

The Governing Board of Freedom Preparatory Academy
HELD A PUBLIC MEETING
IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM

April 22, 2021 – 12:00 PM

Board members participated electronically with anchor location stated above. In attendance via zoom: Cary McConnell, CAO, Robert Merrill, CFO, board members Paul Baltes and Jay Garlock, Executive Director Lynne Herring, Director of Finance Chris Helvey, Buddy Ivie, Brandon Winn, Grayson Wolf, Jodi Wihongi, Andrea Bushman, Matt Fullmer, Rachel Smith, Carrie Banfield, Scott Moon (present for public comment portion only) and Executive Administrative Assistant Tracey Noonan. Board member Thomas Chan was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Scott Moon (spouse and father of FPA employees) expressed concern with lack of teacher salary scale at Freedom Prep. Cary McConnell noted his concern.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes from the March 25, 2021 Governing Board Meeting

Jay Garlock moved to approve the March 25, 2021 Governing Board Meeting minutes. Robert Merrill seconded. 4-0 passed, no opposition. (Thomas Chan absent)

2. Executive Director and Principal Update

Buddy Ivie shared the news that the middle school boys volleyball team won the State Tournament Championship last night. He also mentioned that Freedom Prep's Latinos In Action program was recently praised by LIA founder and CEO. Two LIA student members were awarded LIA scholarships.

3. Approval of Land Trust Plan

Rachel Smith, Dean of Elementary Academics, summarized the plan:

This year the GB must review two plans: Freedom Prep Provo and Freedom Prep St. George (FPA4). FPA4 will hold their own Land Trust Mtg in the fall where their plan will be presented to a new Land Trust committee. Vineyard Land Trust committee met earlier this morning and approved their plan.

FPA1&2 are considered one campus. They were awarded \$194,000. Land Trust funds must be spent solely on programs/items that focus on academic growth. Monies are split equally between FPA1 and FPA2.

FPA1 is focusing on the core subjects; aims to improve academic rigor. Goal #1: increase RISE summative math scores by 3% and science scores by 5% from this year to next year. Continue with Mystery Science kits and continue with Generation Genius (science videos). Piloting of math program continues, but funding has been set aside for supplies and PD once final decision of new math program has been made along with math manipulatives. Goal #2: increase reading levels: increase K-2 reading level by 4% from beginning of school year to end; increase 3-5 grades reading level by 3%. Reviewing Language Arts programs, continue to purchase library books, Battle of Books will continue. Continue to build on the strong connection between writing and reading success with Story Studio and Typing Club.

FPA2 Goal #3: Raise RISE and ACT Aspire scores by 3%. Replace worn books for Language Arts classes. Continue AmeriCorp tutor program, Professional Development in math, new teachers training, and reviewing data to better focus instruction. Continue to provide new library books, iPad keyboards, curriculum purchases, chrome book and iPad replacements as needed. Goal #4: Fine Arts program funding continues: piano accompanist, instrument rentals, instrument replacement as needed. Goal #5: STEM funding continues: grow robotics club.

Jay Garlock asked about baseline for assessments. Because of COVID, last year was tricky. Rachel informed the board that this year we will have a good baseline to rate improvements. Land Trust funding continues to go up every year. Jay asked about the LA books being replaced. Buddy explained that the books are being replaced with a new copy of the same book-not different books.

FPA4 is focusing on purchasing curriculum. Goal #1 to provide high quality education through curriculum which allows for purchase of all items needed to get the school stocked: textbooks, student materials, Professional Development, Library, continuing with Mystery Science and Generation Genius. Goal #2 STEM focused items for specialty classes: legos, chromebooks, iPads, etc.

Jay Garlock moved to approve Provo Land Trust Plan for 2021-2022 school year. Robert Merrill seconded. 4-0 passed, no opposition (Thomas Chan absent)

Jay Garlock moved to approve St. George Land Trust Plan for 2021-2022 school year. Robert Merrill seconded. 4-0 passed, no opposition (Thomas Chan absent)

4. Approval Expense Report FPA4

UCI: furniture (teacher desks, etc)

EduTek: furniture (student desks, etc.)

