

**Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School  
Governance Committee Meeting Minutes  
January 13, 2021**

**5:30 pm**

**Teleconference Only due to COVID-19: Dial-in Number 978-990-5080: Access Code:  
6521665 advertised on School Website as well.**

Call to Order - Chris Weathersby at 5:31 pm

Approval of December Minutes - Motion: Tony Lee      Second: Lisa Jones      Vote: All Yes

Approval of January Agenda - Motion: Tony Lee      Second: Lisa Jones      Vote: All Yes

Public Comment - None

**Fire Alarm**

**We are now monitored by Harris Brown, Blakely, GA, related to the fire alarm maintenance and repairs** - All work was completed during the first week of Christmas Break on December 21-23, 2020.

**Discuss Johnson Controls** - Despite having email documentation from Johnson Controls representative and manager stating that we had paid off the amount owed and were no longer under contract with the company; the company is still sending letters out demanding payment. The Board agrees that the school-based attorney should send a letter to the Johnson Controls to surmise the situation.

**Governance Training**

**Reminder for all Board Members:**

Board Member training opportunities

- February 2nd from 8:30am-12:30pm
- April 13th from 8:30am-12:30pm

These are virtual and they are free. Everyone must sign up for a date. All Board members signed up for the February date and will complete the training. 8 other modules are required to satisfy the 12 hour required training.

**Liberty Mutual**

Costs increased - Discuss plans for 22-23 school year

The Board agreed to begin looking into other insurance companies and compare rates as we move into the next school years.

**Second Semester**

Discuss the need to pick up the Friday for instruction and requirements to be a Full Distance Learner We had many of the students return to Face-to-Face after the semester ended. We will continue to monitor the numbers and see if we need to make changes. The teachers are struggling a little to get all of their Face-to-Face planning completed, as well as the Full Distance Learner requirements. We will work on some additional support for those that are struggling. There are only 21 students completing the Full Distance Learning at this time.

**Addition of Grade Levels**

Discuss the addition of the 10th grade and above - next steps

The Board and School Leader will meet with the parents after the Board meeting next week on January 21, 2021. The time will be from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. All parents have been invited and many are planning to attend. We will make sure that parents are aware that they need to make arrangements in case the 10th grade isn't a possibility for our school. We will continue to move forward with our request to have the 10th grade added for the 21-22 school year.

### **Line of Credit at One South Bank**

Discuss the renewal of the drawdown at the bank to ensure that we want to renew

We will renew the drawdown at the OneSouth Bank in Dawson for the remainder of the year. We will explore other opportunities if we are interested in the future.

### **School Attorney**

Discuss recent changes with the school based attorney to see the direction the school will take

The Board discussed the need to stay with Hayden Hooks, our school-based attorney. She has moved from Perry and Walters in Albany, Ga to Lawson, Reid & Dean LLC in Cordele, Ga. We will continue to use her services as the firm supports schools as well.

### **Fundraisers**

Discuss action steps to the first of many different Board initiated fundraisers

The Board decided to initiate a 50/50 Raffle at the school. The tickets will be \$2 per ticket and \$5 for three tickets. The more tickets sold, the larger amount of money there will be to win. Chris Weathersby will begin getting the tickets prepared for the raffle. The school will get the tickets and provide 10 tickets for each student to start with. The school will also keep track of the money and ticket sales.

### **Transportation**

Discuss different monitoring pieces associated with transportation

The bus drivers will continue to complete inspection logs daily. These need to be monitored by submitting to the Board Office each Friday. We also need to track the mileage of the buses on the fuel tickets each week. Tony Lee will plan to discuss with all drivers.

### **ByLaws**

Discuss amending the bylaws related to the Board - attendance and terms

The Board decided to amend the Bylaws (changes to be presented at the Board Meeting on January 21st) to include for attendance to be counted if someone is dialing into the meeting due to COVID. We will also modify the amounts to anything above \$10,000 will require Board approval and anything above \$25,000 will require 3 bids. All changes will be voted on at the upcoming Board Meeting

**Adjourn - 6:43 pm**