

Turquoise Trail Charter School
Governance Council Meeting Minutes
December 20th, 2021

Members Present: Wendy Flood, Victoria Schweizer, Sammi Triolo, Alejandra Rodriguez, Amber Romero, Ruth Center, Hannah Mazur, Matt Pahl (6:26pm arrival)

Members Not Present:

Also Present: Chris Eide, Jenn Prye, Stephanie Behning, Francesca Margaritondo, Maya Mirabal, Harry Phillips, Lorenzo Dominguez, Miranda Gonzales (5:41PM arrival), Leticia Garcia (5:52PM arrival)

- I. **Call to Order – Open Session 5:34pm.** It was determined there was a quorum. Meeting called to order.
 - A. **Roll Call** – Introductions made.
 - B. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by Alejandra Rodriguez to approve the agenda as presented and seconded by Ruth Center. Roll call Vote: Alejandra Rodriguez – Aye, Amber Romero - Aye, Hannah Mazur - Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, Wendy Flood – Aye, Victoria Schweizer – Aye, The Chair, Sammi Triolo – Aye. Passed 7 – 0.
 - C. **Approval of November Minutes:** Motion made by Hannah Mazur to approve the minutes as written and seconded by Ruth Center. Roll Call Vote: Alejandra Rodriguez – Abstains, Amber Romero – Aye, Hannah Mazur – Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, Victoria Schweizer – Aye, Wendy Flood – Aye, The Chair, Sammi Triolo – Aye. Passed 6 – 0 with 1 abstains.
- II. ***VOTE - Consent Agenda:**
 - A. ***BAR's**
 - B. **Disbursements – November 2021**
 - C. **Checks over \$50,000:**
 - a. Check 15587 – Cooperative Educational Services - \$59,266.99
 - D. **Financial Reports**
 - b. Budget to Actual
 - c. Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Fund Balance
 - d. Bank Reconciliation
 - e. RfR Summary

E. Other

a. none

Alejandra Rodriguez explains the consent agenda to the board, including the skip between two BARs.

Finance Committee recommends do pass of the consent agenda.

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

III. **Public Forum:** Mario Silva introduces himself. Asking for the microwaves to be returned for students to use during lunch. Maybe with COVID safe practices added to the usage of them.

IV. Swearing in of Elected Governance Council Members:

Lorenzo Dominguez

Sammi Triolo

Alejandra Rodriguez

Victoria Schweizer has the voted in members read the Oath of Office

V. **Updates:**

a. Business Office: None

b. Principals/Teacher Reps:

Stephanie Behning: Winter MAP testing just finished and second quarter grades just went out on time thanks to amazing teachers. Happy that we managed to stay in person as much as possible. Only a few quarantines here and there. There will be a culturally responsive assembly in January for the new year. Rolling out a new positive behavior plan called “pause for pizza with the principal”. Students will earn the opportunity to earn “paws” and have pizza with Stephanie Behning. Very busy last week before break that remained positive that ended with a lot of joy and happiness.

Jenn Prye: Virtual academy continues to provide an opportunity for students who need it most. Still adding students from area schools for the second semester. Implementing Health and PE literacy project block. Excited to move the in-person academy room to more standardized thanks to the middle school finding balance. Successful academy event with ugly sweaters and report cards and literacy books. Outside and socially distanced. Lots of fun for everybody. MAP testing is done with a very high completion rate.

All students continue to make gains. Very proud of academy MATH scores in particular. January professional development will focus on student culture moving towards student achievement. Looking forward to the second semester.

Harry Phillips: Middle School has exciting times between the holidays. 99.9% of students tested and most students showed growth in most areas. Schedules have been triple checked and are almost finalized. Successful honor roll and pack up helping with behavioral assembly. Students enjoyed being recognized for their successes. Successful dress code committee which found that the TTCS dress code is fair and liberal with the exception of wanting to wear hats indoors. Recognized the basketball teams. Student culture is shifting with breakfasts in the classrooms now which makes it a bit easier, safer and all students are fed. Refresher assembly coming up in January to ensure students are committing to the social contracts they are signing. We are gaining a new electives teacher since our arts elective teacher is leaving. More new staff coming as well to help fill out the staff.

Miranda Gonzales: we've lost many staff members since school started. Greatly appreciating the EAs who have been used in a variety of ways and have really stepped up and gone above and beyond. We are now very aware that it is not just back to business. Every day is a bit different. MAP scores are amazing, the students have made huge gains. Still seeing gaps of things they "didn't get because they were not in school". Hope we are able to ramp up the teacher retention so everybody can focus instead of scrambling to cover.

