

Turquoise Trail Charter School
 Governance Council Meeting Minutes, Pending
 April 26th, 2021

Members Present: Matt Pahl, Victoria Schweizer, Wendy Flood, Sammi Triolo, Hannah Mazur, Alexandra Rodriguez, Amber Romero, Ruth Center (6:20pm arrival)

Members Not Present:

Non-voting Members Present: Chris Eide, Christie Berg, Harry Phillips, Miranda Gonzales, Leticia Garcia, Maya Mirabal

Also Present: Francesca Margaritondo, Tammie Padilla, Danielle Garcia, Sonya Jacobs, Bill Zunkel, Mark Kolokoff, Amy Oler, Miriam Baker, Mary Ellen Dannenberg, Patty Matthews, Bruce Bradford, Molly Maze Rebekah Runyan, Raz Bhandari, Diane Conboy, JoDee Chavez, Francesca Ellenberg, Lana Scholtz.

I. Call to Order – Open Session 6:05pm. It was determined there was a quorum by Board Secretary Victoria Schweizer. Meeting called to order.

A. Roll Call – Introductions made.

B. *Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Matt Pahl to approve the agenda as presented and seconded by Hannah Mazur. Roll call vote: Sammi Triolo – Aye, Alejandra Rodriguez – Aye, Matt Pahl - Aye, Wendy Flood - Aye, Hannah Mazur - Aye, Amber Romero - Aye, the Secretary, Victoria Schweizer – Aye. Passed 7 – 0.

C. Approval Minutes from Business Meeting:

1. *March 29th, 2021 Minutes: Motion made by Alejandra Rodriguez and seconded by Sammi Triolo to approve the minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote: Sammi Triolo – Aye, Alejandra Rodriguez – Aye, Matt Pahl – Aye, Wendy Flood - Aye, Hannah Mazur – Aye, Amber Romero – Aye, the Secretary, Victoria Schweizer - Aye. Passed 7 – 0.

II. *VOTE - Consent Agenda

- a) *BAR's
- b) *Disbursements – March 2021
- c) *Checks over 50,000 – None.

BAR #	Fund Description	Type	Purpose
2021-0073-1	27149- PreK Imitative	Increase	To budget increase for award
2021-0074-1B	24308-CRRSA, ESSER II	Initial Budget	To budget initial Award
2021-	24146-CSP	Transfer	Transfer to function 4000

Board treasurer, Alejandra Rodriguez goes over the finance committee meeting and explains the consent agenda. The biggest expense was for the purchase of a tractor that will actually give the school a fiscal saving of \$1500 per year and will continue to extend to the school huge savings for the short and long term. This will be used for mowing and snow removal which usually costs \$6000 per year. Recommendation from the Finance Committee = Approve. Motion made by Sammi Triolo to pass the consent agenda as presented and seconded by Amber Romero. Roll Call Vote: Sammi Triolo - Aye, Alejandra Rodriguez - Aye, Matt Pahl - Aye, Wendy Flood - Aye, Hannah Mazur - Aye, Amber Romero – Aye, Ruth Center – abstains, the Secretary, Victoria Schweizer - Aye. Passed 7 – 0 with 1 abstained.

III. Public Forum: Mark Kolokoff: Gifted teacher at TTCS: “As the calendar moves forward, he wants the board to know Chris Eide is asking the school to be innovative and creative. Which is a good thing. We don’t want to stagnate. The calendar as proposed with 7 extra days the teachers are asked to work, should be fully funded, especially coming out of an extremely difficult year. Maybe this should be a budget priority. That would play well and be appreciated by the teachers.

Mary Ellen Dannenberg: Kindergarten Teacher at TTCS – wants to echo what Mr. Kolokoff says and the calendar has gone through lots of people. It has been a good process and well thought out. We’ve really delved into it and made some good decisions on it.

