

Tall Pines STEM Academy Board Meeting Agenda

Meeting August 17, 2023

Location: Tall Pines STEM Academy, Aiken, South Carolina
Commencement Time: 5:00 P.M. Presiding: Michelle Lorio

1. Meeting Opening:

- Call to Order — David call; Kelly second
- Welcome and Mission Statement

“The mission of Tall Pines STEM Academy is to provide an option for families where STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) is intertwined in the school’s culture and prepares middle school students to become the next generation of ethical leaders. Tall Pines STEM Academy will provide a combination of classroom and outdoor learning experiences to engage students, promote wellness and physical fitness, inspire creativity, foster critical thinking and problem solving skills, and cultivate citizenship and leadership skills through rigorous and relevant content and projects in a natural setting.”
- Call Roll and Establish Quorum (Michelle Lorio, Phillip Dersham (virtual), Kelly Schepens, David Tamburello; Allisa Perry arrived late); Cody is new non-voting board member; Andel Frazier visiting — did NOT have a quorum
- Public Comments

Please note that the official meeting of the board is by law a public meeting and the board values citizen input; however, in order to protect the integrity of the agenda, public dialogue will be restricted to the “Public Comments” section of the agenda or as directed by the board chair. Each speaker has 2 minutes and speakers may not ask questions of the Board Members. Board members may not engage speakers in discussion. Disruptive behavior and personal attacks aimed at students, staff or board members are not permitted.

2. Old Business:

- Sandee Blakenship will provide guidance regarding replacement of elected board member.
 - Can appoint for elected position, but not recommended
 - Suggested to leave it until next election

3. Matters for Decision:

- Approve meeting minutes from July 2023
- Approve monthly financials from July 2023
- Adjourn to Executive discussion (as necessary for Legal, Personnel, or Contract matters)

4. Matters for Discussion:

- Fundraising Committee Update
 - New fundraiser — Shout out for kid’s birthdays — \$150 raised so far
 - TPSA purchased snowcone machine
 - Allegra med deadline — still waiting on profits report

5. Matters for Noting:

- School/Principal’s Update
 - ACSD - safety protocol meeting with every teacher
 - MAP testing — ave 63% in both areas
 - State testing showed drop in math scores
 - Open House was success
 - 8 Donors Choose Grants Funded
 - Lotterease/Enrollease
 - \$4,375.77
 - Signing up ASAP
 - Phone call Monday for details
 - Athletics:
 - XC, volleyball, etc.
 - Successful car washes made ~\$1000

- Clubs & tutoring
 - Beginning 1st week of September
- S.E.E.D. Coming 9/23 — need volunteers
- Identified Special Ed teacher! Waiting on paperwork/background check/etc.
- Currently 383 students
 - 5th — 96/53
 - 6th — 96/130
 - 7th — 96/121
 - 8th — 95/0
 - Lottery for 2024-25 year has 24 already
- Need to send out Board Member election information
 - Board election is 10/30
 - Submit applications by 10/13 for nominations

6. Meeting Finalization:

- Review actions to be taken
- Next Meeting – September 21, 2023 at 5:00 pm

Motion to adjourn by David, 2nd by Allisa, at 5:31pm ... shortest meeting ever!