

# MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

OF

## NOAH WEBSTER SCHOOLS-PIMA

October 26, 2021

Held Virtually

DIRECTORS PRESENT: John Tomasson, Teresa Wales, Ronrico Miller, BJ Pennington, Sharon Miller

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

PRESENT BY INVITATION: Vicki Dry, Secretary, Jessica Friedermann, Robert Rodenbaugh, Tara Bittinger

A public meeting of the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Noah Webster Schools-Pima, an Arizona non-profit corporation (the "Corporation"), was held virtually at 4:30 P.M. A quorum being present, and the meeting having been duly noticed and called, the meeting was called to order.

### 1. Approval of the Minutes of the October 13, 2021 Board Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes of the October 13, 2021 Board meeting. Director Tomasson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Director Pennington seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously with Director Tomasson, Director R. Miller, Director Wales, Director S. Miller and Director Pennington voting to approve.

### 2. Specific Matters to be Considered

#### • QTR 1 Benchmark Data Review

Robert Rodenbaugh discussed some of the factors effecting the education program this year. Similar to Mesa, the school has also seen students coming in who haven't been engaged in learning for one to 1.5 years. The school has been working to meet students where they are and move them forward from that point. He indicated that teacher observations are showing that if anything, curriculum needs to slow down to help these students gain a strong base of beginning knowledge. Teachers need to address more depth of knowledge not breadth.

He presented the Board with October Benchmark Reporting Summaries. He explained that the Kg students were very low and are taking longer to adjust to school in general. They came in much lower and with far fewer skills than in previous years. Data discussions are taking place regularly and changes are being implemented

according to those discussions. KG was able to maintain growth and decrease the number of minimally proficient, but decrease in % passing.

First Grade, as a grade level increased proficiency and either maintained or exceeded growth in Math. Teacher 1.1 lost 12% in proficiency but 47% of the class is either CST or SPED and have seen an exceptional amount of absences and tardies.

ELA in First Grade showed similar results.

Second Grade Math maintained growth but decreased in % passing. Teacher 2.3 has 44% of her class in either CST or SPED and is experiencing a high percentage of Absenteeism and tardies. We are focusing on specific recognized needs. Teacher 2.2 was on an improvement plan and there are areas we are working on currently.

Second grade ELA as a grade level increased in % passing, but Teacher 2.2 decreased. All but Teacher 2.3 maintained growth.

Third Grade Math either maintained or exceeded growth and Teacher 3.1 not only exceeded growth but also increased % passing by 10%. Teacher 3.2 has 42% of her students in SPED Services.

Third Grade ELA is showing Teacher 3.1 as having Exceeded Growth and increased % passing by 10% while Teacher 3.2 maintained growth and increased % passing by 1%.

Fourth Grade Teacher 4.2 had a 5% loss in Math % passing and did not maintain growth but his class is largely SPED students with high absentee rates. Teacher 4.1 increased % passing in Math by 2% and maintained growth.

ELA in Fourth Grade maintained growth and teacher 4.2 showed no gain but also no loss in % passing and teacher 4.1 decreased 8%.

Fifth Grade Math showed loss in % passing but maintained growth. Director Tomasson questioned Mr. Rodenbaugh as to how growth can be maintained but still have 17% decrease in % passing. Mr. Rodenbaugh agreed with Director Tomasson and will be checking formulas. He also explained that the Curriculum coordinator for that grade is focusing on Math facts to help him catch up.

Growth was also maintained in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA but % passing decreased by 7%.

Sixth Grade saw a decrease in % passing for both ELA and Math and have also maintained growth in both. Director Miller questioned a formula error, one that Mr. Rodenbaugh will be re-visiting.

Director Tomasson questioned what if any changes had taken place with our quarantine protocols to determine if the considerable absenteeism due to COVID is reflecting expansive contact protocols.

Ms. Friedermann, Principal of Noah Mesa, explained that she would be updating the Board on any changes that the school has made regarding its Mitigation Policy, but that the schools have revised their close contact definition in order to decrease the number of students and staff who may be sent home (not sick with no symptoms) for quarantines of 10- 14 days.

Director Tomasson asked if there would be any reason to compare scores from last year to this year and Ms. Friedermann said that it could be looked at but it would not be comparing similar circumstances, students or teachers.

- AIT Student Data Dashboard

Robert Rodenbaugh, Pima Principal, shared his screen displaying the newly developed Student Data Dashboard. He explained that the reasoning for developing a student dashboard was to give teachers and administration a way to do an overall assessment and review of student performance while aligning the information with currently taught subjects and student participation. He used the sample to explain and discuss how this helps identify not only individual idiosyncrasies, it helps with earlier identification of CST and SPED needs. It can also be used to better target intervention services.

Director Pennington inquired as to how often the dashboards are updated. Jessica Friedermann explained that as new benchmarks or quarterly report cards are ready, the teachers insert the results and then Principals and AIT review for accuracy and intervention needs. This is also being used to discuss learning challenges with parents at an earlier point in the year.

- AOI Application and Instructional Time Model Update

Ms. Friedermann reported that the school's AOI application was presented to a Rio Salado Board on October 4, 2021. Specific information including such things as curriculum, attendance, instructional time, instructional personnel, computer availability and computer safety, to name a few, were required to be presented as part of the review. We are expecting to hear something within the next week or two.

In reference to the Instructional Time Model, the school recently updated its Student Management System (SMS). We are waiting on an update from Tyler which will allow for credits to be given to students out on COVID protocols. Once that has been updated, we will be able to utilize the Instructional Time Model if necessary.

- Mitigation Plan Update

Mr. Rodenbaugh told the Board that Pima was continuing with the same strategies being mandated by SRPMIC that need all students and staff to wear masks at all times while indoors. Pima is also promoting social distancing, additional cleaning and sanitation protocols and lunch room seating assignment measures. We have also reduced the number of outside people (parents/contractors) on campus and have provided additional training to all staff regarding coming to work while sick and on-site protocols. We have also just received notice from SRPMIC that fines will be assessed for non-compliance. This information will be forwarded to parents and staff.

3. Announcements

There were no announcements. The next Board meeting date is set for 4:30 pm on November 29, 2021.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Dated this 26 day of October, 2021

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Vicki Dry, Secretary