

MINUTES
BOARD OF GOVERNORS REGULAR MEETING
The Academy of Tucson
October 4, 2021

10720 E. 22nd. Street, Tucson, AZ 85748 Room 302
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- I. **Call to Order:** Mr. Howard C. Stewart, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
- II. **Roll Call: Present:** Board Members, Mr. Howard C. Stewart Jr. Mr. Ivan English, Kirsten Stephens, Mrs. Marolyn Pierson and Dr. George Sokol and Mrs. Wendi Allardice, HS Principal and Ms. Bennie Gemello, Business Manager. Guest: Mr. Joshua Hancock, Mrs. Karen Hancock and Mrs. Linda Allen

- III. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Mr. Howard C. Stewart led.

- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Howard C. Stewart, Jr. requested a motion to approve the corrected minutes for the board meeting held on September 13, 2021. Mrs. Marolyn Pierson moved and Mr. Ivan English seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- V. **Approval of Agenda:** Mr. Howard C. Stewart, Jr. requested a motion to approve the agenda. Mrs. Kristen Stephens moved and Mr. Ivan English seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- VI. **Call to the Public/Oral and Written Petitions: None**

- VII. **ACTION ITEMS:** Acceptance of the Final Audit completed by John C. Todd II, CPA. "Our report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters dated October 27, 2020, contained no material weaknesses" Our debt ratio ended at 2.11. The business office recommends acceptance. Mr. Ivan English moved and Mrs. Kristen Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- VIII. **Administrative Reports:**
 - a. **Board President, Mr. Howard C. Stewart Jr.**
 - i. Mrs. Wendi Allardice, Superintendent, Ms. Bennie Gemello, Business Manager and Mrs. Karen Hancock, Grants Coordinator, all received a token of appreciation for the work they completed with the school audits.

 - b. **Superintendent, Mrs. Wendi Allardice**
 - i. Our internal audit conducted by John C. Todd II, P.C. has been submitted for approval, with the finding removed to indicate compliance on all levels. Audits for our federal

grants, special education, health and other insurance are also in progress. We are not expecting any issues to arise but continue to do our due diligence.

- ii. We have limited number of students at each school who are utilizing flexible instructional time due to current illness, quarantine or fragile immune systems.
- iii. Middle school: After school clubs are in full swing including band and STEM. Our additional federal funding requires enrichment opportunities and documentation. Students are excited to read books again and Mr. Henry has recently added some gently used popular your adult books and series.
- iv. High School: Clubs have recently begun at the high school level. Clubs include International Club, Classic Movies, Mindfulness, Anime and Chess currently. Students are enjoying the additional learning opportunities and being active and involved in school again.
- v. Holly Halstead and Mrs. Allardice will be attending a Book Fair at University of Arizona in March. They are working to restructure and updating all information on the Academy web page.
- vi. Elementary School: Mr. Joshua Hancock reported Kindergarten through fifth grades is using “Dibels” math assessment benchmarks through the first quarter of the year. Data driven assessment. Interventionist for Math and Reading, Mrs. Jennifer Hughes and Mrs. Sarah Fata are taking responsibility for this program. Clubs sponsored through our teachers are the following:
 1. Robotics – Mr. Erich Englebrecht
 2. Coding – Mrs. Alice Thompson
 3. Drama – Mrs. Jacque Hoey
 4. STEM – Mrs. Locke and Mrs. Hill
 5. Art – Ms. Amy Tuinstra
 6. Young Explorers – Mrs. Elisabeth LaKavage

This is part of the ESSER II enrichment plan supporting our students. The PAC sponsored the Penny Wars which raised around \$3,000.00. They also fundraised through Peter Piper pizza. Parents and students have enjoyed the free lunch programs through the National School Lunch Program. Through tax credit the Kindergarten class has a playground and equipment of their own.

- c. **Grants Coordinator, Mrs. Karen Hancock:** Academy of Tucson Schools was randomly selected for a fiscal audit of our federal grants for school year 2019-2020. The Title I and Title II and IDEA Basic Grants were selected for the audit. We were able to furnish the requested documentation to satisfy the audit requirements. We provided expenditures reports, payroll

documentation, time and effort logs and purchase order documentation.

d. Business Manager, Ms. Bennie Gemello

- i. All bank reconciliations completed
- ii. Current with accounts payable.
- iii. Our Audit was completed with no material weaknesses. Our debt ratio was at 2.11. This improvement allows us to proceed without having to have a letter of from our bond holder (Hamlin).
- iv. All our grants have been approved from ADE grants management.
- v. We have processed our first reimbursements for our Title I, Tile II, IDEA Basic and ESSER II Grants during the SY2022.
- vi. Our 40th Day enrollment numbers were uploaded to the state for Kinder through 5th Grade = 190/172.5 (Kinder @.5FTE), 6th through 8th Grade = 179, 9th through 12th Grade = 279 total 548.

IX. Consent Agenda: Expense Vouchers #3 and Payroll Vouchers #5 and #6. Mrs. Kirsten Stephens moved and Mr. Ivan English seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

X. Board Remarks: Mrs. Kirsten Stephens inquired for Tax Credit donation. The Academy web site will have tax credit donation available.

XII. Adjournment: Mr. Howard C. Stewart, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 7:00PM. The next meeting will be Monday, November 1, 2021 at 5:00 pm.

October 4, 2021

Bennie Gemello, Business Manager

Date Board Approved