



## Board Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2024

1. \*Call to Order: J Nosek called the meeting to order at 18:43.  
Board members present: J Brewer, D Crockett, J Nosek, L Walker, Y Robinson  
Staff Present: M Harris, J Gaulden, R Helms, E Chicka,

2. Reading of Mission Statement: J Nosek

3. \*Approval of minutes:

**A motion to approve the minutes from 2/15/24 was made by J Nosek and seconded by Y Robinson. Motion carries 5-0.**

4. Public Comment: There were 6 parents present.

Pam Timmerman spoke to the board regarding ongoing bullying issues and presented information from stopbullying.gov. She would like additional training for teachers and staff on what to say to students and what not to say as well as consequences for those who do not comply.

Kim Shively, an RA parent as well, came to support Pam Timmerman and advocate for additional bullying training for staff and teachers. Also, she reminded the board that she had applied for the academic committee and had not heard a response. She said she hasn't heard anything about additional curriculum however she likes the current curriculum. Asked for more transparency in selecting committee members.

5. PTO Report: Submitted for the record on the Board Drive. See attachments. Save the date for the Rhino Reception is May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Havana Nights is the theme, volunteers and sponsors needed. J Nosek asked about the banners being fixed on parking lot poles, Michele responded that they were in the process of being fixed.
6. Principal's Report: M Harris indicated everyone was preparing for the school to be on Spring Break- March 29th-April 5<sup>th</sup>. We have a couple of more OCS and Leaders Building Leaders training for the remainder of the year. The Admin retreat will be June 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. Admin and Leaders Building Leaders teacher leaders will meet with Tom Miller on June 5<sup>th</sup>. There is also NJHS induction ceremony- April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm, those being inducted along with parents and family members are welcome. There is also the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation- May 30<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 AM- all board members are invited. Five parents have agreed to be on the parent board the Capital Campaign and Carol Wick will be here on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> to meet with those parents and get the process started. We thank these parents for their involvement and willingness to serve. Michele has put the information for the Charter School Renewal Site Visit on the board drive such as the agenda. This will be a virtual visit. L Walker expressed concern that she will be returning from Salt Lake City that day (there for a volleyball tournament with one of her daughters) and wanted to make sure she could attend due to the time difference. Michele informed the board that it is vitally important for all board members to attend. She also informed the board that there would be a link sent for the Virtual Visit. L Walker asked that we be reminded this is a virtual visit so as to ensure all are aware there isn't a physical visit as of yet. Michele also discussed the current

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enrollment and lottery numbers. J Nosek asked a question regarding the ninth grade, there are 49 on the wait list and only 19 accepted. M Harris explained they are waiting on paperwork from the 49 to move them from one list to the other.

7. Board Committee Updates:

- a. Finance: Current budget is in board drive. We are on track to come in above where surplus has been projected. Outside auditor is thrilled with budget numbers, covenants of current bond, and also board financial policies. Working hard on new budget for next year and going line by line to ensure we are capturing where we will need monies for new high school, R Ketner was instrumental in helping to shore up and project these numbers based on current and previous budgets. Acadia, the Finance division was bought by Prestige. The owner of Prestige actually started Acadia many years ago. The new finance division is way more advanced with technology so this should prove useful now and in the future. The Power School side remains with Acadia as we know it.
- b. High School Update- The discussion and approval for the architect for CBC (Central Baptist Church) was tabled. M Harris provided two quotes for construction changes needed at CBC. These are fixed price quotes. Dave Smith is the contact at the church as well as Pastor Roy. J Nosek wants to ask about conference table relocation, some of the items on the JMG quote can be removed to make it more cost efficient. One quote is \$11,000 less than the other. M Harris discussed negotiating or asking for more quotes. One quote was from Fourth Elm and the other JMGC, Property Mgmt. Timeline is to be done by July 15<sup>th</sup> in order to move in. J Nosek asked to get more quotes. M Harris suggested asking the church id they would be willing for us to use other vendors or do some of the work ourselves with regards to some items such as relocating conference room tables, paint and carpet.
  1. Tabled
  2. Update on traffic engineer- We are waiting to hear an update to see if we need a Traffic Impact Study.
  3. Land Update: We need a total of 30 acres to have septic on site, still looking for land within a close vicinity of current site.
- c. **\*A motion to table 7c (Governance/Kreider- discussion and approval of new board members) was made by J Nosek and seconded by L Walker, motion passed 5-0.**

8. Operations: The Board voted on the following policies: Public Records Request, Criminal Background Check, Nepotism

- a. **\* A motion to approve the updated Public Records Request Policy was made by J Nosek and seconded by J Brewer. The motion passed 5-0.**
- b. **\*A motion to approve the updated Criminal Background Checks Policy was made by J Nosek and seconded by J Brewer. The motion passed 5-0.**
- c. **\*A motion to discuss Nepotism Policy with specifics during closed session with vote to occur in open session was made by J Nosek and seconded by J Brewer. Motion passed 5-0.** Discussion was had by members regarding the Nepotism policy and how to handle potential conflicts should family members work together. J Nosek reminded board that M Harris is their only employee. Additionally, if board members cannot be trusted to keep confidential information private with regards to the Nepotism policy, we have a whole other problem. M Harris referenced Office of Charter Schools and their guidelines.

9. \*Closed Session

**\*A motion was made at 19:24 to enter closed session by Y Robinson and seconded by J Nosek. Motion passed 5-0.**

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**Closed session: § 143-318.11. Closed sessions.**

- (a) Permitted Purposes. – It is the policy of this State that closed sessions shall be held only when required to permit a public body to act in the public interest as permitted in this section. A public body may hold a closed session and exclude the public only when a closed session is required:
- (1) To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes.
  - (6) To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. General personnel policy issues may not be considered in a closed session. A public body may not consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, appointment, or removal of a member of the public body or another body and may not consider or fill a vacancy among its own membership except in an open meeting. Final action making an appointment or discharge or removal by a public body having final authority for the appointment or discharge or removal shall be taken in an open meeting.
  - (8) To formulate plans by a local board of education relating to emergency response to incidents of school violence or to formulate and adopt the school safety components of school improvement plans by a local board of education or a school improvement team.

**\*A motion was made at 20:36 to end closed session by J Nosek and seconded by Y Robinson. Motion passed 5-0.**

10. \*Discussion and approval of closed session minutes from 1.29.24 and 2.15.24.  
**Motion was made by J Nosek, seconded by J Brewer. Motion carried 5-0.**

8c: Revisiting Nepotism Policy

**\*A motion was made to NOT amend the Nepotism Policy by J Nosek and seconded by Y Robinson. Motion passed 4-0, J Brewer was the abstention.**

11. \*Discussion and approval of new hires.  
**\*Motion was made by D Crockett, seconded by J Nosek. Motion carried 5-0.**

12. \*Adjourn:  
**Motion to adjourn at 20:41 was made by L Walker and seconded by J Nosek. Motion carried 5-0.**

\* Requires Board action