approval noted by Mr. Nord, Mr. Suttle, Mr. Vasecka, Ms. Blawat, and Mr. Bakke.**

**6) Budget Revision SY25 - First Look**

1. Mr. Husain shared the SY25 revised budget with Board Members.
2. Revised budget reflects 92 ADM. Current reenrollment is 98 students.
3. Revised budget reflects higher ESSER funds and compensatory revenue and savings in unanticipated staffing changes with Mr. Roark’s mid-school year retirement.
4. Revised budget reflects a $126,450 surplus.
5. Before her accident and medical leave, Ms. Nguyen finalized her resignation with the Academy. She is on pace to return to her position for Quarter 4. Ms. Nguyen is a .72 position and in order to recruit for this position, it will be advertised as a full time position.
6. The anticipated surplus can help offset the staffing uncertainties of hiring for the two vacated teaching positions of Mr. Roark and Ms. Nguyen. The core content positions being advertised are for one Math teacher and one teacher in either Social Studies, English, and/or Science.
7. Short discussion on items that could be purchased before next school year like Chromebooks and potential curriculum needs as one-time expenditures.
8. Board Members provided positive feedback on initial ideas on the revised budget.
9. Question about the budget is how much can the Academy transfer to the *ABC*.

**7) Outdoor Learning Space Update and Development Plan**

1. Mr. Husain briefed the Board Members on his presentation to the Health & Counseling’s Board meeting. Presentation included the history of the two agencies and the design outlines of the outdoor space.
2. The sport court and its location was the main focus of the presentation. Health & Counseling’s Board gave initial positive feedback and approval of the Academy's design plan of the outdoor space.
3. The Academy has liability insurance and this arrangement would be in place with any expansion and renovation.

**8) Academy Program Report**

1. MCA testing will start in April. Prepping students for this has been going well.
2. Next Board Meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bryan Bakke

Board Secretary