

## Minutes of regular meeting August 19, 2020

Academy of Moore County Board of Directors Meeting August 19, 2020 Board Members at TAMC: Thomas Beddow, Chair, Janet Lowry, Dee Park, Allyson Schoen. Participating by Phone: Dominique Brisson, Jim Busby, David Nordloh, Bill Scholtes, Malinda Summey, Bruce Weeks, Rebecca Wood. Others Present at TAMC: Crystal Bonville, Richard Schoen, Tonia Weeks, Dr. Singh, Ms. Parrott, Mrs. Dixon, Mr. Bailey By Phone: Felicia Schafer, Joshua and Brittany Raynor, Ashlene Williams, Sheena Piehota, Lindsey Burke

Chairman Beddow called the meeting to order at 2:40. A quorum was present. After a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance, Mr. Beddow welcomed visitors. Mrs. Lowry made a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Park, approved.

Secretary: Mrs. Lowry made motions to approve the minutes of July 15, and August 11, seconded by Mrs. Park, approved. Mrs. Wood made a motion that the meeting time be changed to 3:30 to allow teachers who wished to attend to do so, seconded by Mrs. Brisson, approved. Mrs. Lowry made a motion that meetings be held to a maximum of two hours, seconded by Mrs. Wood, approved with Mr. Scholtes, Mrs. Park and Mr. Beddow voting "no". Mrs. Lowry suggested that more board discussion should be conducted by committees rather than by the full board.

Director of Education: Mrs. Schoen reported that the first two weeks of school went well. She indicated plans to order 10 more plastic shields to separate students for virus protection. She asked all Board members to sign the Conflict of Interest policy. She reported that few parents have responded to the letter offering day camp on Fridays. That letter will go out two more times. Mrs. Raynor and Ms. Piehota, parents, both stated they want Friday instruction, not day care, for their children. Mrs. Wood asked that all teachers use one platform for instruction. Currently, some use Dojo; others use Goggle Classroom. Mrs. Wood emphasized that the Board and parents need good communication with school staff. Mrs. Wood made a motion that the Zoom link for Board meetings be posted on Dojo at least 48 hours before the meeting. Mr. Scholtes amended this motion to include the provision that the Board will develop and post guidelines for visitor participation in Board meetings. Seconded by Mrs. Brisson, the amended motion was approved. Mrs. Schoen said that the pavilion makeover and new sod look beautiful.

PTO: President Tonia Weeks said the parent group meets tonight. Mr. Beddow asked Mrs. Schaefer, PTO Treasurer, how much money the PTO has. She indicated that the previous balance was \$26,841.30, but that the PTO has now purchased 18 chrome books for student use for less than \$5,000. The PTO wants a financial review and has an auditor who will perform the review for \$1,000. Mrs. Schoen will ask the school auditor if he can conduct the review at a lower price. Mrs. Weeks reported that the PTO is working with the Fair Barn for dates for Purse Bingo. Mr. Beddow suggested they consider the National Athletic Village off of Hwy 1 North, which has a capacity of 350 people.

Treasurer: Mr. Busby reported that the 2020-21 TAMC budget was based on 495 students. The budget has now been adjusted to 465 students with state funding of \$5658.15/child, up from last year's \$5253.47/child. As of today there are 472 students. Available cash is \$886,273.41 and that the 2020-21 budget, if met, would yield a \$180,560 surplus .

Mr. Weeks said some parents have offered to assist teachers with copying and other tasks. Mrs. Bonville indicated that she would look into this. Mrs. Lowry made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Park to authorize Mrs. Schoen to contract with the equivalent of one full-time teacher for six months to help with extra instruction that has resulted from the Covid-19 impact. The motion was approved.

Mrs. Schaefer asked if the PTO could be refunded the \$12,000 for the water hookups on the soccer field or some of it if it is in the school's budget. Mr. Busby reported that the item is not included in the budget, but we will review the minutes to see if any action was previously taken by the Board to pay some of this cost.

