

# First State Military Academy Board Meeting Minutes

24 January 2023

Moment of Silence - Quorum present, in-person and Zoom meeting called to order @ 1737

**Board Members Present:** In-Person: R Payus, H Contant, K Stark, R Vascik via zoom, R Capitan via zoom, R. Ott via voice call. R. Capitan and R. Ott had to exit the meeting before the board's business could be addressed. Quorum lost.

**Staff/Founding Committee Members:** In-Person: L Auster, Principal; R Wallace, Commandant

**Guests present:** Amy Warner, Stacy Godfrey (parents of students), Faith Woodward (FSMA Staff), David McGuigan (founding board member by invitation)

**Agenda:** Discussion was had to amend the agenda to accommodate probable loss of quorum.

**Public Comment:** Wye River Associates, Mr. Alex Mueller and Mr. Robert Ryan), presented an overview of the financial advisory services that they offer. A three phased, individualized analysis of the finances of FSMA was proposed. The phases of the process include Financial Plan, Financial Solicitation, and Financial Implementation. A period of questions followed. This presentation lasted 1h05min, after which presenters excused themselves.

**Quorum:** At this time, a quorum was no longer present with the departure of two board members.

**Principal's Report:** Dr. Auster presented a few topics. Applications for incoming freshman class are up more than two and one-half times, year over year. The raw numbers are 191 applicants this year versus 72 applicants at the same time last year. Dr. Auster detailed plans in work to employ teachers on immigrant visas to bolster, particularly, the math department. She is still working on details to make this a reality.

The following items were prepared and will be moved to another board meeting for consideration:

- Approval of Annual Report
- Homeless Student Policy
- Parent/Student Engagement Policy
- Internal Financial Controls Policy
- Web Report

**Commandant's Report:** Commandant provided brief overview of various events to include two upcoming drill meets on Feb 4th and 11th. There is an FSMA contingent attending the USNA/USMA basketball game on Feb 11th. The USMC IG will be inspecting FSMA on Feb 22nd-23rd.

**Public Comment:** Mr. Dave McGuigan presented a site survey regarding improvements DelDOT will need to make to accommodate expansion plans at Providence Creek Academy. A

deceleration lane will be added along Duck Creek Rd. There will be limited impact to FSMA at this time.

**Committee Reports:** Committee reports were not addressed due to attendance and absence of quorum.

**Closing Remarks:** None

Meeting adjourned 1956. **Next Meeting:** Feb 28, 2022 in Media Center.