

First State Military Academy Board Meeting Minutes

28 March 2023

Moment of Silence - Quorum present, in-person and Zoom meeting called to order @ 1731

Board Members Present: In-Person: R Payus, K Yencer, H Contant, R Ott, K Stark S. Kidner; via zoom: R Capitan, C Martin (late).

Dave McGuigan - FSMA CM/Bleachers and PCA Roadwork

Amy Warner - PSO

Staff/Founding Committee Members: In-Person: R Wallace Commandant; B Newman Acct Principal

Motion to Approve Amended Agenda 2nd, Passed 7 to 0.

Secretary's Report: Motion to Approve 28 February '23; 14 March "Special" '23; 16 March "Emergency" '23 Board minutes, 2nd, Passed 7 to 0.

Public Comment:

Ms. Elizabeth Colombo spoke of her concerns as to our coming Charter Renewal, and the Board's action plan to prepare for this submittal.

Mr. Jeremy Leidy spoke of his great concerns with the Math Dept., and specifically one teacher's work assignments, homework, inconsistencies with grading, and plans for the future.

Ms. Kayla McWilliams, a FSMA teacher, indicated her concerns over direction, funding and grant writing. What are the school's goals for the next year.

Ms. Stacy Godfrey offered her concerns with discipline, direction of school, and loss of culture. Concerns with lack of discipline in some of the classrooms.

Ms. Jessi Carville spoke of her concerns over direction and what plans the Board has for the future. Spoke of communication and need for more momentum towards the future.

Mr DaveMcGuigan - CM for FSMA first presented to the Board an update on the "Bleacher Fund" established in memory of his late son Dave Jr. Thank the Board for all our efforts and believes raised about \$2,400 to date. Next reported on the changes to our entrance that will support PCA's expansion.. Noted ROW docs had to be signed and grating an easement to PCA so DelDOT can take some ground for a larger turn-lane. Construction should begin this summer.

Treasurer's Report: S Kidner. Presented the WSFS banking statements. Ongoing USDA withdrawals totaling some \$24k each month continue. Ending balance in both accounts about \$161,189. No invoices paid and only small interest payment received. Discussion about creating the "Dave McGuigan Jr. Restricted Fund" to pay for new football stands - some

\$2,400 received to date. Escrow accounts remain unfunded. Motion to Accept Treasurers report, 2nd , passed 8 to 0.

Principal's Report: B Newman. Reported overall financials showing increased performance and budget efforts made to finish routine coding and budget numbers inputted by contractors. FY'23 Budget presented still shows some \$16,000 owed by families for the cafeteria. Transportation costs remain high. Budget remains tight, spend reflects 66.29% at this point in budget year, mostly increased salary expenses and OEC's related to first bonus pay in January. Currently estimating we will not make 75 days cash this June 30th but believe 60 days cash will be met. May expect some \$200k surplus. Motion to accept Web Report as presented for March, 2nd , Passed 8 to 0.

Next, reported Cadet count at 419. 227 active applications for FY'24 school year. New cadet meetings have begun and will continue. Possible Open House date in Spring.

Commandant provided brief overview of various events to include coming Leadership Dinner on 18 May. Boys and Girls State, and SLC and SOC have been scheduled for our incoming Freshmen. Report Attached.

Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning and Development: H Contant - Brief discussion about having the school's Departments brief the Board in the future. Discussion about grants.

Marketing/Communications: R Payus - Still needs updated photos and CV's from new Board members and will update site. Discussion about Jr. Achievement.

Finance/Treasurer: R Vascik - No Report.

Academic: K Stark - Noted her document she sent to the Board.

Board Governance: R Capitan - Reminded Board of coming changes to by-laws and creating a new "Board Handbook", will present some draft changes in coming weeks.

CBOC: S Kidner - Discussed the overall financial picture, noted improvements on reporting data, various account codes and slight improvement in overall cash position of the school. Next meetings will be in May, June and July.

Facilities: K Yencer - No Report.

Motion for **Executive Session** to discuss personal matters, 2nd , passed 8 to 0 at 1857.

Motion to return to **Regular Session**, 2nd, Passed 8 to 0 at 1955. No action required by Board.

Organizational Issues: Asked Board members to finish background checks. Noted all Renewal docs are due 1 October 2023 to DOE.

Meeting adjourned 1902. **Next Meeting:** 28 March 2023 at 1730.