



**Revolution Academy
Board Meeting Minutes**

August 19, 2021

Virtual meeting

1. Call to Order

J Nosek called the meeting to order at 18:33.

Board members in attendance virtually: John Nosek, Lisa Walker, Elaine Graziano, John Hardister, Jon Brewer

Staff members online: Mary Catherine Sauer, Michele Harris, Jaime Gaulden, Robin Helms plus several other staff/teachers

Others in attendance online: approximately 30+ parents/grandparents

2. Reading of Mission Statement

J Nosek read the mission statement

J Nosek welcomed all the parents and hoped that everyone's children had a great first day of school. He explained that there will be time for public comment. There will also be a closed session at which time all who are not Board members or approved staff will be put in the waiting room, and if they stay, they will be brought back in after closed session.

3. *Approval of minutes (7.15.21, 8.8.21)**

A motion was made by J Hardister and seconded by J Brewer to approve the minutes from 7.15.21 and 8.8.21. The motion carried 5 – 0.

4. Public Comment

A motion was made by J Nosek and seconded by E Graziano to approve having 30 minutes of public comment. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Because everyone was online, J Nosek instructed those who wanted to speak to send a message to MC Sauer in the chat box to get in line.

Stephanie Dixon – concerns about masking and how exemptions get approved.

Destiny Chapman – last year we mitigated Covid. Feels Admin is encouraging exemptions. Child in 3rd grade scared he is going to get Covid because of lack of masks. Masking optional is making her family pause.

Andrea Owen – what will be lost if we require masks? Delta variant – masks are needed more than ever. Please don't ask us to choose between safely and a good education.

Dr. Daniel Teague – pathologist. There is a lot of fear and a lot of conflicting info. 4.2 million with Covid with a death rate of .008%. Concern has to be weighed with actual risk. Surgical and cloth masks have pore sizes between 80 - 500 microns. Covid's pore size is .06 - .014 – goes right through. Those most susceptible to Covid are 65+ with 2 plus comorbidities. Children are the least affected except by our real, unintended consequences (emotional, spiritual, developmental).

Inga Koujak – grandparent who has studied up on Covid. Thanked Dr. Teague and concurs with him.
Craig Steelman – We know more about Covid now. They make us wear a mask in our car/bed – too much.

Christy Teague – our exception policy is the same this year as last. No change.

Dr. Chad Rund – the science on masks is not settled. There are plenty of papers that will refute that masks work. There are privacy issues. You have to balance the risk with the benefit. We are under no obligation to disclose why our children cannot wear a mask. Advice to the Board – you have to allow mask exceptions. Understands there are parents who want them but for those who don't, not willing to face all the risks.

Amanda Williams – first year parent. Teaches her child to follow the rules. Thinks exceptions should be granted only with a doctor's note.

After 30 minutes of public comment, J Nosek declared the session over. He repeated the Board position that Revolution Academy will follow county and state mandates but will not have additional requirements. It is always an option to wear a mask.

5. Closed Session*

A motion was made by J Hardister and seconded by J Brewer to go into closed session. The motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by J Brewer and seconded by L Walker to come out of closed session. The motion carried 5-0.

6. Personnel

- a. Discussion and approval of new hires*

A motion was made by J Hardister and seconded by L Walker to approve the new hires discussed in closed session: C. Barringer as a teacher and James Jackson as a soccer coach. The motion carried 5-0.

7. Principal's Report – MC Sauer went over the principal's report. She recommended a 10-day quarantine starting tomorrow because of all the staff out. Return to in person learning August 30. 8/20 would now be a virtual teacher workday. Next week would be virtual. J Nosek asked that by next Board meeting we have a plan in place to figure out how to make up (or not) the 8/20 school day. We will now temperature screen all adults entering the building, limit visitors.

A motion was made by J Brewer and seconded by J Hardister to approve the virtual teacher workday 8/20 and virtual school all next week (8/23 – 8/27). The motion carried 5-0.

8. Finance

- a. Review Budget Reports - MC Sauer presented the financial reports. We are still waiting for the audit to be completed. L Walker asked for an explanation of how we are funded for the benefit of all the parents at the meeting.

9. Operations

- a. *Discussion and approval of janitorial service contract** - MC Sauer presented an explanation of SMO (new bidder) and ServiceMaster (current company). There are some service issues with the current company. SMO offers professionalism and a day porter who is part of our team as well as the night cleaning crew. J Brewer asked for the background checks of the new cleaning company. It was mentioned that we were able to buy a Covid decontamination sprayer with Covid money last year.

A motion was made by L Walker and seconded by J Hardister to approve the SMO contract. The motion carried 5-0.

- b. *Discussion and approval of bus transportation contract** - MC Sauer presented the bus contract with First Student. She asked for flexibility when negotiating (for example, a min. of 175 days and a maximum of 183). We are impressed with our new drivers. J Nosek asked that we keep a file of insurance documents for this company as well as all companies with whom we have contracts. We will add the state language addendum.

A motion was made by J Brewer and seconded by J Hardister to approve the First Student bus contract. The motion carried 5-0.

J Nosek thanked everyone for attending and wished everyone a good night.

10. Adjourn*

A motion was made by J Hardister and seconded by E Graziano to adjourn at 20:27. The motion carried 5-0.

*requires Board action