

## Tall Pines STEM Academy Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 15, 2022

Location: Tall Pines Campus – Camp Long, Aiken South Carolina

Commencement Time: 5 pm

Presiding: Michelle Lorio

### 1. Meeting Opening:

- a. Michelle Lorio called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm and Phillip Dersham read the mission. Michelle Lorio called roll and a quorum was established.
- b. Meeting Attendance:
  - i. Present:
    - Lori Mastromonico, Patsy Smith, Tim Meesseman, Phillip Dersham, Alissa Perry, Wendy Dietzel, Jennifer Minolfo, Sandy Blakenship, Stephen Lance, Michelle Lorio, Mandy Sims
  - ii. Absent:
    - Chasity McDaniel
  - iii. Public members: None

### 2. Old Business

- i. PTO: The board discussed sending out a letter to parents for interest. Then steps will be done to move forward.
- ii.

### 3. Matters for Decision:

- a. Approval of January Meeting Minutes:
  - i. The minutes were approved. Jennifer Minolfo motioned for approval. Mandy Sims seconded. Vote was unanimous.
- b. Approval of February Meeting Minutes
  - i. Phillip Dersham approved minutes as amended. Tim Meesseman seconded. Vote was unanimous.
- c. Approval of monthly financials from February 2022
  - i. Jennifer Minolfo questioned finances about substitutes and where the money comes from. This was discussed later and Clemson YLI pays for substitutes. Mandy Sims motioned for approval. Tracie McBride seconded. Vote was unanimous.
- d. Approve 2022/2023 TPSA Calendar
  - i. Discussion first: For the most part it matches ACPS calendar. There are a few differences. One is Thanksgiving Week and January. This is the second viewing of the calendar. Wendy Dietzel motioned for approval. Alisa Perry seconded. Vote was unanimous.

### 4. Financial Update

- i. Sandy Blankenship says it would be a good idea to have a Finance committee. Phillip Dersham will meet with Lori Mastromonico about fundraising. Phillip Dersham will then report to the board each month.

### 5. Matters for Discussion

- a. Review of By-Laws
  - i. Michelle Lorio wants to look at the by-laws that discuss the 2-year or 1-year school board term. The board members are to read the by-laws over the next month and we will discuss at April meeting. We will also look at ballots and terms of service on board. Mandy Sims will write out terms for school board for discussion at April meeting.

**6. Matters of Noting:**

- a. School/Principal's Update (Lori)
  - i. Lottery: Kim is waiting for 3 more responses to confirm spots. 5<sup>th</sup> grade – 26 students on waitlist, 6<sup>th</sup> grade – 51 students on waitlist. 7<sup>th</sup> grade – 33 students on waitlist. 8<sup>th</sup> grade – 58 students on waitlist. From a diversity standpoint- much more diversity at interest night.
  - ii. Soccer Season – The season has started and going great!
  - iii. Pack News Ponderosa Bake Sale brought in \$400.00
  - iv. 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Washington DC was great.
  - v. New Discipline plan rolled out. Lori Mastromonico met with teachers to come up with a behavior plan. At a later date, a survey will go out to parents. Wendy Dietzel asked about the new behavior plan with substitutes. This new plan will be in the substitute folders.
  - vi. 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade will have a field trip. It is in the planning stages now.
  - vii. Map testing and State testing are approaching.
- b. Sandy Blankenship spoke at our meeting.
  - i. She started out by introducing herself. She is taking over Patsy Smith's position. Her and Lori Mastromonico have been working and talking together since February. She discussed student and teacher accountability.
  - ii. Tall Pines Stem Academy is up for their charter renewal in 4 years.

**7. Meeting Finalization:**

- a. Review actions to be taken:
  - i. Review and Approve March meeting minutes
  - ii. Mandy Sims will provide a proposal on new term limits for the school board.
  - iii. Mandy Sims will bring a former list of information and changes that need to be made for the By-laws.

Next Meeting:

- iv. April 21, 2022 at 5pm
- b. Comments:
  - i. None
- c. Meeting close:
  - i. It was motioned by Tracie McBride to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Tim Meesseman and approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm.