

Franklin School of Innovation Board of Directors Meeting Notes  
August 13, 2024  
Held at the school campus

-Meeting called to order at 6:03pm  
-Roll call, in attendance: Bill Hansen, Al Glicksberg, Anthony Lynch, Jaime Grob Grinnell, Michelle Vruwink, Ashley Fisher-Tranese, Melanie Stowell present on Zoom, Jim Davidson  
-Absent: Jon Blalock, Rebecca Hecht (on vacation), Beth Russo

-Agenda for this meeting presented, Bill moved to approve, Jim seconded. All approved.

-Minutes from June 2024 meeting. Ashley moved to approve minutes as is. Melanie seconded. All approved.

-No public comments.

-6:05pm, updates from Admin, Michelle--

All positions approved, fully staffed.

Enrollment dropped, currently at 734. Spots in 9th and 5th presently.

State budget has shifted for a "funding in arrears" model. Funding is set at 709--action required by legislature for growth (legislature left for the summer without passing budget amendment).

Shortfall would be \$255k for our school if not funded.

If FSI is funded, would be \$22k shorted. If additional allotments arrive, this number would be adjusted.

Emphasis is on filling our open student slots.

Seeing nice growth in the upper grades, good to have that rolling along for future years.

Action required, votes on: Procurement and Wellness policies; procurement required for Federal Lunch program, Drug Testing policy, Employee and Student Handbook updates

In detail:

Employee Handbook edits: minor changes including revised start time for HS faculty, Federal Title IX regulations, Grievances Policy, link for new drug testing policy, Flex time change (flex dates from sick days, after 3 years)

Student Family Handbook edits: Title IX regs, small new daily schedule (5 minutes), attendance tracking and make up changes, personal electronic devices, updates to Students with Disabilities/Child Find, updates to student clubs, new language on 3rd party applications in Google, revised classroom visit policy for safety.

Middle School Learning Lab:

Added a 30 min block x4 week, extension and intervention time. Focus on reading, math, and writing.

Learn math for all grades, students based on data/quarterly review. Programs also include Math 180, Rewards Reading, Rewards Writing intervention programs.

Infinite Campus Transition:

Significant work and training required, delays in enrolling and registering, parent portal likely open next week (update contact information, notifications), upload forms, better parent/school communications. Lots of learning needed.

New staffing--all positions filled, possible part time bus driver. Range of experiences--increased percentage of certified. Submitted Mental Health grant, on sale mental health therapist.

Save the dates shared:

8/15 at 6pm: Family Orientation (virtual)

8/22, 3:30-5, 5-6:30 Meet the Teachers

8/26: First Day for Students

9/2: Labor Day

## 9/18: Fall Student Led Listening Conferences

6:48pm, Motion to approve slate of policies by Jaime, including the wellness policies, drug testing policies, procurement, and student and teacher handbook updates.  
AI seconded, unanimous approval.

### -Treasurer's Report:

Bill provided fiscal year end report, surplus of \$218,087 (compares to \$120,983 in bond covenants needed). Total cash in account \$3,493,494.  
Construction account funds will flow into the bond account as needed, and when ready to close.  
Just waiting on final account costs from construction--third phase and HVAC system.  
Budget passed by BOD is on track for fiscal year ending June 2025.

### -Development/Committee work:

#### Field work:

Jim updated on soccer field and development of fields outside. Haywood and CDC (meeting held, leading designer in WNC)--approached for next steps. BOD approved by email for up to \$10k to design the field and create presentation--just awaiting delivery. Michelle and Anthony also in attendance with CDC meeting. Layout shared, includes gravel walking path around it. Needs contour survey, using Ed Holmes. EOW survey is due. Borings also need to be done to make sure field can be supported. Carolina Day School putting in a soccer field (Geo Surfaces, international companies but local work done), fact finding done to look at their process/any learnings. Geo Surfaces salesperson would also be interested in coming in for a presentation. Looking at a million for each approach--turf, fabrication, facing options. Whole process could take a month, looking at two estimates to come. Considerations include draining, pitch, stand area, and possibilities. Consider looking at a blurb in the newsletter to share some news with the larger community.

### Music and Theatre programs:

Meeting held at the beginning of the month with Ashley, Michelle, theatre and music teachers to hear their needs for this year and future wishes, coming off of the survey results. Meeting was positive and fact finding on costs for outside spaces/new space partnerships to best meet needs and wishes for coming school year. Discussion was around charging a small amount for the performances and adding two music classrooms to expand the program. Those spaces can be basic/stick built. Insta Theatre may not be the cure all to the needs of all groups, but community room can accommodate if still on the table. Fundraising can be very targeted, and timelines can be built and communicated. Adding capacity to the high school program (to compliment Sandi's program). Jaime to share contact for downtown space now hosting the symphony.

-7:23pm, entered the closed session. Jaime motioned, seconded by AI. All approved.

-7:28pm, move to close the closed session, Jim motioned, seconded by al. All approved.

-Motion to approve all new hires, Melanie seconded, unanimous approval.

-Request to have principals and deans at the first board meeting.

-Bill motioned to end the meeting at 7:32pm, AI seconded, all approved.