

# First State Military Academy Board Meeting Minutes

**29 November 2022**

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

**Board Members Present:** In-Person: S. Kidner; H Contant, K Stark, R. Payus, K Yencer, R Cote  
via zoom: R Capitan, L Gratteri (late)

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

Motion to Approve Agenda to include moving Governance Report as first item, 2nd, Passed 7 to 0.

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to Approve 25 October, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 7 to 0.

**Reggie C:** Brought forward Mr. Ron Vascik's bio and Governance Committee's recommendation that he join the Board as a member and Treasurer. Brief discussion and then Motion to Approve Mr. Ron Vascik CPA, 2<sup>nd</sup> Passed, 7 to 0. His first meeting and induction will be the 20 Dec meeting.

Also, brief discussion about next round of updates to the Board's By-laws, expecting those changes with review and possible vote in January.

**Treasurer's Report:** S. Kidner. WSFS banking statements presented. Ongoing USDA withdrawals totaling some \$24k each month continue. Ending balance in both accounts about \$261,502. Escrow accounts remain unfunded. Motion to Accept Treasurers report, 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed 6 to 0.

**Finance and Principal's Report:** L Auster. Reported positive movement in coding and issues with budget creation. Draft budget for FY'23 is much more accurate, will be ready for January. Noted two part-time contractors are making headway in coding entries into FSF and data management, as well as invoicing and then "clearing" these lines. Cadet count at 435. Noted revenue picture is off because of teacher coding. Also noted transportation costs are significant this year. Reported \$0 remaining in Cares Act I (ESSER) and Cares Act II (ESSER II) budgets. ESSER III budgeted approx. \$323k remaining.

Discussed next year's budgetary impacts with teachers leaving FSMA, hiring of HR and finance staff to move these operations inside as well as student count. Discussed current certification of teacher issue, with MI's already counting against this number. FSMA stands at 70%.

Discussed change in School Calendar, moving 15 and 16 Dec to half-days for parent/teacher conferences, and if any impact on total hours of education/year. No issues, Motion to Approve Change to half days in December, 2<sup>nd</sup> Passed 7 to 0.

Presented new "Advancement Policy" for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students wishing to join as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader. Some discussion about applicability, editing, and amending the draft. Motion to Approve the Grade 8 Promotion Policy with changes, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 7 to 0.

Web Report presented for Oct. Motion to Approve Web Report, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 7 to 0.

Commandant provided brief overview of various events to include a great Marine Corps Ball; coming Open House dates; various visits of outside organizations to include Valley Forge Military Academy and Marine Maritime Academy in Dec.; ASVAB on 20 Dec; Christmas Formation Run 21 Dec, and; Staff Christmas Party on 16 Dec at 1630. Noted FSMA Raiders took 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in all events during the Raider State Finals.

**Committee Reports:**

**Strategic Planning and Development:** H Contant - Noted she did not send out 2<sup>nd</sup> set of questions. Will be done for Dec.

**Marketing/Communications:** R Payus - No Report

**Finance/Treasurer:** No Report.

**Academic:** K Stark - Discussed a new book collection policy, with a presentation to the Board at Dec meeting. Updates on the student athlete grade reporting program. Discussion about job shadowing efforts and next steps.

**Board Governance:** R Capitan - Reported earlier.

**CBOC:** S Kidner - Met in October, and most items covered during Principal's Finance Report.

**Facilities:** K Yencer - Discussed the HVAC report and noted cost estimates as provided far exceed ability to support considering current budget restraints. Noted this will be done on as needed basis for repairs and replacements.

**Organizational Issues:** Asked Board members to make dinner selections for next month. Also asked for completed CBI's before next Board meeting.

**Closing Remarks:** None

Meeting adjourned 1944. **Next Meeting:** 20 Dec 2022 in Media Center.