

Turquoise Trail Charter School
Governance Council Meeting Minutes Pending
December 19th, 2022

Members Present: Alejandra Rodriguez, Victoria Schweizer, Sammi Triolo, Miranda Mascarenas, Amber Maes, Ruth Center, Hannah Mazur, Lorenzo Dominguez, (late arrival, 6:37pm)

Members Not Present: Matt Pahl

Also Present: Tammie Padilla, Mary Ellen Dannenberg, Stephanie Behning, Chris Eide Azevedo, Zach Chavez, Joe Dan Lovato, Lisa Gomez, Rebecca Jones, Myrrhine Faller (late arrival, 6:44pm)

Scribe: Francesca Margaritondo

- I. **Call to Order – Open Session 5:33pm.** It was determined there was a quorum. Meeting called to order.
 - A. **Roll Call** – Introductions made.
 - B. ***VOTE** - Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Miranda Mascarenas to approve the agenda as presented and seconded by Alejandra Rodriguez. Roll call vote: Alejandra Rodriguez – Aye, Amber Maes – Aye, Hannah Mazur – Aye, Miranda Mascarenas – Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, Victoria Schweizer - Aye, the Chair, Sammi Triolo – Aye. Passed 7 – 0.
 - C. ***VOTE** – Approval of November (11/28) Business Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Hannah Mazur to approve the minutes with minor correction of Amber Maes’ name and seconded by Alejandra Rodriguez. Roll call vote: Alejandra Rodriguez – Aye, Amber Maes – Aye, Hannah Mazur – Aye, Miranda Mascarenas – Abstains, Ruth Center – Aye, Victoria Schweizer – Aye, the Chair, Sammi Triolo -Aye. Passed 6 – 0 with 1 abstains.
- II. ***VOTE** – Consent Agenda:

Alejandra Rodriguez explains the consent agenda to the board. Finance Committee recommends a do pass.

Motion made by Victoria Schweizer to approve the consent agenda as presented and seconded by Hannah Mazur. Roll Call Vote: Alejandra Rodriguez – Aye, Amber Maes – Aye, Hannah Mazur – Aye, Miranda Mascarenas – Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, Victoria Schweizer - Aye, the Chair, Sammi Triolo – Aye. Passed 7 – 0.

III. Public Forum: Zach Chavez, Director of External Affairs: Thanks the board for their support and participation with the school especially WinterFest.

IV. **Updates/Presentations of Reports**

A. Business Office: None

B. Principals/Teacher Reps: Stephanie Behning: in elementary school, there were 9 assemblies last week. The students performed and participated in a collaborative project by making wishes and placing them on the wishing tree. Families were allowed to participate this time and it was amazing and really sweet. This really helps bring our community together in a way we haven't been able to do in the past. These assemblies are very student centered and the students are engaged. Report cards go out tomorrow with a letter on how to support students in math and literacy. We are encouraging more support from the parents and families instead of sending homework as the studies show that reading together, and doing academic exercises is more impactful. PowerSchool grading was more successful this time around. Therefore, we will be able to send out midterm reports in Jan. Getting ready for MAP testing with the SPED team. We are also setting up for Istation testing, looking at small groups as much as possible as this is more effective. Almost all observations and feedback meetings are almost complete. Next observations will be in February and will be more formal. Mary Ellen Dannenberg: There were also assemblies for the early childhood classes. Everybody participated including families. Early Childhood observation tool is coming up in January. There are 27 indicators of progress. Joe Dan Lovato: Lots of changes in the middle school trying to find the identity of the middle school. Growing out of the model of ES and going towards HS and beyond. The WinterFest and Capstone were a great success. Outstanding members of faculty and students who performed in the band. Capstone was impressive. Many students accomplished and finished something they thought they couldn't. Shout out to Evy Lareau's STEM class who did a Demonstration of Mastery with "Useless Inventions". We are in the process of establishing a new schedule, new class electives and cleaning up the scheduling. Establishing a learning lab, which is another class where they will receive support and/or intervention time depending on what they

need. We are attempting to offer what no other schools in our state offer through our electives. MAP testing is about 98% finished. The data is showing scores have not dipped as bad as we thought and we have made some really good gains in surprising ways. The students are really stepping up and working at home more and it is starting to show. We are building a new coaching infrastructure with more information to come. We are also trying to look for more ways to support our families and our teachers. Bringing in an SEL curriculum with ALONG. It is free and a great program. The book fair last week was amazing and well organized. Nice to see a book fair in a school again.

