



Board Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2021 at 5:30 pm

In Attendance: Robert Best (Chair), Patty Humphrey (Vice-Chair), Scott Perron (Secretary), Sue Lawton, Kimberly Lavalley, Kyle Fox, Jane Cormier (faculty rep), Cassie Hayes (ex officio).
Absent: Barbara Comtois (Treasurer)

Call to Order: 5:43pm (Bob B.)

Pledge of Allegiance (Bob B.)

Moment of Silence (Bob B.)

Reading of the [Mission Statement](#) (Bob B.)

1. **Secretary's Report** 5:48pm (Scott P.)

a. [March 17, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes Draft](#)

No corrections or additions.

- **Motion:** to accept the meeting minutes as written 3/17/21 Board meeting by Sue Lawton, Second by Patty Humphrey

- **Roll Call:** Patty Humphrey; yes, Kim Lavalley; yes, Kyle Fox; yes, Sue Lawton; yes, Scott Perron; yes, Bob Best; yes. 6/0/0 – motion passed.

2. **Treasurer's Report:** 5:49pm (Kim L.)

a. [Board Budget Report for July 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021](#)

- Salaries have been adjusted for several Special Education new hires.

- **Motion:** to approve Treasurer's report made by Patty, seconded by Scott.

- **Roll Call:** Patty Humphrey; yes, Kim Lavalley; yes, Kyle Fox; yes, Sue Lawton; yes, Scott Perron; yes, Bob Best; yes. 6/0/0 – motion passed.

3. **Dean's Report:** See [here](#). (Dean Hayes) 5:50pm

- Mr. Mazzone's report will move to the May Board meeting as he was unable to attend.
- Dr. Tyrie gave her review of her data collection and analysis at the last Board meeting. State Assessment tests (SAS) for 7th and 8th graders are complete. A make up test will be made available for those who were not able to attend on testing day.
- Dr. Tyrie reported that 7th grade had stronger attendance than 8th grade.
- All PSATs and SATs are complete.
- It was suggested by Dr. Tyrie that test scores should be shared with future teachers to assist with instruction.
- When looking at Q3 grades it is obvious that during this pandemic year more students are in danger of not making mastery. The question is – how do we help them? The data collection and analysis is ongoing.
- Dean Hayes gave the Board an update on Admissions numbers. At the present time we have 132 applications, 114 are complete. We are 2 applications away from the best April in Founders history; the last couple of weeks have been record breaking weeks for applications
- Dean Hayes gave a huge shout out to Sue Forsyth and Jackie Meilleur for their energy and hard work

- The next open house will be in person with the big screen outside and a self-guided tour to insure distancing
- John Stark Day turned into John Stark weekend - April 9-12. \$3400 was raised for the annual fund. There were online events that included a musical and a drama production - the Board commended Dean Hayes and Sue Forsyth for their hard work in this successful event
- Dean Hayes reported that busing will not change this academic year - the 4 hubs will remain the same - Manchester Transit will not go back to door to door this year
- April 22 is Earth Day and the students and faculty will clean up the brush, leaves, and trash around the building
- Thank you go out to Mrs. Forsyth for her great job on John Stark Day, big thank you to Dr. Tyrie and Mrs. Meilleur for all their hard work this past month, the birthday balloons, the the parents and volunteers, and the entire Founders community

4. **Faculty Representative's Report:** [See here](#) (Jane C) 6:14pm

- All the changes and scheduling issues have been addressed by faculty, who have worked hard to make it all work for the students
- All faculty that have been spoken to are happy to be back in school 5 days a week and are happy to have the majority of their students back in school as well
- Ms. Cormier offered a thank you to Bob B for a great meeting last month with the faculty. She thanked him for taking the time to listen to and speak with the faculty; it was very much appreciated
- Ms. Cormier reported that Faculty agreements have been distributed

5. **Student Trustee's Report:** [See here](#) (Connor M) 6:21pm

- Connor echoed that the students were also happy to be in the building 5 days a week
- He praised faculty, staff, and the Dean for the great handling of school affairs during the pandemic
- Connor is happy to be planning the high school field trip to either Chucksters or Mel's - depending on the busing situation (cost)
- Connor reported that he and other students miss using Google hangouts
- Connor also let the Board know of his college decision to Liberty University
- The Board expressed their pride in Connor and congratulated him for his excellent choice

6. **Board Business:**

➤ Mission Committee Report (Patty) 6:25pm

The Board commended Patty for her writing

Motion: To put the writing into the faculty handbook as written, made by Sue and seconded by Scott.

Roll Call: Patty Humphrey; yes, Kim Lavalley; yes, Kyle Fox; yes, Sue Lawton; yes, Scott Perron; yes, Bob Best; yes. 6/0/0 - motion passed.

