

**Sussex Academy**  
**Executive Board of Directors Minutes**  
**April 27, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chris Moody, Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

*Board Members Present:* Chris Moody, Brittany Burslem, Jennifer Donahue, Lance Manlove, Lauren Wisely, Chris Schell, Sara Messina, Jennifer Scott and Uday Jani

*Board Members Absent:* Darlene O'Neill and Patches Hill

*Staff Present:* Eric M. Anderson, Head of School, Sherry Macbury, Dean of Secondary Campus, Duncan Smith, Chief Operating Officer, Thomas Peet, Dean of Accountability, and Andrea Rogers, Board Secretary

*Staff Present:* Franny Silcott, Director of Human Resources and Gina Derrickson, Director of Communications

*Visitors:* Tim Halter, Jennifer Couch, Stephanie Sherman, Jessica Love, Mr. Jon English (wife-Anita English).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Jennifer Donahue to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2022 Executive Board meeting. Chris Schell seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mrs. Stephanie Sherman, Science Teacher, spoke regarding the trimester schedule and how amazing it has been and how prepared her students are for their upcoming exams.

Jennifer Couch, Biology Teacher, spoke regarding her 100 % support for the trimester schedule and the highlights of how it has affected her teaching.

Jessica Love, MS English Teacher, spoke regarding her support on the new grading policy and how this change will be beneficial to entering high school. Students are exceling and she and Mr. English are happy with the direction that administration is heading.

**HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT**

*Eric Anderson reported:*

Mr. Anderson spoke regarding changes within the school and how difficult change can be. As the leader of this school, there are often times we are not often patient enough to wait for the changes to happen. Mr. Anderson is confident that once we get through the change, and we see the results of the change, no one is going to be looking back. Mr. Anderson is also committed to the school, students and excellence. The Strategic Plan was put into place as a road map for this school and he will continue to develop and finalize that plan; and that's how decisions will be made moving forward.

Our first honor roll breakfast was held on March 28<sup>th</sup> for MP 1 & 2. It was catered by the PTSA.

Course selection for rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade students has been completed. The school will be running 16 AP course selections for SY22-23.

Once the Strategic Plan reports have been submitted to Mr. Anderson, he will create a plan and set a date to have a final read with the committee members. It will then be presented to the board for a first read in May and voted on in June.

The school held a Meet and Greet with the Sports Boosters to introduce the new Athletic Director, Mr. Matt Keen. Mr. Keen is coming from Red Clay School District and will start May 9<sup>th</sup>.

We are interviewing candidates for all content subjects to build a pipeline even if do not have any vacancies.

Jr/Sr Prom was held a Baywood on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

SAT testing was held on April 13<sup>th</sup>. This test is funded by the state as a high school accountability test.

Spring break was April 14 – 24.

On April 25, the Kim/Evans family foundation hosted the Sussex Super Hero golf outing. They raised over \$30K. SA was one of the two recipients of \$15K to help create a new outdoor classroom at the elementary school.

Today we celebrated Administrative Assistant Day with a luncheon from Panera.

Teacher Appreciation week will be celebrated the week of May 4 – 8. The PTSA has a variety of surprises planned.

The HS theater production of the Wedding Singer will be presented this weekend. Shows will be Friday, April 29 at 7pm and Saturday, April 30 at 2pm and 7 pm.

On Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Lisa Blunt-Rochester will be visiting the secondary campus.

National College Decision Day will be celebrated next week.

AP & IB exams will begin starting April 28<sup>th</sup> and run through the next two weeks.

## **MONTHLY BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT**

*Duncan Smith reported:*

### ***Monthly Financial Reports***

A motion was made by Brittany Burslem to approve the March 31, 2022 Financial Report as presented. Jennifer Scott seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

A motion was made by Uday Jani to approve the final FY22 Operating Budget. Chris Schell seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Anderson would like the Compensation Committee to re-evaluate the teacher's salaries as was previously planned to do every three years.

**AGENDA ITEM ADDED:** SY22-23 Academic Calendar added under New Business

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Executive/Nominating/Succession**

No report presented.

### **Finance**

Under Finance Report.

**Outreach**

No report presented.

**Building & Grounds**

Lance Manlove reported that SCD (Sussex Conservation District) approval has been received from the county for the tennis court project. Contractor will be starting in August with a completion date of the fall.

**Governance (Policy & Legislative)**

No report presented.

**School Performance Committee**

No report presented.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Please do not forget to mail in your check for the board scholarship.

**NEW BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Chris Schell to approve the SY22-23 Academic calendar. Lance Manlove seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 4:52 p.m. Chris Moody announced that the Executive Board would be going into Executive Session to discuss personal matters and would not return to the public session. Jennifer Donahue made a motion to move to Executive Session. Uday Jani seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Rogers, Board Secretary