

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2017

Call to Order / Roll Call

President/CEO Margaret Fortune called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm. Board Secretary Michelle Grace called the roll:

Eleanor Brown – Present Paulette Brown Hinds – Absent Bertha Gorman – Present
Scott Loehr – Absent Rick Rubino – Present Ollie Watson – Present
Quorum reached.

Adoption of Agenda

President/CEO Margaret Fortune made a request to pull the Suicide Prevention Policy from the agenda as it requires additional revisions before it is adopted. It will come back to the Board at the November meeting.

Member Rubino made a motion to adopt the revised agenda.

Member Gorman seconded.

Roll call vote:

Eleanor Brown: AYE Bertha Gorman: AYE Rick Rubino: AYE Ollie Watson: AYE
Motion carried.

Public Comment

None heard.

Approve Minutes from August 24, 2017 Meeting

Member Rubino made a motion to approve the August 24, 2017 Board Meeting minutes.

Member Brown seconded

Roll call vote:

Eleanor Brown: AYE Bertha Gorman: AYE Rick Rubino: AYE Ollie Watson: AYE
Motion carried.

Approve Fortune School of Education Bylaws Revision

President/CEO Margaret Fortune presented the item. Kim Rodriguez, Fortune School of Education's Legal Counsel from Young, Minney and Corr, joined the meeting telephonically. The purpose of the revision of the bylaws is to remove the Sole Statutory Member. The Sole Statutory Member is a body, sometimes known as the parent organization, with specific functions. In some organizations, the Sole Statutory Member is a body with staff and budget. In the case of Fortune School of Education's Sole Statutory Member, they serve strictly a governance function (approving fiscal transactions over \$100,000 and appointing board members to the Fortune School of Education Board of Directors). In the Hardy Brown College Prep and Fortune School charter petitions the Sole Statutory Member is listed as part of the governance structure. Background: Fortune School of Education existed prior to the opening of the charter schools. When the organization opened charter schools, it was no longer

acceptable to have a governance structure based in non-profit law. The governance structure had to be changed in order to be compliant with Government Code 1090, as well as to meet the requirements of the Memorandum of Understanding between Fortune School of Education and the Sacramento County Office of Education when the Sacramento charter petition was approved. Working with legal counsel, Fortune School of Education created a governance structure that included a Sole Statutory Member. The Fortune School of Education Board of Directors has proven its oversight has been effective fiscally, based on clean financial audits each year. The Sole Statutory Member has full confidence in the Fortune School of Education Board of Directors, and as such, there is no longer a need to continue to have two boards. If the Fortune School of Education Board of Directors approves the revision to the bylaws, next steps will be for the Sole Statutory Member to take the bylaws revision item up at their next meeting. If they approve the Fortune School of Education bylaws revision, they will also need to pass a resolution to dissolve the Sole Statutory Member. The final step that must take place is for the Sacramento County Board of Education to approve a material revision to the charter which is the removal of the Sole Statutory Member from the governance structure. The Sacramento County Board of Education will hear the item at their November 14, 2017 meeting.

Member Rubino made a motion to approve the revision to the Fortune School of Education Bylaws contingent on the approval of the Fortune School (Sole Statutory Member) Board of Directors and the Sacramento County Board of Education.

Member Watson seconded.

Roll call vote:

Eleanor Brown: AYE

Bertha Gorman: AYE

Rick Rubino: AYE

Ollie Watson: AYE

Motion carried.

Approve Attendance Policy Revisions

Matt Taylor, Director of Data & Analytics presented the item. Fortune School of Education's Organizational Priority #4 for 2017-18 is to improve attendance at all charter schools. Attendance data is tracked daily and public attendance walls are posted in each school that reflect daily attendance by class and for the school as a whole, sending the message to students and parents that attendance is important. Progressive attendance post cards and letters are generated in accordance with the Attendance Policy. The Data & Analytics Department has hired staff to track attendance and process the notifications as appropriate. Weekly discussions are held with school leaders about their respective attendance data. Incentives have been implemented across the organization to reward scholars for good attendance. Students compete for class rewards based on having 100% attendance. Once a month, a Principal is awarded with a trophy for having the highest attendance for a particular month. The trophy sits in the lobby for students and parents to see.

