

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

OF

NOAH WEBSTER SCHOOLS-MESA

July 16, 2025

Held at 5399 N. Pima Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85250

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Stan Waldrop

PRESENT BY INVITATION: Vicki Dry, Secretary

A public meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Noah Webster Schools-Mesa, an Arizona non-profit corporation (the “Corporation”), was held virtually. A quorum being present, and the meeting having been duly noticed and called, the meeting was called to order.

- Approval of the Minutes of the Board Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes of the July 10, 2025 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 Wales, Director S Miller, Director R. Miller and Director Pennington voting to approve the motion.

- Specific Matters to be Considered

- Review and Adopt Updated Policies and Procedures

Ms. Dry provided the Board with a general overview of bills that were passed that will impact school operations along with some general legal advice and direction on what we should think about so that we can begin to prepare now for those changes. The changes to Directory Information were discussed and it was indicated that the school’s registrar is aware and is adjusting current practices.

Mandatory Reporting requirements for Board members was explained and DCS contact information was provided to the Board.

It was explained to the Board that it was now mandatory for charter schools to have a Board adopted Emergency Operation Plan. The school currently has an EOP but felt it needed updating. Ms. Dry informed the Board that the plan had been updated and would be ready for review and adoption at the next Board meeting.

The new requirements for cell phone policies were discussed. Our current policy was provided for review along with possible other changes. The Board reviewed the policy and provided adjustments and amendments to be included in the updated policy.

A motion was made by Director Tomasson to adopt the Cell Phone policy with the adjustments noted included in the final policy. Director Wales seconded the motion.

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

The Board was then provided with what the school currently had in place regarding bullying. It was explained that new regulations required more transparency and parent involvement. Changes that included bully forms for the parents to complete as well as the school so incidents can be tracked better and parents know they are being heard were reviewed. The Board discussed the various ways to address bullying incidents and also discussed the importance of students, parents & staff knowing the definition of bullying.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Director Tomasson to approve the Bully Policy as discussed with the changes, additions and adjustments mentioned during the discussion incorporated in the new policy. Director Pennington seconded the motion,

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

- Threat Assessment Regarding Student Behavior

Information was provided to the Board regarding an incident that occurred shortly after the last day of the 2025 school year. The school was notified through a parent that a disturbing video was being shared in a group chat involving multiple students. This video had been created by 2 students where they were brandishing weapons and making explicit threats toward individual students. They used student photos downloaded from DOJO and edited the video using CapCut, adding phrases, in graphic detail how specific students would be harmed. While the boys claimed it was meant as a joke, the nature and content of the video were deeply alarming to those parents whose students were featured in the video. Ms. Friedermann, the Principal at that time, submitted the incident to the Mesa PD and contacted all parents concerned. Ultimately, the Mesa PD determined that it was a student prank and were not going to move forward with any further charges or concerns.

The school has been receiving calls from parents whose students were included in the video as well as from a couple of parents whose students were not in the video, but the parents still worry about the safety of their students.

The Board discussed the school's behavior policy and the effect this incident had on both students and parents.

Director Pennington made a motion, that due to the extreme nature of the video and the fact that individual students' pictures and names were used for specific threats, the Board feels that this rises to the level of expulsion and therefore recommends an expulsion hearing for both students. Director Wales seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously with Director Wales, Director S Miller, Director R. Miller and Director Pennington voting to approve the motion. Dr. Terra Coleman, Principal at Mesa will notify the families of the results of the threat assessment through e-mail and by certified letter.

- Review Spring 2025 AASA Results Data

Dr. Coleman, presented the Board with Spring 2025 AASA results data. Although she was not Principal at the time, she explained areas of concern. She indicated that

she would be focusing on several areas of concern. Questions regarding Galileo benchmarking were addressed.

○ Enrollment & Marketing Update

Ms. Dry provided the Board with updated enrollment numbers as of 7/16/25. She explained that calls to people on the interest list and those that have not completed re-enrollment were being made. She also indicated that there have been an increase in tours.

Christine Haas reported that she had an exceptionally productive meeting with the Arizona Chamber of Commerce representative. She listed several benefits to working with the Chamber including Noah Webster being able to post information and events on the Chamber's facebook page, having the Chamber representative distribute our fliers to businesses she visits and being able to post our events to their calendar to name a few.

○ Announcements

The next Board meeting was scheduled for August 12, 2025 at 4:30 to be held in person at 5399 N. Pima Rd., Scottsdale AZ

○ Adjournment

There being no further business, Director Tomasson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Pennington seconded the motion.

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

Dated this 17 day of July, 2025



Vicki Dry, Secretary