

The Franklin School of Innovation Board Meeting Minutes – 9/08/2020

Meeting Link: https://meet.google.com/qqm-nkpq-skh

Our Mission:

The Franklin School of Innovation is preparing the next generation of leaders, capable of solving problems and participating effectively and ethically as local and global citizens. Through challenging academics, real-world learning, and community engagement, our students discover their potential, develop persistence, and recognize the value of others. Our graduates are ready for the future they will create.

Board Responsibilities:

We ensure The Franklin School of Innovation's compliance to its contract with the NC Department of Public Instruction, set and monitor the implementation of school policies, manage the school's annual budget and financial planning, and hire and evaluate the performance of our school's Executive Director. The Board develops and drives the School's strategic plan and provides appropriate governance.

Agenda Item and Votes	Discussion
CALL TO ORDER The meeting shall be brought	
to order by the Board Chair, AH at 6:03p.m.	
ROLL CALL The Board Co-Chair AH took roll of	
members present: ML, AH, AG, ABJ, DP, BC,	
JGG, KC, SR, staff Michelle Vrwuink and	
Stephanie Hellert	
APPROVAL OF AGENDA Shall the Board	
approve the Agenda Items? Motion by ABJ	
Second by BC Vote unanimous to approve	
agenda	
CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES Shall the Board	
approve the minutes of the August Board	
Meeting? Motion by BC Second by DP Vote	
unanimous to approve	
PUBLIC COMMENT This agenda item is	None offered
included for the purpose of giving anyone in	
attendance the opportunity to comment on a	
non-agenda item with the Board. There will	
be a three-minute time limit per person. The	
audience is not to applaud nor demonstrate	
disapproval for the comments made. The	
Board may respond asking for clarification	
only. No action may be taken at this meeting	
on any issue raised.	

DIRECTORS UPDATE

- Summary of activities
- Update on Enrollment
- Update on Results from Parent Survey

The school budget is based on 635 students, we currently slightly above that number. The state has not yet adopted a final budget; staff will present a budget update once more information is available from the state. 14 students have withdrawn since the beginning of the year, 10 of whom withdrew to do homeschooling.

Demographics: 58% of students are male, 42% are female, 34% of enrolled students receive free/reduced lunch, 16% of students have an IEP, and the racial demographics match that of Buncombe County.

There have been some issues with "zoom-bombing" and some students missing assignments. Middle and High School safety net teams are contacting students and doing home visits when there are problems with student attendance and work.

Bolts Together nights will take place on Thursdays from 6-8pm; 100 students attended the first one. Onsite crews were successful outdoor events. Virtual town halls on 9/15 at 5 and 6:30pm. Back to school nights: middle school on 9/24, high school 9/29.

500 Chromebooks and 4 hotspots are deployed (4 more offered but not effective). School is paying for some families to have internet service. FSI has a very small number of students to whom we cannot extend internet due to their location, so these students are offered some on-site time at the school.

POLICIES FOR BOARD REVIEW AND VOTE

- Fundraising and fees policy
- Required professional development
- Enrollment priorities
- Title IX

Sex Trafficking and Child Abuse Prevention Program Policy recommended as written.

Enrollment priorities will be amended to include priority for sibling enrollment when another sibling is enrolled in the same year (even if in another grade), and sibling priority for siblings of former graduates who have when the graduate has attended FSI for at least 4 years.

Motion by ABJ, Seconded by DP, approved by unanimous consent.

A vote is not needed on Fundraising and Fees.

Title IX; there are new legal requirements related to sexual harassment. A proposed policy was presented, questions were raised about the distribution of staff roles and the standard of evidence used in determinations. Staff will ask the school's attorney for advice on these matters and bring information to the next meeting.

Sex Trafficking and Child Abuse Prevention Policy was presented for consideration, no discussion.

Enrollment Priority policy discussion: New state policy allows schools to give priority for siblings when one of student is accepted for enrollment (even if for a different grade). Additionally, sibling priority can be offered when their sibling has graduated (provided that the graduating student attended at least 4 years). The state allows priority for students coming from another charter school.

Numbers and discussion of transition to Plan B	We are entering our fourth week in Plan C. The board set a metric requiring the state infection rate to be at 5% or below for 2 consecutive weeks before transitioning into Plan B. The board reaffirmed its commitment to the previously adopted metrics regarding when to return to in person instruction. Discussion about whether to preemptively decide to stay in Plan C for a pre-determined time (like the end of the quarter or end of the calendar year). The decision was made to gather more input from school families during the upcoming Town Hall meetings.
Revisit roles and planning for fundraising and outreach activities	Tabled for a future meeting.
CLOSED SESSION – ADJOURNMENT 1. Shall the Board adjourn the meeting at 7:52p.m.? Motion by ABJ Second by SR. Vote unanimous to approve.	