

Goodwill Arkansas Education Initiatives, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2019

Presiding: Margaret Ellibee

Members Present: Chris Amsler
Jonathan Crossley (via teleconference)
Miguel Lopez
Brian Marsh
Edie Stewart

Members Not Present: Margret Bates
Cassandra Green
Kristen Wilkinson
Elroy Willoughby

Staff: Elizabeth Burch
Tomiko Davis (via teleconference)
Sylvia Murchison
Cindy Varner
Carloas Wilson

Call to Order

Margaret Ellibee called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Chair Ellibee called roll and recognized a quorum with six of nine members present including the newest member of the board Edie Stewart.

Item 1: Minutes of the May 16, 2019 Meeting

Miguel Lopez made a motion to approve the minutes. Brian Marsh seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 2: Election of Board Officers

Chair Ellibee advised the board that it was time to elect for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair of the Board. Chair Ellibee then nominated Miguel Lopez for Board Chair and made a motion to elect him. Chris Amsler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Brian Marsh nominated Elroy Willoughby for Board Vice-Chair and then made a motion to elect him. Miguel Lopez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 3: Operations Report

Cindy Varner presented to the board the Operations Report for term 5 of the school year that

highlighted student enrollment and paid special attention to the Excel Center commencement ceremony which took place on June 15, 2019.

Brian Marsh updated the board on recent developments regarding school funding shortly after members of the Governor's Office had toured the Excel Center. **Brian Marsh** explained that further negotiations would be taking place in weeks to come.

Cindy Varner gave the latest Legislative Updates that her and her team received at The Arkansas Department of Education Summit. Those updates are as follows:

- **Act 168- Training for School Board Members:** Requires all new School Board Members to complete nine hours of training by December 31st of the following year the member was elected. All Board Members are required to receive training on how to read and interpret an audit report.
- **Act 029- Anti-Bullying:** Requires all school Board Members to complete training on bullying, school safety and student discipline.
- **Act 1028- FOIA:** Requires all School Board meetings to be recorded by sound-only, video or broadcast capable of being recorded excluding Executive sessions. Those recordings must be maintained for one year.
- **Act 323- Drug screening:** Allows the drug testing of new and or current employees. An AG opinion is pending.
- **Act 456- Arkansas Concurrent Credit Scholarship:** This Arkansas Scholarship is available for both Juniors and Seniors Concurrently enrolled in two- or four-year schools. The Concurrent Credit Scholarship reduces tuition mandatory fees by fifty percent.
- **Act 858- School Facilities:** Issued to revise design and construction standards regarding site selection for all public-school district facilities and the Arkansas Department of Transportation must be notified and include a traffic Impact analysis.
- **Act 867- Auditing Standards:** Removes the ability for schools to adopt the alternative basis of accounting (GASB, AICPA, GAO) and requires only the regulatory basis of accounting.

Tomiko Davis presented to the board Professional Staff Recommendations for the school. Amber Blade was recommended to fill the position of Assistant Childcare Director of the Drop-In Center. Shatrina Williams was recommended to fill the position of Humanities Instructor and Charsa Wright was recommended to fill the positions of both Special Education Instructor and Humanities Instructor.

Margaret Ellibee made a motion to approve the Professional Staff Recommendations. **Chris Amsler** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tomiko Davis presented to the board for consideration the 2019-2020 School Calendar located in the agenda packet.

Brian Marsh made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 School Calendar. **Margaret Ellibee** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 4: Financial Report

Sylvia Murchison provided a financial report for The Excel Center for the months of April 2019 and May 2019 providing the following information: Consolidated Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes

in Fund Balances, Summary of Revenue, Summary of Expenditures. The Financial Report is included in the agenda packet. As of May 31, 2019, The Excel Center had monthly expenditures of \$107,912 for April and \$142,610 for May of 2019. The financial reports with accompanying notations are included in the agenda packet.

Brian Marsh made a motion to approve the financial reports for April and May 2019. **Chris Amsler** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sylvia Murchison provided a School Budget of 1,600,000.00 for the 2019-2020 School year that is included in the agenda packet.

Brian Marsh made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 School Budget. **Miguel Lopez** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

Item 5: Adjournment

Chris Amsler made a motion to adjourn the board meeting. **Margaret Ellibee** seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Chair Signature

7-29-19
Date

Elizabeth Burch
Board Recorder