Leticia Garcia: First half of the year was pretty tough for many teachers. Not being at school for an entire year did have an effect that we are still feeling. We are doing our best and hoping the second half will turn around more for teachers and students. We've lost quite a few members of the community and it's really tough.

Maya Mirabal: It has been a good year with the kids so far, large jumps in Math and Science, but the hardest year she's ever had. Emotionally and socially, kids are struggling, especially in MS. Most challenging for the staff and for such short numbers in staff.

Hopefully we get more staff and nobody else leaves. "Can't do it anymore if people keep leaving".

- c. Head Administrator: Chris Eide: This year has been hard staffing wise. Shout out to teachers and EA and the principals and administrative team. Everybody is doing incredible work. The administrators are running from classroom to classroom to cover lunches. Coming early and staying late. We are lucky to have a great team at the core that cannot be defeated. We have suffered some losses, some of which are unavoidable. We are happy to expect to be a bit overstaffed, as we have had some very high-quality people to come on in some cases as co-teachers. The message is: come and work for us and we may hire you and it might be in a different position. We hope to be a little bit more stable. This will show in the finance committee report as we will be a bit overstaffed. The girls' basketball team will be allowed to play again. And we are rolling up the data that is now going to give much more in depth information.

(Matt Pahl arrives 6:26pm). We are seeing early trends of bright spots. Our first percentile students are showing great growth right now. This translates to our core value of Equity. An opportunity that is coming to fruition we hope is to get support from LANL foundation to bring together 3 cohorts of teachers from TTCS to join with 3 cohorts of SFPS teachers to cross the divide between charter and public schools. Hopeful to pilot projects that would be mutually beneficial to all schools. It had just been presented and will be brought to LANL in Feb. Just about to bring to the deck the MeowWolf project. Our top 10% project will hopefully have enough to fund a full-time person to help student achieve that goal. Our new middle school project is waiting on the landowner. The grant for child care purposes will be used for a dedicated facility for the child care. On Jan 6, members from SFPS will come out and walk around with us to see whether we might be able to do something in the neighborhood of \$200,000. The academy has helped many students in many different areas that continue to surprise us. So now the future of the academy needs to be determined. What is its highest and best use for the next 2 years for which is has a grant funding it. The coyote community had its first meeting to discuss

ideas. The book fairies came of this and thanks to Deb Hart the book fair had record numbers. Over \$600 was raised by the book fairies. The council also brought in a group called Free Flow to help with personal feminine hygiene project. The mission and vision work is being reimagined in a great focused look on what we want going forward. We just won a grant with the Daniel's fund to bring the May Center work for literacy here to the kids at TTCS. Victoria Schweizer asks about the child care expansion. We currently have enough space for 160 students. We just had a perfect inspection. We are now looking for a dedicated facility for the childcare that would be more childcare friendly. Either an attachment to our current facility or a stand-alone. Just making SFPS aware since there would be physical changes to our current facility. For now, it is only the walk around.

- d. Equity Council: Victoria Schweizer: growing and solidifying numbers. Trying to understand the demographic numbers. Making sure we are achieving equitable usage of funding.
 - e. Marketing Committee: Hannah Mazur: Have not met in the last couple of weeks. We were kicking off open enrollment and now have one of the new hires to help with marketing. More updates in January.
 - f. Recruitment and Volunteer Committee: Amber Romero: The goal was to get Lorenzo Dominguez on which was a success. Chris Eide is trying to solidify people on the foundation. From Lorenzo Dominguez: is there a goal on number of people on the Equity Committee and how many people showed to the first Community Coyote Council? 9 showed and some were new and more are coming. The membership is 15 and should include a variety of parameters. We currently have on average 5 to 7 people who attend the meetings, of these 2 do not count towards membership.
 - g. GC Executive Team: We are continuing to move forward with policy updates. Lots of good information came from the last conference. The next work session will include this as well as mission and vision work.
- VI. Policy 108: Executive Officers of the Governance Council. (Redo-First read).
- VII. Policy 109: Meetings of the Governance Council (First Read)

~~VIII. Policy 110: Public Hearing (first read)~~

~~IX. Policy 111: Governance Council Committees (first read)~~

Policies 110 and 111 moved to the next work session

- X. **Adjournment of Business Meeting** – Motion made by Hannah Mazur to adjourn the business meeting and seconded by Victoria Schweizer. Roll Call Vote: Alejandra Rodriguez – Aye, Amber Romero – Aye, Hannah Mazur – Aye, Lorenzo Dominguez – Aye, Matt Pahl – Abstains, Ruth Center – Aye, Victoria Schweizer – Aye, Wendy Flood – Aye, the Chair, Sammi Triolo – Aye. Passed 8 – 0 with 1 abstains. Meeting Adjourned 7:42pm.