

Minutes: Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 28, 2014

6:00 pm UME Preparatory Academy Campus

I. Call to Order/Quorum Determination 6:04 P.M.

Dr. Estes called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM and called for Mr. Spurlock to open the meeting with prayer.

Board Members Present: Dr. Nolan Estes – Chairman, Dr. Charlene Conner – Vice Chairman, Jill Jones – Secretary, Jim Brodnick, Donna Prince

Administrators Present: Mike Spurlock – Superintendent, Dean of Student Life
Dr. Brance Barker – Dean of Academics, Parent Programs

Absent: Dr. Jaime Andrade – Treasurer, Rusty Grayson, Regina Pingel,
Dr. Gus Reyes

II. Review and Motion of the April Board Minutes 6:06 P.M.

Motion to approve the April 22, 2014 Board Minutes.

Motion: Dr. Charlene Conner

Decision: Unanimously Approved

Discussion followed regarding attachments to minutes.

III. Discussion of Charter Goals as Submitted to the State of Texas 6:09 P.M.

- A. Imparting College Preparatory Programs
- B. Developing a Strong Work Ethic in Students
- C. Holding Down Costs to the Public
- D. Providing this education free of costs to all students

Dr. Estes gave explanation of recent training's impact on board governance, policies, and documentation. Discussion followed.

IV. Key Methods and Approaches For Achieving these Goals Are: 6:18 P.M.

- A. Utilizing Parent Input
- B. Rigorous Academic Programs
- C. Enhancing Adult Guidance
- D. Equip Parents to Be Able to Better Educate Their Children
- E. Describe the Role of Board Members

F. Chairman Will Appoint a Board Sub-Committee And Chairperson to Define Roles and Needs of the Board

Dr. Estes gave an overview of topics. Discussion followed.

V. Discuss How Well the School is Achieving Academic Performance 6:23 P.M.

A. Comparative Analysis of the STAAR tests available

Dr. Barker administered the report with explanation of subject and grade levels. The report was received by the board with questions. Discussion followed.

B. Review of the Textbook Requests and Funding

Dr. Estes noted abstaining from commentary due to possible conflict of interests. Dr. Conner opened discussion of the textbook review, and requested recommendations from the board's curriculum committee. Discussion ensued. Dr. Barker presented information to the board on the status and process of textbook procurement.

Motion to approve textbook requests and funding.

Motion: Jill Jones

Decision: Unanimously Approved

Note: Dr. Estes abstained from vote due to potential conflicts of interest.

At 6:43 pm Dr. Estes called for nominations for board members. Jill Jones nominated one candidate, for consideration. Dr. Conner spoke briefly about another candidate for consideration. Discussion followed. Dr. Estes set up a board committee comprised of Dr. Charlene Conner, Donna Prince, and Jim Brodnick.

C. Review the Proposed Digital Learning Methods and Funding (6:49 PM)

Mike Spurlock and Edwin Shafer gave the report and made recommendations to the board.

Motion to approve purchase of google chromebooks as proposed digital learning methods.

Motion: Jim Brodnick

Decision: Unanimously Approved

Note: Dr. Estes abstained from vote due to potential conflicts of interest.

D. Review of Information Regarding Returning Teachers, Retention of Teachers, and Qualifications of teachers For Next Year (7:05 PM)

Dr. Barker presented the review to the board with explanation and breakdown of the retention rate and highly qualified teachers. Questions were asked and answered.

VI. Discuss How Well the School Is Involving Parents in the Educational Process (7:11 PM)

A. Robotics (7:12 PM)

Mr. Brodnick gave a report of the UME Prep Robotics club detailing future plans and coaching needs.

B. Parent Representative's Report (7:16 PM)

Mr. Brodnick presented the Parent Representative's Report to the Board. Discussion and observations followed.

C. Parent Forums (7:26 PM)

Dr. Barker reported on the Parent Affairs Committee with no questions from the board.

D. New Digital Software for Learning

See notes from agenda item V., C.

E. Dean of Academic's Report (7:29 PM)

Dr. Barker gave the report with no comments or questions from the board.

F. Comments on Student Work Ethic Grades (7:32 PM)

Dr. Barker gave an update on the work ethic grading process and standards.

VII. How Well Is the School Able to Hold Down Costs

A. Superintendent's Financial Report (7:34 PM)

Mr. Spurlock summarized the financial report for the board. The report was received with no questions.

B. Update on the 2014-2015 Budget – See attachment (7:37 PM)

Dr. Barker gave the update with no questions from the board.

Motion to approve requested changes to budget.

Motion: Dr. Charlene Conner

Decision: Unanimously Approved

C. Facilities Update - Need For New Portable for PE (7:42 PM)

Mr. Spurlock reported on the need for space and offered recommendations.

Motion to accept the recommendation for the facilities update.

Motion: Dr. Charlene Conner

Decision: Unanimously approved

D. Update of Enrollment Numbers (7:47 PM)

Dr. Barker summarized the overview of enrollment for 2014 – 2015 for the board. Discussion and comments followed.

VIII. Adjournment – Dr. Estes adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM


Board Secretary Approval, Date

6-17-2014