IV. Presentation of Reports:

- a) Head Administrator: Chris Eide acknowledges all of the educators who chose to join the board meeting this evening. The calendar was a large discussion and started completely different about 6 weeks ago. Through many proactive conversations, it has been difficult and rewarding at the same time. Hopefully this will pave the way for teacher leadership in years to come. We have an outstanding group of people here at TTCS in general. There is no one perfect solution in anything unless everybody has had a chance to see it and voice their opinion on it. Wants to note changes in the budget for next year. Highlights of proposed budget – we are expecting several increases; need to bulk up instructional core and the human capacity around that; we are launching a school within a school which will also call for additional staff. Chris Eide intends to allocate

FTE dollars to instructional coaches for this upcoming year. 1 director of academics who will be the primary administrator of the academy and head of coaches; looking to hire at least 1 case manager; 2 kindergarten EAs; also 7 teachers for the academy. This will allow us to grow our enrollment in anticipation to grow our middle school. In addition, he has a desire to fund the additional PD days reflected in the calendar. We are looking also at hiring some positions of people who are retiring and/or leaving us at the end of this year. High notes – Charter school growth fund has named us semi-finalists. Classroom observations on May 11th. We are also selected to the finalist round for a rural school design fellowship. We are now into our 3rd week of in person learning and it has been an incredible piece of teamwork and collaboration to get to this point.

- b) Business Office: Rebekah Runyan speaks on the budget process. As she came in at the end of last year's cycle she's hoping things are smoother this year and next year even better. Due June 14th at 8am to the PED. Still waiting on planning awards from PED. Applications are being submitted as they come in, but we are still waiting on quite a few of them. Also working on spending down the remainder of the federal funds so we do not have more than 15% to carry over which is the requirements for these funds. Monitoring of Aftercare and student nutrition budgets because these programs that derive their own revenue and sometimes need to be adjusted accordingly. We have started transitioning over to the new bank with just a few outliers.
- c) Principal Reports: Christie Berg – Looking at end of year plans since it is approaching. Today Kindergarten met as a group and they are going to have their transition ceremony the day before school lets out: June 10th at 1:30, In-person. The 5th grade team is going to be next in line to discuss a transition. Harry Phillips – Middle school is more around 1/3 in-person because more are staying home. Students can work remotely from home without missing any instruction. In-person students are supported with socio-emotional learning, tracking their homework and projects. Teacher are completing the Ed-connective program. Final round of NWEA testing coming in May.

- d) Staff representatives Reports: Miranda Gonzales – being back in person is bringing a lot of positive energy to the building. In-person students' scores are already showing signs of improvement. Staff really would like for the 7 extra PD days to be paid days and the pay should reflect that. 95% of the teachers are excited and feel we can end this year strong, the others are mostly tired. Maya Mirabal – MS is adapting as they go, balancing kids in the classroom with time to burn. The kids seem happy. The staff is working on more activities for the students to do. There are some concerns about a 200-day calendar year, which can be a lot. Some staff is debating sticking around with this idea. Leticia Garcia: Echoing a lot of what Maya and Miranda have said. The in-person teachers are happy and excited to be back. It is taking some time to get used to a few changes. There are a few concerns about the SPED students that this year their services have not necessarily been provided. They are wondering about who Chris Eide is considering hiring for next year. Also, with the calendar year, there was a lot of work to get to something that everybody would be OK with it. And some people are worried about the extra 7 days.
 - e) Vice-President: Sammi Triolo – the council survey went out for all voting and non-voting members. It is anonymous and the input is critical. The information will help create an action plan for the future. Notes taken on honoring Floyd Trujillo and moving forward with that.
- V.** Discussion Policies 245 and 246: Chris Eide discusses how the leave policy limits how much leave can roll over from one year to the next. Many staff members will be losing quite a bit of the leave they have accrued. Here are some considerations: The GC was considering the possibility that someone will accumulate a large amount of leave and then 'cash' this in when they plan on leaving. However, there are many people, who are not planning on leaving but will still lose this leave, and only because they work really hard and haven't in the past taken leave, or even been asked to because there are times when people simply cannot find time to step away. We are understaffed as an admin team by far compared to almost every district in the State which makes it hard for people to leave as things will simply 'fall off'. One possibility is: ERB allows for quarters to be purchased. If there is a number of days that can equal a quarter, we can

