

Sussex Academy
Executive Board of Directors
Virtual Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2021

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Lauren Wisely, Board President, called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Board Members Present: Lauren Wisely, Chris Moody (arrived late) Steve Burke (left @ 3:28 pm), Marty Cosgrove, Todd Hickman, Patches Hill (left meeting at 5:12 pm), Uday Jani, Lance Manlove, Sara Messina, Darlene O'Neill, and Chris Schell

Staff Present: Eric M. Anderson, Head of School, Gina Derrickson, Director of Development, Tom Peet, Dean of Elementary School, Duncan Smith, Chief Operating Officer, Franny Silcott, Director of Human Resources, and Andrea Rogers, Board Secretary

Board Members Absent: Precious Benson & Todd Hickman

Visitors: Jennifer Scott, President PTA Elementary School

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Uday Jani to accept the minutes of the April 21, 2021 Executive Board meeting. Marty Cosgrove seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments.

HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

Eric Anderson reported on Events:

Kudos to Gina Derrickson for coordinating a beautiful junior/senior prom that was held on campus Saturday night April 24.

PTSA hosted an in school Walk-A-Thon benefit to raise start up funds. Over 1K was raised.

The Drama Dept. held it's Spring Showcase on April 30 and also their production of Into the Woods on May 1, 2 & 3. Shout out to Erin Bobby for all her hard work and dedication.

State testing, along with AP and IB testing have been going on over the last few weeks.

High School master schedule is complete for next years trimester schedule increasing AP classes along with providing them to freshman.

EOY meetings with staff, contracts, and next year assignments are coming up. Mr. Anderson plans to discuss staff that is not returning next year in Executive Session.

The governor has set new mandates in regard to graduation requirements with masks being optional for outdoor ceremonies. Graduation will be held on June 4 with a rain date of June 5. Senior Award Ceremony and Destination Celebration are slated for June 2 and the Sports banquet will be held June 1. The SA Elementary School will hold their 5th grade Moving Up Ceremony on June 10 and the middle school will hold their 8th grade Moving Up Ceremony on June 11th at 9:00 am.

Professional Development planning for high school teachers will be the week of June 8 – June 11.

US News and World Report Class Ranking was reported from data collected from SY2019-20. Sussex Academy High School fell to #15 however; it was the best testing year in history for our school. The school has reached out to US News and World Reports and they referred us to their 3rd party vendor so that our IB scores can be accounted for in order to adjust our ranking for actual performance. Mr. Peet will be working to seek the correction and will keep the board up to date on any new information.

MONTHLY BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT

Duncan Smith reported:

A motion was made by Chris Schell to accept the April 30, 2021 Financial Reports as presented. Chris Moody seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

CARE/ESSR funds were discussed.

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.

Outreach

No report was presented. Heather Applegate is waiting for more information to complete her report. Once received all board members will be emailed.

Building & Grounds

Lance Manlove reported:

Tennis courts permits have been requested and preliminary applications have been started for engineering firm to start work on the layout.

A motion was made by Lance Manlove to approve a \$12,750 feasibility study be completed on the elementary school expansion project. Chris Moody seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (9-0-1). Patches Hill abstained from the vote.

Governance (Policy & Legislative)

No report was presented

School Performance Committee

No report was presented

OLD BUSINESS

COVID-19

Eric Anderson reported:

School bus mask mandate restrictions have been lifted for the fall.

There will be a COVID-19 vaccination clinic held in the gym to all those 12+ on May 20 from 2 – 8 pm and to the public and students from 5 – 8pm.

There will be 2 board openings for SY21-22. Twelve applications have been received and the deadline for submission is today. More will be discussed in Executive Session.

NEW BUSINESS

Once again, the board will be presenting a scholarship to a worthy senior. Lauren Wisely will be working with a committee to review applications. The ceremony will be held on June 2.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Chris Schell to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 p.m. Chris Moody seconded; the motion carried. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Rogers, Board Secretary