



**Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2021**

Meeting Start Time: 6:04 pm (Meeting held via Zoom Conference Call)

Meeting Adjourned: 8:07 pm

In Attendance (In order of Zoom Call Review): Courtney Fox, Meghan Newberry, Janine Salomone, Mike Reilly, Becky Phillips, Courtney Loughney, Kim Lopez, Sara Stabb, Sarah Nagle, Shannon Tumolo, Dan Scholl, Loren Holland, and Natalie Marchiani (6:29pm)

Regrets: Matt Petrin and Avery Stewart

Guests: Lindsay Abrams, Liz Madden, Erika Richardson, Laurie Murray and Tracy Long

Public Comment

No public comment recorded.

Approval Public Minutes

The minutes from the February 25, 2021 public board meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the February 25, 2021 public board minutes was made by J. Salomone. Second by C. Loughney. No objections. No abstentions.

Introduction of New Board Members

The new Board members, Dan Scholl, Kim Lopez, and Shannon Tumolo introduced themselves to the Board. They provided some background information on their experience and reasons for wanting to join the Board.

Website Monitoring Report from DOE

- Overall rating is *Meets Standards*

Head of School Report

The Head of School provided updates to the Board on the following:

- Review of Survey Data from The New Teacher Project
 - Teachers at FSMA took part in a survey that was offered to all Charter Schools in Delaware at no cost. About 86% of FSMA teachers responded.
 - The survey collected information on multiple areas such as instructional planning, leadership, school operations, hiring process, professional development, teacher compensation, academic opportunity, and diversity equity and inclusion.
 - The Head of School reviewed the data with the Board. The teacher directors also provided input on the recent professional development training
 - The school nurses, Laurie and Becky, provided feedback during the Head of School's report regarding the health and safety guidelines at FSMA and at Charter schools throughout the State. They reported FSMA is very prepared for the next school year.
- Staff Recognition: Nurse Laurie and Nurse Becky
 - Nurse Laurie and Becky were recognized for their hard work throughout the pandemic. They meet with the Head of School every day to discuss new details from DPH and the



CDC in relation to FSMA. They have been interacting great with families and other charter school nurses during this time. They also have volunteered at many vaccination clinics throughout the State. In general, they have managed things with care and professionalism.

- What the 2021-2022 School Year could look like:
 - FSMA is planning for a full five-day reopening. They are not planning for a distance optioning.
 - For the rest of this school year, the school is looking to see if it is a possibility to bring in students for more in-person instruction. Part of the inquiry into this requires making sure the distance and hybrids students are both receiving a quality instruction. The Head of School discussed the challenges with bringing more kids back and going back full time. Determined that a full day is not an option for the remainder of the school year. There is a committee looking into whether it's an option to bring students back in the building on Wednesdays for the remainder of the school year.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee Report

The Board Chair provided an update on the Board committees. The Executive Committee is still working on finalizing the committees and ensuring everyone is on a committee where they feel comfortable.

J. Salomone reported that the Board has been operating without an official Treasurer since October 2020. Matt Petrin has unofficially stepped into the role and has agreed to serve as the Treasurer if approved by the Board. J. Salomone made a motion for Matt Petrin to serve as the Treasurer. Second by M. Reilly. The motion passed. No objections. No abstentions.

Development Committee Report

B. Phillips reported the latest fundraising efforts with the Do More 24 campaign. FSMA was able to get 187 donors, beating the donor record from last year. \$14,853 was raised during the campaign. M. Newberry reported that there were some contributions after the deadline and the final total was \$17,187. The development committee intends to send thank you notes to those who contributed to the campaign.

At the most recent development committee meeting, they looked at the calendar of events and things they want to focus on in the next year. The committee wants to continue to be in communication with families, donors, and corporate sponsors who have supported FSMA throughout the year. They will continue engaging the community and informing them of things going on at FSMA. Their goal is to maintain the current relationships while trying to build new ones. They are also considering another fundraising event.

Finance Committee Report

C. Fox provided the Finance Committee report. As of February 28, 2021, we are two thirds through the school year. C. Fox reviewed reimbursements from grants and state operating funds. FSMA applied for an additional \$205,000 of ESSER-II funds (Covid-19 related funds). FSMA wrote a grant that was approved for an additional staff member. FSMA has three years to spend the money from the grant. It will either



cover an additional academic support specialist or a mental health support specialist. FSMA has three years to consider how to use the grant for the additional staff member. FSMA is anticipating another round of ESSER-III funds in the coming months.

C. Fox reported that the Finance Committee has reviewed what expenses are trending higher than previous years. Maintenance and custodial expenses have been trending higher. Insurance also went up this year. FSMA also added more coverage around cyber security. There was also an increase in FSMA's dues for the Delaware Charter School Network. A motion to approve and post the monthly web report was made by M. Reilly. Second by B. Phillips. Vote passed. No objections. 1 abstention by N. Marchiani.

Governance Committee Report

L. Holland reported that the Governance committee will be meeting soon to discuss when the annual meeting will be and about the election of a new teacher director. J. Salomone indicated that any new Board members interested in governance to let the Executive Committee know.

Executive Session

Motion to move into executive session by J. Salomone. Second by C. Loughney. Moved into executive session at 7:26 pm. Returned from executive session at 8:07 PM.

Motion to adjourn by J. Salomone. Second M. Reilly. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.