

# **The Governing Board of Freedom Preparatory Academy**

## **HELD A PUBLIC MEETING**

### **IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM**

**October 12, 2023 – 12:04PM-1:01PM**

*In attendance via zoom: Cary McConnell, CAO, board members Paul Baltes and Thomas Chan, Executive Director Lynne Herring, Director of Finance Chris Helvey, Director of Operations Buddy Ivie, Principals Grayson Wolf, Matt Fullmer, Carrie Banfield. Participating at the anchor location: Executive Secretary Tracey Noonan, School Counselor Amanda Gabbitas, student Hope Adams (and her mother), students Korbin Aagard and William Gibson, and Curriculum Director Karla Kay Snow.*

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

Cary McConnell recognized new Executive Director Grayson Wolf and acknowledged the resignation of Governing Board member Jay Garlock.

Cary McConnell moved agenda item 4 to be presented first.

#### **4. Approve Early Graduation Requests**

Amanda Gabbitas introduced two students who are requesting early graduation: Hope Adams and Korbin Aagard. Both Hope and Korbin presented their early graduation plans as well as their post-graduation plans. Both students are hoping to graduate May 23, 2024, with the rest of the class of 2024.

Paul Baltes moved to allow Hope Adams and Korbin Aagard to graduate early.

Cary McConnell seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

#### **5. Report on Accelerated Student Learning Grant**

Karla Kay Snow explained that the Accelerated Student Learning Grant funds Honors and AP classes at the secondary campus and the Gifted and Talented Program at the elementary campuses. With the elementary portion, she is required to report to the Governing Board on the fund usage and goals. Some highlights of her report explained goals of the program and where funding will be utilized. Funding goes toward purchasing supporting software and teacher stipends. Goals include focusing on raising the number of socio-economically disadvantaged students as well as the number of female students entering GATE. Other goals include exposing all students to GATE experiences using a digital platform as assistance and launching the GATE program at the St. George campus.

Paul Baltes asked about self/parent GATE qualifying testing as well as discussed possible reasons for the gender discrepancies.

This grant is renewed yearly.

#### 6. Approve LEA Specific License for Nine Teachers

Thomas Chan moved to approve the LEA Specific Licenses.  
Paul Baltes seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

#### 7. Ratify Fraud Risk Assessment Form

Chris Helvey summarized this self-evaluation tool. He also explained that the auditors want this assessment presented at a public Governing Board meeting.

Thomas Chan led a discussion about who will sign for the recently resigned CFO.

Paul Baltes moved to ratify the Fraud Risk Assessment Form.  
Thomas Chan seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

Thomas Chan pointed out and thanked Chris for the high score on the assessment.

#### 8. Approve or Deny Altria Settlement Offer

Lynne Herring reminded the board of the details of the settlement.

Paul Baltes moved to accept the settlement.  
Thomas Chan seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

#### 9. Review Financial Statements

Continued to next Governing Board Meeting.

#### 1. Approval of minutes from the August 31, 2023, Governing Board Meeting (continued)

Thomas Chan moved to approve the August 31, 2023, Governing Board Meeting minutes.  
Paul Baltes seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

#### 2. Approval of minutes from the September 21, 2023, Governing Board Meeting

Continued to next Governing Board Meeting.

#### 3. Approval of minutes from the September 29, 2023, Governing Board Meeting

Thoams Chan moved to approve the September 29, 2023, Governing Board Meeting minutes.  
Paul Baltes seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

Thomas Chan expressed a feeling of urgency to fill the two open Governing Board seats. The Governing Board will plan to meet to discuss potential new members.

10. 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.

## 11. Adjourn

Cary McConnell moved to adjourn @ 1:01PM

\*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.

### Current Board Goals

- a. Student and Employee Success
  - i. Ensure the development data-driven methods to understand student success.
  - ii. Contribute to improving lives through development of policies and practices
- b. Operational Efficiency
  - i. Require school to operate in the black
  - ii. Oversee Retaining and Enrolling Students
  - iii. Quarterly Enrollment review
  - iv. Regular Policy Review each Board Meeting
- c. Community Relations
  - i. Be involved regularly in Parent and Student engagement activities
  - ii. Evaluate PR quarterly
  - iii. Governing Board Members attend and assist fundraisers
- d. Specific Areas of Focus
  - i. Define what makes Freedom different/unique
  - ii. Support consistent culture across campuses