Old Business: Mr. Beddow discussed the Site Plan now prepared by Mr. Heckethorn. It identifies space for a future classroom building. Mr. Schoen has received three quotes for the proposed library, computer laboratory and Kindergarten classroom addition ranging from \$381,656 to \$536,888. He will ask the contractors with the two lowest bids to rebid, taking into account possible materials price increases since the original bids were prepared. These quotes do not include furniture, fire protection or security. Mr. Weeks made a motion to seek financing for the project while rates are low rather drawing on the current fund balance. Mrs. Wood seconded the motion which was approved.

Safety and Security: The soccer field is completed. Active Defender emergency training went well for teachers and staff. Active Defender will eventually include the ability to locate a bus en route. Mr. Weeks made a motion that Mrs. Brisson check the costs to upgrade the TAMC website, increasing its security with a secured portal. Seconded by Mrs. Wood, approved.

Design for a sign for new building: Mrs. Schoen suggested that a logo embossed in copper would look good.

Covid Impact: Persons in direct contact with someone who may have covid must quarantine. Their siblings are not required to quarantine.

Mr. Beddow tabled the discussion of Bylaws revision until the September meeting.

At 4:50, Mrs. Lowry made a motion to close the open session to discuss a student issue; Mrs. Park seconded; motion approved. At 5:05, the Board resumed the open meeting. Mr. Weeks made a motion that a committee of not more than three Board members work on a proposal to settle the student matter. Mrs. Lowry seconded the motion which was approved. Mr. Beddow appointed Mr. Nordloh, Mr. Scholtes and himself to this committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 following a motion from Mr. Nordloh, seconded by Mrs. Brisson and approved. The next meeting is scheduled for September 16, at 3:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet B. Lowry, Secretary

Special Meeting August 31, 2020

Board Members by Zoom or Phone: Thomas Beddow, Chair, Dominique Brisson, Jim Busby, Janet Lowry, David Nordloh, Bill Scholtes, Malinda Summey, Bruce Weeks, Rebecca Wood, Allyson Schoen. Board Member Absent: Dee Park . Others Present: Crystal Bonville, Richard Schoen.

Chairman Beddow called the meeting to order a little after 4:00. A quorum was present.

Mr. Beddow reported that Trent Carpenter of First Citizens Bank estimates that the bank could loan up to 75% of what is needed for the proposed addition at 3.5% or better interest, loan term of for 5-7 years. Monthly payments for 5 years on \$300,000 would be \$5460 or for 7 years \$4050. Closing and other costs for financing will be \$10,000. Trent will try to get a prepayment waiver. TAMC must send a letter to USDA explaining why we want to borrow the funds rather than use available cash. Briefly addressing that topic, Mr. Beddow indicated that the proposed library will be a new asset; the computer lab improves what is being used currently and the new classroom will allow all kinder-garteners to be located in one wing of the same building. Mrs. Lowry made a motion to proceed with financing the project assuming the project is approved by the Board. Mr. Scholtes seconded the motion which was approved.

Mr. Weeks made a motion that we seek 100% funding, seconded by Mr. Scholtes, approved.

Mr. Weeks asked if the 75% bank financing approval superseded the prior board decision to seek 100% financing. Mr. Scholtes confirmed that it did.

Mr. Beddow requested that Mrs. Wood, Mr. Busby and Mr. Nordloh review the bidders' contracts. Mr. Nordloh made a motion that that group be authorized to select the contractor; Mrs. Lowry seconded; approved. The McFadden requote is \$391,000 and the O'Conner requote is \$441,000. Mr. Schoen noted that Mr. McFadden is the husband of a TAMC teacher who has done good work for the school in the past.

Mr. Beddow said the Grievance Committee is tentatively scheduled to meet the morning Thursday, September 3, to address recent concerns and complaints registered by parents.

Mrs. Lowry made a motion to close the open meeting to discuss a legal issue. ; Mrs. Wood seconded. Approved. At about 5:15 Mrs. Park joined the group just as the closed meeting ended and the open meeting resumed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet B. Lowry, Secretary