○ [Board of Trustees Mission Statement](#) (Dean Hayes) 6:27pm

- Dean Hayes reported that a mission committee was formed including Mr. Gracza, Mr. Tellier, and Mr. Mihaly. It is important that the mission of the school be spread throughout the school day and every day.
- It was discussed to show what a TFA student looks like when they leave
- There should also be more recognition in the school like our mission
- We need to show a visual as a reminder of who we are and make it visible throughout the school

○ [Required School Mission-Related Curriculum](#)

➤ [PTSG Report](#) (Elizabeth Sanville) 6:33pm

- Ms. Sanville reported that it's been a busy month (again)

- Fundraisers like Penny Wars (\$554) and March Madness (\$439) were successful. The funds will be used for school beautification
- Next fundraising meeting will be May 10, 2021
- Next finance committee meeting will be May 12, 2021 (see school calendar for details)
- Next PTSG meeting will be May 4, 2021
- The PTSG was able to provide snacks and drinks for testing days
- Chunky's Bingo night was a great success; families had a great time - many thanks to Maria Hawkins and Cassie McNelly for their hard work
- Review 21/22 Grant Program Assurances (Dean Hayes) 6:35pm
 - Excellent program
 - **Motion:** to accept the assurances as written made by Kim, seconded by Sue
 - **Roll Call:** Patty Humphrey; yes, Kim Lavalley; yes, Kyle Fox; yes, Sue Lawton; yes, Scott Perron; yes, Bob Best; yes. 6/0/0 - motion passed.
- [Organizational Chart 21/22](#) (Dean Hayes) 6:39pm
 - Dean Hayes presented that there were some title changes including Assistant Dean (from Director of Student Academics and Student Affairs) and Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Coordinator (from Director of Faculty).
 - **Motion:** To accept the title changes, made by Kim, seconded by Scott
 - **Roll Call:** Patty Humphrey; yes, Kim Lavalley; yes, Kyle Fox; yes, Sue Lawton; yes, Scott Perron; yes, Bob Best; yes. 6/0/0 - motion passed.
- Covid Update (Dean Hayes) 6:47pm
 - As per the Governor's executive order, we have gone back to a 5-day schedule with the remote option still available for students, of which 100 students have chosen
 - The students are maintaining a 3 foot distance while masked and 6 feet or more when outside and unmasked and while eating at lunch
 - Things are working out well with sanitizing, social distancing, mask wearing, and general good hand hygiene
 - There have been 4 positive Covid tests in the last couple of weeks (2 pairs of siblings)
 - Dean Hayes was commended by the Board for keeping the school safe - very well done!

7. New Business:

_____No new business

8. Public Comments: See Policy [BEDH](#) (Bob B) 7:05pm

- Mr. Best began this portion of the meeting by reading the Board policy on public comment including the 3 minute time limit to speak, no limit to the number of speakers, speaking in a civil manner, and any and all comments are to remain on topic of agenda items.
- 7:09pm - **Noelle Taku** - Ms Taku presented a peer-reviewed study by cardiologists at Stanford with evidence that face masks, when worn for extended periods of time, could be detrimental in a psychological and physiological way. The report states that wearing face masks is no different than not wearing a mask and could in fact pose health risks and harm if wearing without breaks. Ms Taku urged the Board to review and re-evaluate the facemask policy and at the very least, incorporate more mask breaks throughout the school day.
- 7:13pm - **Josh McDonough** - Mr. McDonough started his comments speaking about teacher contracts and agreements. Because this was not on the agenda, Mr. Best had to stop him and redirect him to another topic. Mr. McDonough continued speaking about the Founders mission and the freedom that has been fought for and earned. He stated that he doesn't believe the Board to be representing the Founders mission.

- 7:16pm - **Ally Avakova** - Ms. Avakova began speaking about the Founders code of ethics and how the Board should seek communication from the students in a more effective manner.
- 7:19pm - **Patrice Benard** - Ms. Benard stated that she was out in the rain with the students and the students should have been let into the meeting.
- 7:20pm - **Thomas Ryan** - Thomas mentioned that he supports the Science teacher at which point, Mr. Best had to interrupt him as this was not an agenda item. Thomas continued to speak about non-agenda items and was placed (virtually) in the waiting room.
- 7:21pm - **Kenny Olibrice** - Kenny stated that he has been a part of the high school Senate and middle school House of Representatives for several years now. He believes the path the Board has taken has strayed away from the Founders Code of Ethics. He believes the decisions the Board has made have not represented the Founders community. He requested that the Board reconsider their actions and help the school community flourish
- 7:23pm - **Nicole Francis** - Ms. Francis stated that Founders has many exceptional student and feels they are not being heard by the Board
- 7:24pm - **Maira Ryan** - Ms. Ryan stated that the Board should hear the students out because without students, there would be no school
- 7:25pm - **Chris Park** - Mr. Park began by saying that the kids need to be allowed to speak and be heard. He believes the Board is hiding behind technicalities. He wants the students to use their leadership skills to be able to speak to the Board
- 7:27pm - **Jonathan Gracza** a comment in the virtual chat read by Dean Hayes. Mr. Gracza stated that he was proud of all the students that spoke tonight and commended them on their public speaking skills
- 7:28pm - public comments were concluded
- Motion: to close the public session and to enter the non-public session made by Kim, seconded by Sue
- **Roll Call:** Patty Humphrey; yes, Kim Lavalley; yes, Kyle Fox; yes, Sue Lawton; yes, Scott Perron; yes, Bob Best; yes. 6/0/0 - motion passed.
- Public session adjourned at 7:31pm

9. **Non-public session:**

10. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 5:30pm
Respectfully submitted, - Lori Ragas, Board clerk