

Turquoise Trail Charter School  
Governance Council Meeting Minutes  
November 27, 2023

**Members Present:** Sammi Triolo, Ale Rodriguez, Amber Maes, Victoria Schweizer, Miranda Mascarenas, Ruth Center (arrived at 5:36pm)

**Members Not Present:** Matt Pahl

**Also Present:** Viviana Ortega, Gowan Hays, Joe Dan Lovato, Stephanie Behning, Mary Ellen Dannenberg, Zach Chavez, Rebecca Jones (arrived at 5:38pm), Rachel Ross (arrived at 5:41pm)

- I. Call to Order - Open Session 5:32pm.** It was determined there was a quorum. Meeting called to order.

**A. Roll Call 5:32 PM**

- B. \*VOTE - Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by Victoria Schweizer to approve agenda as presented and seconded by Alejandra Rodriguez. Roll Call Vote: Alejandra Rodriguez - Aye, Amber Maes - Aye, Miranda Mascarenas - Aye, Victoria Schweizer - Aye, Sammi Triolo - Aye  
Passed 5-0

- C. \*VOTE - Approval of October (10/23) Business Meeting Minutes:** Motion made by Alejandra Rodriguez to approve the minutes as presented and seconded by Miranda Mascarenas. Roll Call Vote: Alejandra Rodriguez - Aye, Amber Maes - Aye, Miranda Mascarenas - Aye, Victoria Schweizer - Abstain, Sammi Triolo - Abstain  
Passed 3-0 with 2 abstains

Ruth Center arrived at 5:36pm

**II. \*VOTE - Consent Agenda**

Rebecca Jones arrived at 5:39pm

Rachel Ross arrived at 5:41pm

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 & seconded by Ruth Center. Roll Call Vote: Alejandra Rodriguez - Aye, Amber Maes - Aye, Miranda Mascarenas -Aye, Ruth Center - Aye, Victoria Schweizer - Aye, Sammi Triolo - Aye  
Passed with 6-0

- III. Public Forum-** Alejandra Rodriguez would like to participate in Public Forum. Public Forum Ground Rules read by Sammi Triolo. Alejandra would like to express her gratitude to all school staff including, teachers, admin and support staff for their service and everything they do for our children. Wants to share for

public record that our children are better human beings because of the work they all do.

#### **IV. Updates/Presentation of Reports**

- A. Business Office: Gowan Hays - Alejandra did a wonderful job in presentation of consent agenda. After the 80th day which is December 1st, Admin will work on budget projections for the upcoming school year. Budget to be worked on with Stephanie regarding the Food program for next year and to look at stipends paid to staff. Alejandra asked about the stipends and if GC will need to approve the stipends prior to implementation. Gowan mentions that usually HA can approve without a GC vote. To be further discussed in the next Finance Committee meeting.
- B. Principals/Staff Representative(s): Mary Ellen Dannenberg - A few ES things. 1st is Lela Germaine SFCC Board member has approached school to do workshops with 5th graders in Science and Physics. Grant funded project. On the 5th and 7th of December our students will work with horses as therapy for a Social/Emotional project. Our 5th graders just went to the Lion King before Fall Break. They all got to meet Simba on our 1st evening field trip at TTCS. 1st Assembly with Melissa Martinez' book about her grandfather's decorated truck that's stationed on the plaza. Lastly, they are looking into how to revamp ASP with reading quest on Monday Afternoons. More clubs will be added for ASP students who will be required to do a club. We have contracted with Explora to join us 15x in the Spring on Fridays. Joe Dan - We had a visit at NMSA with our students and past alumni. Thank you to Zach and Viviana for organizing this. Our 8th graders were very well behaved. Our behavior has improved with new programs and notes that are being implemented from last year. Girls BB had a wonderful season but a slight upset at the end of the season. Our boys' season is getting ready to start with a good turnout at tryouts. A Field Trip to the Nature Center is getting planned, courtesy of the kids and parks grant. Virtual awards ceremony on the 19th for SF film festival from last SY. One of our 8th graders did attend in person. We are about to sign off on our materials for the barn update. Depends on how quick we get the PO for contractors. Hopefully before Winter Break. We had assessors come in order to obtain the Barn grant. Upon their views, they saw and shared in our vision and are in full support. There will be other grant opportunities come Spring time.
- C. Head Administrator: Thank you to Joe Dan, Mary Ellen and Zach for all the hard work that's being put into the school. We have a wonderful team that's investing in our school with all of our agricultural, STEAM projects. We received 2nd place in Charter schools on the Niche website. The

lottery opens on January 8th Pre-K-8th grade. Families and Fire Dept. came out to enjoy cider at school after hours. It's a good opportunity to connect with families and community. Student Achievement: We received Vista data and our reading scores increased. Our math scores did decrease but we have a Math coach working with our teachers to help improve in that area. IStation was found to have reporting discrepancies which are getting worked on. We haven't received our final report. We are a traditional school but on our way up to improvement. Testing will take place after Winter break and will give a better understanding of our students BOY to MOY growth. "Know yourself" concept is well underway with our 8th graders, who are considering their HS options (NMSA, etc.). Our students are presenting themselves well. Very proud of their progress. There will be our 8th grade night on 12/6 to discuss 8th grade promotion, end of year trip and HS options. Excited to connect with families on that night. Safety update; The fire drill meeting with Intraworks was very informative as the company is thorough in their presentation. Upcoming discussions for the stucco to take place. We are waiting for devices from Raptor. Current enrollment is 620 in ES and 708 Total including PreK. Final count will be made tomorrow. Challenges with new Nova system but are having easier times than other school, thanks to Roberta and Francesca who have been working very hard. 12/8 at the Alley, staff Holiday party. GC invited to attend.

D. Committees and Councils (as needed)

1. Recruitment: Amber- nothing to report out. Sammi- Our elections open up tomorrow- 12/5. Members up are Sammi & Alejandra.
2. Equity Council: Stephanie- met with Rep for Equity Councils/PED and went through expectations and compliance pieces moving forward. PTA will be approached for collaboration. Feels good with completing what is expected of us.
3. Strategic Planning/Expansion; VS- No updates
4. GC Executive Committee; Sammi- Our business meeting to be moved to the 18th rather than the 25th. Reach out if there is a problem with that date. We'll review the election and will swear in. Mid-Year meeting, PCS was contacted to participate for our Mid-year meeting. Completion of \_\_\_\_\_. HA Interim review, has been pushed out to give team more time to respond and follow up to take place. A meeting with Stephanie first and then the full group.

- V. **\*VOTE on Proposed Policy 421- VS left at 6:23** - Policy sent to Lawyer for review and email with comments sent to GC for review. Incidents to be reported to HA. Proposed by SB that a vote takes place tonight. Motion made Alejandra

Rodriguez to pass as presented and seconded by Amber Maes. Alejandra Rodriguez - Aye, Amber Maes - Aye, Miranda Mascarenas - Aye, Ruth Center - Aye, Victoria Schweizer - Aye, Sammi Triolo - Aye

- VI. \*Adjournment of Business Meeting** Motion made by Alejandra Rodriguez and seconded by Ruth Center and Miranda Mascarenas. Alejandra Rodriguez - Aye, Amber Maes - Aye, Miranda Mascarenas - Aye, Ruth Center - Aye, Victoria Schweizer - Aye, Sammi Triolo - Aye. Passed 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM