

Sussex Academy
Executive Board of Directors In-Person/Virtual Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2021

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Lauren Wisely, Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

Board Members Present: Lauren Wisely, Precious Benson, Steve Burke, Marty Cosgrove (arrived at 4:12pm), Todd Hickman, Patches Hill (left meeting at 5:12 pm), Uday Jani, Lance Manlove, Sara Messina, Chris Moody, Darlene O'Neill, and Chris Schell

Staff Present: Eric M. Anderson, Head of School, Gina Derrickson, Director of Development, Connie Hendricks, Dean of Elementary School, Sherry MacBury, Dean of High School, Duncan Smith, Chief Operating Officer, and Andrea Rogers, Board Secretary

Board Members Absent: Heather Applegate

Staff Absent: Franny Silcott, Director of Human Resources

Visitors: Jennifer Scott, President PTA Elementary School. Alyson Silva, Special Services Coordinator, Steve and Lorri Petty (middle school and high school parents)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Chris Moody to accept the minutes of the March 17, 2021 Executive Board meeting. Uday Jani seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments.

HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

Eric Anderson reported on Events:

PSAT (10th) and SAT (11th) were held on March 24.

March 25 – Senior Class 2022 Trip Meeting to Disney was held.

The Elementary School expansion committee met and decided there needed to be a feasibility study on the real estate and capital on the current campus before a decision can be made for an expansion. Lance Manlove is working on getting the study process in the works.

Adjustments are being made to the grading policy due to COVID-19 to accommodate a learning restricted environment.

Update on the long Neck and Rehoboth Rotary Club: Most instruments have been delivered and we are still awaiting the arrival of ukuleles to be delivered. A press release is scheduled for May 4th to thank our generous donors.

I would like to recognize the tremendous efforts of Alyson Silva and the Special Education Department for not just passing their tri-annual Audit, but passing with a 100% compliance.

Earth Day celebrations have been going on this week with a variety of activities scheduled.

Smarter Balance testing will begin in the next couple weeks for grades K – 8.

The Center for the Inland Bays will at the elementary school on Tuesday and Friday for an on campus field trip.

The LAX team is currently undefeated as well as the golf team. Both have had a successful season. The SA LAX team plays Cape on April 30.

Future Events:

Jr/Sr Prom – April 24 6pm – 10 pm – there will be tents, food trucks, a silent disco, DJ, and band.

SA Theatre's 2020 Showcase will be one night only, April 29th at 7pm. The second production of Into the Woods will premiere April 30, May 1 and May 2. Online tickets sold only and 150 guests maximum.

IB/AP testing will be administered most of May.

The PTSA have upcoming events planned. Walk-a-thon on April 27th and Jimmy Allen virtual concert scheduled for May 8th at 7pm.

Commencement is planned for Friday, June 4th on the SA turf field. 5th grade Moving-Up Ceremony Thursday, June 10th and the 8th grade Moving-Up Ceremony on June 11th.

MONTHLY BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT

Duncan Smith reported:

A motion was made by Precious Benson to accept the March 31, 2021 Financial Reports as presented. Marty Cosgrove seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

SA had advertised a RFP bid for food service for the SY21-22 and a public information meeting will be held at 4pm at the main campus.

SUSSEX ACADEMY FOUNDATION UPDATE

No report was presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive/Nominating/Succession

No report was presented.

Finance

Report was discussed under monthly board financial report. Next CBOC Meeting will be held on May 11, 2021. The discussions will be expansion capabilities of the elementary school, financial impact, and fundraising.

Outreach

No report was presented.

Building & Grounds

Lance Manlove reported:

Live streaming is now available on the turf fields and tennis courts are moving forward as planned.

Lance Manlove proposed to the board that a feasibility study be completed on the elementary school expansion project. The cost is expected to be \$12,750 and would take 3 – 4 weeks to complete. A motion to approve from the board will be tabled until the May meeting.

Governance (Policy & Legislative)

Lauren Wisely reported:

Please make sure that you respond to the email that was sent from the Legislative Charter Network Advocacy in regards to federal money for charter schools.

School Performance Committee

Chris Moody reported on the Matrix evaluation and school performance framework.

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OLD BUSINESS

COVID-19

Eric Anderson reported:

All students (K-12) that wish to be back in the building 4 days a week have been invited.

The state will be opening up COVID-19 vaccinations to all those 16+ who are now eligible.

Changes to high school calendar are as follows:

-No final exams required

-June 4 will be the last day for HS students

-Teachers will use those days for planning (trimester schedule)

DIAA update- proposal to end mandatory masks did not pass.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Uday Jani to approve the SY22-23 calendar as presented. Chris Moody seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Uday Janni to adjourn the meeting at 5:14 p.m. Marty Cosgrove seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Rogers, Board Secretary