

Board of Directors –FSAS MINUTES

Special Meeting

Approved 04.17.2021

Meeting date, time 04/03/2021 8:30AM | Meeting location Online, Zoom

Meeting called by William Doughty, Chair
Type of meeting Special Meeting
Facilitator William Doughty, Chair
Secretary Carolyn Beem

Attendees:

William Doughty, Chair
Sally Morris, Vice Chair
Carolyn Beem, Secretary
Ben Kramer, Treasurer
Penny Collins, Board
Melanie Prinz, Board (excused at 9:30)
Vincent Micale, Board (departed at 10:11)

Also Present:

Jacinda Cotton-Castro, Executive Director
Shelley Reed, Maine Charter Commission

Excused:

Meeting called to order at 8:33 AM.

AGENDA TOPICS

Executive Director’s Summary of Plan to Reunite Fiddlehead

Informational: Jacinda outlined the Plan to Reunite Fiddlehead that she and the dedicated staff at Fiddlehead have developed.

Jacinda expressed thanks to the staff, families and Board for the work, resilience and flexibility in coping with and persevering through all that has happened this past year.

Jacinda walked through the Plan and the highlights that were shared in advance with the community as work continues on eliminating the hybrid model and moving forward with a 4-day in person week.

[Penny Collins](#) shared background information and data that formed the basis and rationale that has guided the decision-making process.

Public Comment

Informational: 20+ members of the Fiddlehead community in attendance.

Members of the public and staff were invited to ask questions or provide comments to the Board about items on the agenda, especially the Plan to Reunite Fiddlehead.

Board Vice Chair Sally Morris fielded chat questions and shared them with the Board:

Feedback: Community expressed positive comments of support

Questions: Pick-up and drop-off logistics; after school care and support for students; utilizing sneeze guards during lunch; verbal verification of health screening; cohorts vs. full class; will teachers still move vs. whole classes moving for specialized classes; what happens if we do not stay a 'green' designation and Covid cases increase; outdoor/offsite days; how social and emotional support is considered (students AND staff); reflections on the beginning of school - anticipating all that could go wrong and experiencing how well the past year has gone; class sizes, classroom spaces; data

Consider approval of the Plan to Reunite Fiddlehead

Board discussion on the Plan to Reunite Fiddlehead in preparation for a vote.

Motion to approve the Plan to Reunite Fiddlehead and implement 4-day in person learning beginning April 27, 2021: Penny

Second: Ben

Discussion: None

Motion passed: 7:0 (1 absent)

Revision of COVID 19 Health Policy

Sally walked through the necessary changes to the current COVID 19 Health Policy required to carry out the *Plan to Reunite Fiddlehead*.

Motion to approve policy changes to the COVID 19 Health Policy: Doug

Second: Ben

Discussion: Bill shared how helpful it has been to incorporate Nurse Kristen's wise advice into updating the Covid Health policy.

Motion passed: 7:0 (1 absent)

Approval of Executive Committee Action from March 25, 2021

The Board considered action by the Executive Committee to allow certain parts of the Plan to Reunite Fiddlehead to start early.

Motion to approve Executive Committee Action: Sally

Second: Carolyn

Discussion: None

Motion passed: 7:0 (1 absent)

Response to LD604 in regard to Charter Schools

Update the status and appropriate response to proposed legislation “An Act to Promote Accountability in Maine’s Charter Schools”

Going before the Maine Legislature Education and Cultural Affairs Committee on April 7, 1:00 PM, via zoom. LD604 proposes to limit expansion of Charter schools without expressed approval from the DOE Commissioner, and changes the budgeting process and allocation of funds. Jacinda and Bill shared the process for responding, and coordinated effort by Charter Schools.

Public meeting closed 10:11AM

Motion to enter Executive Session(s): 45.6A to consider hiring recommendations from Executive Director: 10:11 AM: Sally

Second: Carolyn

Discussion: None

Motion passed: 6:0 (2 absent)

Motion to exit Executive Session(s): 405.6.A 10:48 AM: Penny

Second: Bill

Motion passed 6:0 (2 absent)

Motion to authorize ED moves forward with negotiation with candidate for Outdoor Education position, with nature of relationship to be further discussed and determined: Sally

Second: Penny

Discussion: None

Motion passed: 6:0 (2 absent)

Motion to approve hiring recommendations put forth by the Executive Director and discussed in Executive Session for 2 SPED positions: Penny

Second: Ben

Discussion: None

Motion passed: 6:0 (2 absent)

Next meeting: April 17, 2021 8:30AM via Zoom

Motion to adjourn: Penny

Second: Ben

Discussion: None

Motion passed: 6:0

Meeting adjourned: 11:03 am