

MINUTES
of the meeting of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS of PINECREST ACADEMY OF NEVADA
August 4, 2020

The Board of Directors of Pinecrest Academy of Nevada held a meeting on August 4, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Board Chair Kacey Thomas called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. with a quorum present. In attendance were Board members Kacey Thomas, Craig Seiden, Jeff Cahill, and Travis Keys.

Board member Marni Watkins was not present.

Also present were Lead Principal Lisa Satory, Principal Jessica LeNeave, Principal Jon Haskel, Principal Michael O'Dowd, and Principal Wendy Shirey; as well as Academica representative Trevor Goodsell.

2. Public Comment and Discussion

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes from the July 14, 2020 Board Meeting

Member Keys moved to approve the minutes from the July 14, 2020 board meeting. Member Cahill seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

4. Approval and Acceptance of Grant Funding Awarded to Pinecrest Academy of Nevada for the 2020/2021 School Year:

- a. CARES/ESSER
- b. McKinney-Vento NDE
- c. CTE Competitive Grant: Computer Science-Cybersecurity Sloan Campus
- d. CTE Competitive Grant: Computer Science- Cybersecurity Cadence Campus
- e. CTE Competitive Grant: EMT
- f. CTE: Perkins Rural Reserve
- g. CTE: Perkins Local Formula

Mr. Trevor Goodsell addressed the Board and reviewed the grant funding that the Pinecrest Academy of Nevada schools had been awarded; adding that the CTE grants were focused on career and technical programs, McKinney-Vento grant focused on low-income and homeless students, and CARES/ESSER provided funding to help pay for costs related to Covid-19. Member Thomas asked for clarification regarding the EMT grant. Lead Principal Lisa Satory address the Board and replied that the CTE Competitive Grant would fund the continuation of Sloan Canyon’s EMT program. Member Thomas asked for clarification regarding the Perkins grants and how the funds would directly benefit the schools. Principal Jessica LeNeave addressed the Board and replied that Perkins funding was based on the number of students enrolled in CTE programs; adding that the funds were used towards such items as CTE industry certification testing and curriculum purchases for the students.

Member Seiden asked if there would be another social worker hired in the future to claim the remaining salary amount listed for the CARES/ESSER grant. Mr. Goodsell replied that the grant had been written in July before the special session; adding that at that time, the schools had been worried about losing their social worker positions and had added those positions into the grant. He continued that notice had been given at the special session that all social worker positions were safe; adding that they would be submitting an amendment to the State that would take the funding for social workers out of the request.

Member Seiden moved to accept the grant funding as presented. Member Keys seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

5. Review and Approval of the Revised Budget for the 2020/2021 School Year

Mr. Goodsell stated that a budget had been approved recently with cuts up to 10-15% based upon the recommendations from the Department of Education; adding that a revision to that budget had been made based on the proceedings of the state’s budget meeting. Mr. Goodsell reported that the DSA revenue had actually increased slightly from last year from \$6,067 to \$6,135 per student; adding that all the cuts to the budget had come from anticipated grant funding. He explained that all the grants that the schools had received the year prior had either been greatly reduced or cut completely; adding that the Read-by-Grade-3 grant had been completely cut.

Mr. Goodsell reviewed the revised budget as presented in the support materials; adding that the increase from the State of Nevada and the decrease from the local funding had been incorporated. He continued that enrollment had remained the same and that there had not been any cuts to any positions; adding that he had budgeted at 95% and had been able to budget around 1.5% for salary increases. Ms. Goodsell also stated that, even though grant funding had been cut, all requirements remained the same; adding that money had been added to those positions to continue grant-funded programs such as CTE for this year. All changes to the budget had been due to Covid-19.

Mr. Goodsell reported that some of the higher line items within the budget included substitute teachers, the janitorial contract, and custodial supplies; adding that these items had been increased substantially when compared to past budgets. Member Seiden asked whether or not a

student census would be taken and how. Mr. Goodsell replied that a census would need to be taken and that student's participation would need to be verified during the first week of school either by Zoom or in-person. Member Seiden stated that Mr. Goodsell had answered all of his major concerns regarding the budget and that he was comfortable with the budget as it had been presented.

Member Seiden moved to approve the revised 2020/2021 budget. Member Keys seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve

6. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Retention Bonuses

Member Seiden began the discussion stating that teachers had been doing a phenomenal job and that they had not received the credit they had deserved; adding that he had mixed emotions about granting bonuses during a pandemic. He supported salary increases but hesitated to award bonuses during this particular budget year in light of so many business that had gone under and the number of employees that had laid off, or had lost their jobs permanently, across the nation.

Member Keys stated that, even though some of the losses to the school's budget had been recovered by grant funding and an increase in per pupil funding, offering raises and bonuses during such a difficult time could be problematic. He continued that he understood that raises would need to be initiated to stay competitive with CCSD; adding his uncertainty of awarding bonuses at the same time when other businesses were not as fortunately funded as Pinecrest had been. Member Keys also stated that he did not want to arbitrarily penalize the teachers because of timing; adding that he was torn with making a decision.

Member Seiden agreed with member Keys and stated that he did not know what the future would look like after this year; adding that granting raises and bonuses could be postponed for a while going forward. He stated that he would like to see teachers receive a bonus, especially since the bonuses attracted and helped to retain better educators; adding that he worried that the timing would be inappropriate. Member Cahill stated that, if the budget allowed it, he supported teachers receiving a bonus; adding that the teachers needed to know that the Board supported them, and that they would need the extra incentive for all the work they had done, and would be required to do, for the upcoming school year.

Member Thomas stated that she also wanted to grant bonuses to the teachers but had been concerned about the timing. She stated that she agreed with member Cahill; adding that, when compared to CCSD, the Pinecrest teachers had really stepped up. Member Thomas also stated that she felt that there would be a time when the budget would not be able to support awarding bonuses due to Covid-19. She also stated that she would go with the recommendation of awarding retention bonuses as long as there were funds available; adding the caveat that principal's would need to be very wise with their budgets this year.

Member Keys stated that he agreed that it would be important to keep teachers motivated during a time that had been, and would be, especially difficult; adding that everyone would need to be ready to make big shifts within their budgets. He stated that, if school were to go full virtual

for a long period of time, there would be funding in the budget that could be used elsewhere; adding that retention bonuses would be a needed area. Member Thomas stated that the teachers were essential, especially during a time that they were being asked to go above and beyond their normal expectations; adding her support for awarding bonuses now since there were no guarantees for the next year. Member Cahill stated that, due to the way that charter schools handled the spring term compared to CCSD, the charters had a lot of momentum; adding that the charter schools would be full as long as the Board kept the momentum going by supporting the teachers.

Member Keys moved to approve the retention bonuses for the 2020/2021 school year. Member Cahill seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

7. Acknowledgment of the Resignation of Renee Fairless from the Pinecrest Academy of Nevada Board of Directors

Mr. Goodsell stated that, due to Lead Principal Satory serving as a member on the Mater Academy of Nevada board, there would have been an overlap between Principal Renee Fairless and Lead Principal Satory serving on each other's boards. Mr. Goodsell further explained that the SPCSA had caught the overlap; adding that Principal Fairless had not wanted to cause any problems and had voluntarily stepped down from the position to avoid any conflict. Mr. Goodsell stated that he would be seeking for qualified individuals to apply for the open educator seat on the board.

8. Public Comments and Discussion

There was no public comment.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Approved on:

Sep 9, 2020


Marni Watkins (Sep 9, 2020 15:26 PDT)

Secretary of the Board of Directors

Pinecrest Academy of Nevada

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Final Audit Report

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