

**The Franklin School of Innovation**

**Board Meeting Minutes – 5-11-2021**

**ZOOM Meeting Link:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87273425268?pwd=OEtwSC9jR1NQcndlcTYzVzE4N3JyZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87273425268?pwd=OEtwSC9jR1NQcndlcTYzVzE4N3JyZz09)

**Our Mission:**

The Franklin School of Innovation is preparing the next generation of leaders, capable of solving problems and participating effectively and ethically as local and global citizens. Through challenging academics, real-world learning, and community engagement, our students discover their potential, develop persistence, and recognize the value of others. Our graduates are ready for the future they will create.

**Board Responsibilities:**

We ensure The Franklin School of Innovation's compliance to its contract with the NC Department of Public Instruction, set and monitor the implementation of school policies, manage the school’s annual budget and financial planning, and hire and evaluate the performance of our school’s Executive Director. The Board develops and drives the School's strategic plan and provides appropriate governance.

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| **Agenda Items and Votes** | **Discussion** |
| **CALL TO ORDER** The meeting shall be brought to order by the Board Chair, AG at 6:06p.m.  **ROLL CALL** The Board Chair took roll of members present: AG, AH, ML, ABJ, JGG, BC, SR  Absent: KC  Staff: Michelle Vruwink  Guest: Beth Russo |  |
| **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Shall the Board approve the Agenda Items? Motion by ABJ Second by ML Vote: unanimous to approve agenda  **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES** Shall the Board approve the minutes of the **April 13 Board Meeting?** Motion by ML Second by AH Vote: unanimous to approve |  |
| **PUBLIC COMMENT** This agenda item is included for the purpose of giving anyone in attendance the opportunity to comment on a non-agenda item with the Board. There will be a three-minute time limit per person. The audience is not to applaud nor demonstrate disapproval for the comments made. The Board may respond asking for clarification only. No action may be taken at this meeting on any issue raised. | Beth Russo, potential board candidate introduced herself to the Board of Directors. |
| **BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT** | Timeline:  -Board candidates file paper applications by end of May  -Board Development Committee recommends a slate of new members at June meeting (if additional candidates appear at/after the June meeting, they can be considered during July)  -New member orientation in July  -New members begin terms at August meeting. |
| **ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE**   * Summary of Activities * Update on Enrollment * Update on Budget & Facilities * Summer School | Kids continue to adapt well to changing environment. There have been a few behavioral issues, but have been lower than usual. Enrollment is up; the wait list is the longest ever this year. Several offers for enrollment are accepted but may later be impacted by the late acceptance decisions for other local schools, meaning that FSI might be able to move some of the wait list into enrollment.  There are SR2 funds at $128K, SR3 funds at $286K available with multiple years to expend, requires a non-competitive grant application. Funds will help cover costs of a school nurse, also hoping to bolster math teacher staff and Chromebooks (some of which will age out in Summer 22).  Staffing roster is being built for next year. New Marketing and Engagement Director will have a specific focus on becoming a racially and economically diverse school. Turnover rates is consistent with prior years.  DPI recommendations around masks have changed for vaccinated people. FSI is continuing to require masks.  Access grants submitted in January have been forwarded as recommended to the State Board of Education; looks likely to be approved. The application was for $385K over 4 years to help FSI become a more inclusive school by focusing on students who are educationally disadvantaged. Could cover costs for additional math instruction, implementation of a weighted lottery system, creation of an advisory council which includes non-parent community advisors.  HS Student Play was a success.  MS Play for middle school will be on Friday night.  Plays were covered in the Laurel of Asheville.  The Mud Run was a success. |
| **EASEMENT DOCUMENTS**  **Vote: Motion to approve by AG, second by BC.**  **AG, AH, JGG, SR, ML, BC to approve.**  **ABJ abstain due to potential conflict of interest.** | There is a natural gas pipeline being constructed through the area, including the opposite side of the creek behind the school. The gas company needs access to the school road a couple of times per year to access the pipeline for safety inspections; the neighboring property to FSI already has an existing easement. The easement will specify that the company cannot access the road during peak school hours. The easement request has been reviewed by an attorney, and staff recommends its adoption. There will be a small financial compensation. |
| **BOND FINANCING RESEARCH** | No additional information at this time. |
| **CLOSED SESSION –** Personnel  Motion to enter closed session: ML, Second, AG. Unanimous to approve.  Motion to exit closed session: ABJ, Second, ML. Unanimous to approve  Motion to approve recommended hires by AH, Second by ML. Unanimous to approve. | Approved hiring of Kyle Wilson (ELA 8th grade), Skye Firestone (9th grade Math 1), Lexi Johnson (Personal Finance and AP Government), Sandi Wilson (Music/Orchestra), Brittany Davenport (EC Teacher), Emily Peters (EC Teacher), Sheaon Mayes (Parent Engagement/Marketing) |
| **ADJOURNMENT** Adjourned the meeting at 7:15p.m.? Motion by SR Second by JGG Vote: unanimous to approve |  |

Respectfully submitted,

April Burgess-Johnson, Secretary