The three minor revisions that staff is recommending to the policy:

1. In Excused Absence section; page 2, first paragraph under bullets, add: "Absences must be cleared within 72 hours."
2. In the 5 Step SARB Process, Step 3, remove: "thirty minutes tardy or more".
3. In the 5 Step SARB Process, Step 4, add: "Attend a Parent Against Chronic Truancy (PACT) meeting with the District Attorney's Office or other parent meeting deemed appropriate by Administration."

Member Watson made a motion to approve the revisions to the Attendance Policy.

Member Gorman seconded.

Roll call vote:

Eleanor Brown: AYE

Bertha Gorman: AYE

Rick Rubino: AYE

Ollie Watson: AYE

Motion carried.

Approve Resolution: Declaration of Substitute Teacher Shortage

President/CEO Margaret Fortune presented the item. Fortune School of Education has made an extensive effort to attract more credentialed substitutes, due to the shortage California is experiencing. Efforts included hosting two job fairs, raising the daily and long term sub rates to be the highest in Sacramento County, an employee referral incentive program, and marketing on local television and radio stations. There remains a qualified substitute teacher shortage and the passage of this resolution would allow Fortune School of Education to apply for a Variable Term Waiver Request from the California Commission of Teacher Credentialing for Malcolm Ajayi, 5th grade teacher – William Lee College Prep and Shanice Butler, 5th grade teacher – Fortune School. The Variable Term Waiver Request allows individuals who have bachelors or masters degrees who have not yet passed the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST). The term of the waiver is one year.

Member Gorman made a motion to approve the Substitute Teacher Shortage Resolution.

Member Watson seconded.

Roll call vote:

Eleanor Brown: AYE

Bertha Gorman: AYE

Rick Rubino: AYE

Ollie Watson: AYE

Motion carried.

Curriculum and Instruction Update

Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Wes Pepper, presented the item. Fortune School of Education is actively engaged in a robust professional development program for instructional staff. Pepper, along with four school principals are participating in the Relay National Principals Institute. Through that membership, professional development within the organization has reached a new level. The strategy around professional development is focused on providing training to staff in small “bites”, allowing individuals to fully understand and replicate the training. Culture and Instructional Rigor are the first two arcs for the 2017-18 academic year. Master Teachers have focused their work with staff around these arcs. Teachers participated in T-School during the summer to gear up for the new school year, focusing on adult and student culture. The exemplar being followed in professional development is centered around three specific points, See It, Name It, Do It: see the exemplar, name the key elements, and practice the exemplar. A video clip demonstrating the exemplar was shared with the Board. During weekly Principals’ Meetings, school leaders receive a preview of the weekly professional development teachers will be receiving; principals also participate in professional development. Upcoming arcs are Data Driven Instruction, and Crescendo. The Board will receive updates from Curriculum and Instruction at each of the upcoming meetings as a standing agenda item.

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) Data Presentation

Director of Data & Analytics, Matt Taylor, presented the item. The Board received a preview of internal data in October; local district data is now available as well. In English/Language Arts and in math, the state results were basically flat at 1% growth. All Fortune schools had growth in English/Language Arts, and in math, five out of six Fortune schools had growth. Using a similar schools comparison measure, Fortune ranked 9/10 across the state serving a similar demographic. That rank places Fortune at the same level or above many high-performing charter schools in California. Fortune’s growth is closing the gap in English/Language Arts; closing the gap in math is slower than the progress in English/Language Arts. Fortune is serving a substantially higher percentage (64%) of African American students than other charter networks in California, which means the raw numbers of African American students in testing grades is far larger than in many other charter networks in California.

President/CEO's Report

The Sacramento County Board of Education will hear the annual report for Fortune School at their November 14, 2017 meeting. All Board Members are encouraged and invited to attend. Fortune School has received a \$2 million dollar federal grant to help fund growth that is planned across the organization. The next meeting of the Fortune School of Education Board of Directors is November 16, 2017, at 5:00 pm at Hazel Mahone College Prep.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Grace". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michelle Grace
Board Secretary