

# **Ka'ōhao Public Charter School**

## **Minutes of Board Meeting, March 18, 2021 – via Zoom**

### **Board Members Present:**

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

### **Community Members Present:**

Callie Lewis, Scribe  
Angela Xoinis, KSO  
PJ Foehr, Commission Liaison

### **1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes of February 18, 2021.**

- Meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Phil Whitesell.
- Approval of the February Minutes was moved by Ms. Miner and seconded by Dr. Hunter. Motion approved unanimously with one abstention.

### **2. Community Input**

- None.

### **3. KSO Report:**

- None.

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

- None.

### **5. PCNC Report:**

- None.

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

- We had another positive COVID case on campus, but no spread was reported. The classroom went virtual for the quarantine period following the positive test result.
- The DOH released new school guidelines this week, and the DOE/HSTA issued a new addendum to the June 2020 COVID MOA. The main difference is that there are 3 essential mitigation strategies (home when sick, mask, hand wash), and then layered mitigation strategies (cohort, distancing, ventilation, physical barriers, and cleaning). The staff will have time to review these new guidelines, and then will discuss plans for next year. Dr. Whitesell summarized that we will be going into a replanning phase for next year, and that the 6' distancing not being required is the biggest change. Ms. Chapman asked for further clarification on the changes made and Dr. Sakurai listed them.
- The Governor has declared no furloughs for next year. There will be \$391M through ESSER III that will be distributed to schools in Hawaii. It is possible that there might even be an increase in funding for our school in SY2021-2022. 20% of this funding must be used for learning loss recovery. Dr. Sakurai will put together a multi-year spending plan for the ESSER III funds.
- Franklin Wong, the architect for the cafetorium project will be presenting to the Kailua Neighborhood Board on April 1.

- The DOE is not recommending that schools acquire portable classrooms at this time due to permitting, delays, and cost overruns. With the new guidelines (no 6' requirement), we might be able to return to 2 classrooms per grade level in the fall. Space management will be difficult, but likely manageable.
- The draft mid-term accreditation report provided 3 commendations and one recommendation. The recommendation was to continue focusing on the WASC plan.
- Ms. Lewis asked about new incoming families not being admitted to the in-person model with the new guidelines and HSTA addendum. Discussion ensued about the pros and cons of allowing students to join the in-person model, concluding with Dr. Sakurai planning to talk to the staff about it.

**7. New Business:** Dr. Underwood asked for discussion on new board members in a future meeting. Dr. Hunter answered saying that letters of interest and resumes are reviewed by the Board for consideration. She encouraged all Board members to recruit future members. If interested, the Board interviews the potential member. Dr. Whitesell says that school employees are discouraged to be members due to potential conflicts of interest. Parents can also have conflicts of interest, but our parents are rich in experience and we have had and do have incredible parents on the Board. The overarching goal is to have a diversity of expertise (legal, educational, HR, financial, medical, etc.). Dr. Oliver suggested parents with older kids (6<sup>th</sup> graders) or retired staff members could make great, invested Board members. Dr. Underwood said that he finds it helpful and valuable to have a staff member on the Board, just as parents provide a valuable perspective. Ms. Chapman suggested recruiting at the Kailua Neighborhood Board meeting.

**8. Adjournment:** Members adjourned to closed session at 7:24 PM.

**Next Meeting Scheduled for April 15, 2021, 6:00pm via Zoom**

Submitted by Callie Lewis, Scribe

**Be it resolved that:**

- The Board approves the minutes of February 18, 2021.

In witness thereof, the undersigned members of the Board have duly executed this resolution on March 18, 2021.

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