

The Governing Board of Freedom Preparatory Academy

HELD A PUBLIC MEETING

IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM

January 17, 2024 – 12:13PM-1:54PM

In attendance via zoom: Cary McConnell, CAO, Thomas Chan, CFO, board member Paul Baltes, Executive Director Grayson Wolf, Director of Finance Chris Helvey, Principals Cherlynn Imes, Matt Fullmer, Carrie Banfield, and Brandon Winn as well as Karla Kay Snow, Chris Comyns, Austin Anderson, Andy Dalley and Lindsey Owen. Participating at the anchor location: Director of Operations Buddy Ivie and Executive Secretary Tracey Noonan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Karla Kay Snow expressed concern regarding possible changes in FPA travel policy; previous comments suggested per diem being lowered if hotels offer free breakfasts and/or school lunches are provided. This would affect her negatively due to the fact that she has a specialized diet.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes from the December 14, 2023, Governing Board Meeting

Thomas Chan moved to approve the December 14, 2023, Governing Board Meeting minutes. Paul Baltes seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

2. Approval of minutes from the December 16, 2023, Governing Board Meeting

Paul Baltes moved to approve the December 16, 2023, Governing Board Meeting minutes. Thomas Chan seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

3. Executive Director Update

No discussion

4. Approve or Deny Travel Request for Robotics Team Competition

Because the Robotics team will most likely qualify for the world championship in TX, approval for trip is being requested now. Detailed plans were previously approved by Matt Fullmer.

- Trip dates: April 15-22
- World Championship is the largest Robotics Competition in the world.
- Utah State Championship will be local so a GB approved trip will not be necessary.

- If the robotics team does not qualify for the world championship, they would still attend as volunteers in order to gain valuable experience and networking.
- Chris Helvey asked about fundraising.
- Trip doesn't conflict with state testing.
- As of now, 14 students and 4 chaperones confirmed.
- Estimated cost of trip \$12,00-\$15,000.
- Separate accommodations for males and females.

Thomas Chan moved to approve the travel request for the Robotics Team Competition. Paul Baltes excitedly seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

5. Approve or Deny the Sale of an Asset

Chris Helvey is asking the board for permission to sell the house next to FPA1. It was originally purchased as a potential site for the secondary campus but is no longer needed. Upon board approval, Chris will work with the school attorney to finalize the sale. Short discussion on market value ensued. Thomas Chan asked where money from the sale would be committed, and Paul Baltes suggested it go into the reserve. Chris Helvey concurred. Cary McConnell asked Chris Helvey to keep the board posted on the progress of the sale.

Paul Baltes moved to sell the property previously purchased as a potential site for the secondary campus.

Thomas Chan seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

6. Approve or Deny Satellite Expansion

Buddy Ivie summarized the history of the FPA Virtual Academy. He explained that, due to new legislation, we can submit an application to restart it. The board must approve submission of the application. Paul Baltes asked about the costs involved. Buddy mentioned Edgenuity, chromebooks, teachers, and a potential director. Thomas Chan asked about hybrid learning. Buddy Ivie discussed the fact that high school students will have the opportunity to take FPA virtual classes plus in-person classes at the Secondary. Buddy Ivie also discussed the timeline for starting the Virtual Academy. Hopeful that classes could start in the fall, but it's unclear at this time.

Paul Baltes moved to approve the pursuit of a Satellite Expansion and all that entails including submitting the application.

Thomas Chan seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

7. Approve 2024-2025 School Calendars

Grayson Wolf summarized minor changes to the calendars.

Thomas Chan mentioned his appreciation that FPA matches surrounding district schedules as much as possible.

Thomas Chan moved to approve the 2024-2025 School Calendars.

Paul Baltes seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

8. Appoint Governing Board Members

Cary McConnell cited the need to fill the two open spaces on the FPA Governing Board. He then invited Chris Comyns, Austin Anderson, Andy Dalley, and Lindsey Owen to introduce themselves and speak to why they would be a good addition to the Governing Board. Afterwards, a discussion ensued concerning how the existing board would vote on the new members.

Paul Baltes moved to take an electronic vote (text) and then announce the results tomorrow. Thomas Chan seconded. 3-0 passed, no opposition.

9. 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.

10. Adjourn

Cary McConnell moved to adjourn @ 1:54PM

*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