

# **Ka'ōhao Public Charter School**

## **Minutes of Board Meeting, January 28, 2021 – via Zoom**

### **Board Members Present:**

Philip Whitesell, President  
Winston Sakurai, School Director  
Celia Miner  
Espie Chapman  
Jim Swieter, Treasurer – absent  
Jill Oliver  
Laura Young, Secretary – absent  
Cynthia Hunter, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Jared Underwood, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

### **Community Members Present:**

Callie Lewis, Scribe  
PJ Foehr, Charter School Commission  
Brett Filmore, Parent  
Add'l community members listed on p3

### **1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes of December 16, 2020.**

- Meeting was called to order at 6:09 pm by Phil Whitesell.
- Approval of the December Minutes was moved by Dr. Oliver and seconded by Dr. Hunter. Motion approved unanimously.

### **2. Community Input**

- Mr. Brett Fillmore explained his naval background, and his deep desire to excel that carries through to his house family, business, and his kids' school. He addressed the letter that he sent to the board, explaining that he means it to be helpful, and would like the Board to use it as they see fit. He also noted his interest in a return to in-person Board meetings.

### **3. KSO Report: Amy Brislin, Treasurer**

- KSO is still operating with 3 officers, President, VP, and Membership Chair. As the school was preparing to bring students back, the KSO was on campus daily and very involved. They haven't been able to meet again since then, but they do plan on doing some drive-in movies when the weather is more cooperative.
- Financial Update: Started the year with \$95K. So far, they have funded gym equipment, back to school gifts, movie night technology, and COVID back-to-school expenses. With the membership dues as income, they are still left with about \$95K.
- She understands that the history of the fund management by the parent group at the school has been troubled, but as the KSO was spending money for the school, the reimbursements for some expenses were 30-60 days out. They are wondering if there is a way to support and expedite this or change the way that the money is managed.

### **4. Student Council Report: Espie Chapman**

- The council wrote letters to the incoming President and Vice-President of the US. Ms. Chapman shared some excerpts from the letters. This will lead into discussions on safety at school. The letters will be sent to the White House and they are hopeful for a response.

### **5. PCNC Report: Espie Chapman**

- None.

### **6. Director's Report: Winston Sakurai**

- Dr. Sakurai thanked our teachers and staff for all of their hard work and sacrifice. He knows conditions are difficult, but the reward of teaching in person is so worth it. We are thankful that everyone has been safe thus far.
- There are no impending furloughs at this time for the 20-21SY. DOE has a labor reduction in their budget of ~9.3%. There is good news from federal and local governments as far as school funding goes. The government funding sources are Per Pupil Allocation, SPED Per Pupil Allocation, Federal Impact Aid, and COVID Education Relief. There may be a FEMA or HIEMA reimbursement as well. Dr. Whitesell noted that this is good news and will provide much needed financial relief.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester Enrollment is estimated at 284 for F2F and 41 for KVA (325 total.) We will be letting parents know of their learning model placement by 2/8.
- On Dec. 24, the governor released funding to the DOE for construction of our new cafetorium. \$12.4M is allocated to the project. We do not know the timeline, but know that it will cause some chaos, displacing both our main office and art room. We thank Senator Thielen, who made this a priority in her last term in office. Dr. Whitesell asked if construction could conceivably start this summer? Dr. Sakurai confirmed the possibility. Dr. Whitesell asked that Dr. Sakurai provide an exterior shot of the building in a future meeting.
- The mid-term accreditation visit was on Jan. 14. They talked to Dr. Sakurai and Dr. Whitesell and gave kudos to the Board for being on top of the pandemic situation. Dr. Whitesell added that the accreditation officials discussed how the Board functioned and its relationship with the Director. They seemed satisfied with the operations. He said it was clear that they were predisposed favorably towards us and that a 1-year extension of our 6-year accreditation is anticipated. We were one of the first elementary schools in the state to be accredited, and now it has become an expectation of all elementary schools. Ms. Chapman recalled that the previous visits were very involved on campus, and asked if they spoke with anyone else? Dr. Sakurai said that they did walk around campus, but did not interview anyone else.

**8. New Business:** Dr. Whitesell acknowledged the receipt of 3 letters. One was from a teacher regarding safety protocols. The second was from a parent requesting a review of school policies. The third letter is a copy of a statement from a parent regarding school leadership.

**8. Adjournment:** Members adjourned to closed session at 6:54 PM.

**Next Meeting Scheduled for February 18, 2021, 6:00pm via Zoom**

Submitted by Callie Lewis, Scribe

**Be it resolved that:**

- The Board approves the minutes of December 16, 2020.

In witness thereof, the undersigned members of the Board have duly executed this resolution on January 28, 2021.

*Philip Whitesell, Espie Chapman, Celia Miner, Cindy Hunter, Jim Swieter, Laura Young, Jared Underwood, Jill Oliver.*

Amy Brislin  
Colene Geier  
Erin Bishop  
Heather Tyrrell  
Jen Medeiros  
Keri Powers  
Kristi Petosa-Sigel  
Libby Ho  
Lilinoe Sterling  
Louren Chen  
Maile McKay  
Mandy Lemes  
Mimi Ishikawa  
Natasha Skoberla  
Rainbow Pharaon  
Rene Palko

Sylvie Rusay  
Victoria Villegas  
Wailea Staudinger