purchase them, or buy these days out. It is not in our best interest to give the impression that we are punishing people for working hard. The primary consideration is the leave policy. Question from Hannah Mazur – are more administration members being considered in the budget? Chris Eide – the budget is currently balanced, if we added admin, we would need a higher enrollment number. However, if we increased by 1 or 2 positions, this would already help. We can also sit down in July and find times throughout the year where one or more staff can take time off. Amber Romero: question – does the academy person count as an administrator? Chris Eide – Yes, however this person will be purely in education and might not be able to cover for certain administrative positions. Sammi Triolo – question: how many people are we talking about? Chris Eide – there are 2 who will lose a significant amount and most will lose some. We do want to make sure people are taking time and not burning out. Alejandra Rodriguez – Question: we want our staff to take that leave for mental health. Have you considered using temporary employees for small periods of time which could take from special services funds instead of salaries? This could be more cost effective. Chris Eide – most things are very specialized and might not be able to be covered. Francesca Margaritondo – The last discussion on this said something about the auditors, Answer: this was more about not paying out the leave when someone leaves.

VI. *VOTE – Not replace the member: Motion made by Alejandra Rodriguez and a second from Hannah. Roll call vote: Sammi Triolo – Aye, Alejandra Rodriguez - Aye, Matt Pahl – Aye, Wendy Flood -Aye, Hannah Mazur - Aye, Amber Romero – Aye, Ruth Center- Aye, the secretary, Victoria Schweizer – Aye. Passed 8 – 0.

VII. * VOTE – Policy 267 – 2021 -22 School Calendar: Chris Eide explains the new policy that came about because of the pandemic and the sudden closure of schools. The legal counsel suggests considering this for review by a professional. Motion by Alejandra Rodriguez to table item VII and seconded by Amber Romero. Roll Call Vote: Sammi Triolo – Aye, Alejandra Rodriguez – Aye, Matt Pahl - Aye, Wendy Flood - Aye, Hannah Mazur - Aye, Amber Romero – Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, the secretary, Victoria Schweizer - Aye. Tabled 8 – 0.

VIII. *VOTE – GC President. Hannah Mazur – nominations were collected and moving to a public vote: Sammi Triolo and Victoria Schweizer were

nominated. Victoria Schweizer speaks to the board. Sammi Triolo speaks to the board. Matt Pahl – votes for Victoria Schweizer, Ruth Center – votes for Sammi Triolo, Wendy Flood – votes for Sammi Triolo, Amber Romero – votes for Sammi Triolo, Alejandra Rodriguez – votes for Victoria Schweizer, Hannah Mazur – votes for Sammi Triolo. Sammi Triolo is voted in as next President of the Governance Council. Vice President officer position is now open.

- IX. Executive Session – Closed Session** pursuant to NMSA 1978 10-15-1(H)(8) to discuss SFPS – Turquoise Trail Lease. Motion made by Sammi Triolo to enter into executive session and seconded by Alejandra Rodriguez, the attorney, Patty Matthew and the head administrator, Chris Eide are invited to participate in the executive session. Roll Call Vote: Sammi Triolo – Aye, Alejandra Rodriguez – Aye, Matt Pahl – Aye, Wendy Flood - Aye, Hannah Mazur - Aye, Amber Romero - Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, the secretary, Victoria Schweizer - Aye, entered at 7:34pm. Motion made by Alejandra Rodriguez to exit executive session and seconded by Hannah Mazur. Roll Call Vote: Sammi Triolo – Aye, Alejandra Rodriguez – Aye, Matt Pahl – Aye, Wendy Flood - Aye, Hannah Mazur - Aye, Amber Romero - Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, the secretary, Victoria Schweizer – Aye, passed 8 – 0. No action was taken. Executive Session exited at 8:14
- X. Adjournment of Regular Session** – Motion made by Alejandra Rodriguez to adjourn the regular session and seconded by Amber Romero. Roll Call Vote: Sammi Triolo – Aye, Alejandra Rodriguez – Aye, Matt Pahl – Aye, Wendy Flood - Aye, Hannah Mazur - Aye, Amber Romero - Aye, Ruth Center – Aye, the secretary, Victoria Schweizer – Aye. Passed 8 - 0 Adjourned. 8:15pm.