ClassroomSmarts: classroom media, intercom & PA, video surveillance

Mountainwest Security Systems: Security monitoring/door system hardware

Robert Merrill moved to approve purchase of ClassroomSmarts program for \$86,306. Jay Garlock seconded. 4-0 passed, no opposition (Thomas Chan absent)

Cary McConnell moved to approve purchase of Mountainwest Security System for \$92,480. Jay Garlock seconded. 4-0 passed, no opposition (Thomas Chan absent)

Cary McConnell moved to approve UCI purchases for \$105,162.61. Jay Garlock seconded. 4-0 passed, no opposition (Thomas Chan absent)

Cary McConnell moved to approve Edutek purchase for \$123,683.98. Robert Merrill seconded. 4-0 passed, no opposition (Thomas Chan absent)

5. Approve Revised 2021-2022 School Calendars

School Carnival moved from Fall 2021 to Spring 2022. (Sept. 17th to April 29th)
Utah Valley Elementary and Secondary calendars changed; St. George Elementary Calendar remained unchanged.

6. Announce Vineyard Leadership

Lynne's recommendation to the Board is for Carrie Banfield to be appointed Principal of the Vineyard Campus with Jody Wihongi continuing as Assistant Principal. Carrie has been in education for 18 years. She has experience from preschool through 5th grade. She has degrees in early childhood with a master's in educational leadership. She holds licenses in teaching for K-6 and Administration K-12. She has taught both in private and public systems and is currently completing her fourth year with Freedom Prep.

Ashley Woolsey, current Principal, is stepping down to have a baby. Lynne expressed gratitude and love for Ashley, who has been with Freedom Prep for 14 years.

Robert Merrill moved to approve the Vineyard Administration changes. Jay Garlock seconded. 4-0 passed, no opposition (Thomas Chan absent)

7. Discuss Elementary Curriculum

Presented by Grayson Wolf and Andrea Bushman:

Eureka Math will be officially adopted in fall 2021. Eureka was piloted in both elementary schools during 2020-2021. It has been heavily researched and feedback from parents and teachers will be implemented.

Language Arts curriculum has been reviewed/researched. Wonders will be piloted in Language Arts K-5 classes for 2020-2021.

Any changes in curriculum will require an amendment to the school charter.

8. Budget Update

Chris Helvey presented highlights:

- We are about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way through the budget cycle. This report goes through March 31st. Same report that was filed with the bond holders.

- Carefully following state spending guidelines is always a priority. Pelorus has been a helpful tool to track spending.
- Working on next year's budget continues.
- Rachel Smith has been helping with multiple grants.

9. Executive Director Contract

Cary McConnell moved to assign Robert Merrill and Jay Garlock to negotiate a new Executive Director contract with Lynne Herring. Robert Merrill seconded. 4-0 passed, no opposition (Thomas Chan absent).

10. Meeting and Retreat Schedule

Zoom board retreat on June 15th. Tracey Noonan will send invite.

Governing Board will walk through FPA4 campus on May 18th and May 19th.

11. The Governing Board may consider a motion for a Closed Meeting in accordance with The Utah Open and Public Meetings Act for purposes outlined in Utah Code*

Not needed.

Next scheduled Governing Board Meeting: May 18th at FPA4

12. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned by Jay Garlock at 1:20 pm

After adjournment, Buddy Ivie gave a few details on graduation: Graduation will be in the school auditorium on May 26th, following COVID restriction guidelines. Due to these restrictions, only the Governing Board members with graduating seniors will be present (on the stage).

*The Freedom Preparatory Academy Governing Board may consider a motion to close the meeting to hold a strategy session to discuss the purchase, sale, exchange, or lease of real property, and/or the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual in conformance with § 52-4-204 and 52-4-205 et. Seq., Utah Code Ann.