- C. Head Administrator: Chris Eide Azevedo: Thanks the leaders for their leadership and hard work. Also, thanks Zach Chavez for a great WinterFest. One of the goals is to get our culture into a good place after so many years with the pandemic and everything else. Looking forward to the next festival. We hope that by diversifying the themes of these festivals, everyone in the community can identify with at least one of them. We are still waiting to see if we qualify for the IT support grant from Verizon. Our indoor masking is going well. There is no evidence of spread on campus. We will reevaluate on Jan 10th. On Jan 9th, the Academy students will be presenting their playground proposal to attempt to get \$200,000 of funds for our school's playground. Shout out to Joe Dan Lovato for being flexible with the schedule and creating a period during which students can get more targeted assistance where they need it. Our 3y program is hoping to include three more sections in the upcoming year. We are on the precipice of something really special. One of our stated goals last summer was to try to find a way to provide our staff with an extra stipend and most recently we managed to send everybody home with an extra \$500 at the break.
- Question from Miranda Mascarenas: will the playground equipment be in a specific committee hearing, how can the GC support.
- Answer: we want it to happen with the legislators who are most likely to help us with dollars this year. He is asking the GC to extend a note to any of the legislators that might support this. This will be a closed meeting, not a session. It is extremely rare for legislators to be approached by students, especially with such a well-planned

presentation. From Hannah Mazur: supports the addition of 3 more sections of 3Y classes. Question from Alejandra Rodriguez: If you can help us by giving us some contact info for legislators to contact for support. Maybe even send it to the entire community as well.

We hope to entertain some live visitors for the event.

Alejandra Rodriguez left the meeting 6:34pm. It is determined there is still a quorum, therefore the meeting continues.

D. Committees and Councils (as needed)

- Communications and engagement: No updates.
- Recruitment: No updates. A meeting will be scheduled in January.
- Equity Council: We had a meeting and reviewed what needed to happen and how that looked. We want to go beyond ticking the boxes of requirements and create a truly equitable environment in our school. Looking at recruiting more members for the council who are really committed to making this something more than “just checking the boxes”. The conversation was passionate and is a good launching point.

Lorenzo Dominguez arrives 6:37pm.

- Strategic Planning/Expansion: PCSNM conference last week. Victoria Schweizer spoke to multiple charter school finance companies. Hopes to see the board tomorrow at the holiday party which is fully funded by the Foundation.
- HA Evaluation: Informal reviews are done, just in the process of rolling it up and consolidating it. Then they will meet with Chris Eide directly with that.

Announcement: Sammi Triolo had a good conversation with Matt Pahl and PCSNM about training. They feel they can do it in one day for the topics that are of highest priority. Looking at Sunday, the 29th for the mid-year meeting. That will cover the group for the 8 hours.

V. Swearing in of Elected Governance Council Members:

- Ruth Center
- Amber Maes
- Miranda Mascarenas
- Hannah Mazur
- Matt Pahl

- Victoria Schweizer

The candidates are sworn in.

- VI. ***VOTE** - Policy 245 – Personal/Sick Leave (Nine, Ten and Eleven Month Employees); and Sick Leave Bank Procedure (revised):

- Sick Leave Bank Procedure (fourth read)

Chris Eide Azevedo explains what is being voted on and why it has been brought up for amendment.

Amber Maes leaves the meeting (7:00pm), it is determined there is still a quorum, the meeting proceeds.

Motion made by Ruth Center to approve amendments to policy 245, specifically leave donation procedure within this policy as presented with amendments – Principal changed to Head Administrator and the requirement of requesting employee to donate being struck and seconded by Hannah Mazur. Roll Call Vote: Hannah Mazur – Aye, Lorenzo Dominguez – Aye, Miranda Mascarenas – Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, Victoria Schweizer – abstains, the Chair, Sammi Triolo – Aye. Passed 5 – 0 with 1 abstains.

Victoria Schweizer leaves the meeting 7:07pm, it is determined there is still a quorum, the meeting proceeds.

- Leave Donation Procedure (second read)

Motion made by Hannah Mazur to approve amendments to policy 245, both sections as amended and seconded by Ruth Center. Roll Call Vote: Hannah Mazur – Aye, Lorenzo Dominguez – Aye, Miranda Mascarenas – Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, the Chair, Sammi Triolo – Aye. Passed 5 – 0.

- VII. ***VOTE** – GC Staff Representative Election Process: Chris Eide Azevedo reviews one more time the process for electing GC staff representatives.

Motion made by Ruth Center to approve the process as presented and seconded by Hannah Mazur. Roll Call Vote: Hannah Mazur – Aye, Lorenzo Dominguez – Aye, Miranda Mascarenas – Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, the Chair, Sammi Triolo - Aye. Passed 5 – 0.

- VIII. ***VOTE** – Rodey, Dickason, Sloan, Akin & Robb P. A. Agreement for Legal Services – Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023. Chris Eide Azevedo explains why the services might be needed and that this is just in case we need it. Motion made by Hannah Mazur to approve the agreement as presented and seconded by Ruth Center. Roll Call Vote: Hannah Mazur – Aye, Lorenzo Dominguez – Aye, Miranda Mascarenas – Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, the Chair, Sammi Triolo – Aye. Passed 5 – 0.

Chris Eide talks to the board about possibly looking at another grant to create an additional facilities space for our child care services.

- IX. **Adjournment of Business Meeting** –Motion made by Ruth Center to adjourn the regular session and seconded by Hannah Mazur. Roll Call Vote: Hannah Mazur – Aye, Lorenzo Dominguez – Aye, Miranda Mascarenas – Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, the Chair, Sammi Triolo – Aye. Passed 5 - 0. Meeting Adjourned 7:35pm.