



Minutes / 3-11-21

Location: PODER Academy

- A. Attendance:** Marcos Martinez, Nick Avila, Robert Salazar, Carlos Reyes, Yara Kling, Kristina Moritz
- B. Approval of Agenda**
 - 1. Kristina motion to approve agenda (6:07pm); affirmed unanimous
- C. Approval of Minutes**
 - 1. Bob motion to approve minutes (6:09pm); affirmed unanimous
- D. Public Comment**
 - 1. No public comment at this time.
- E. School / COVID-19 update**
 - 1. Wyoming mask restriction was lifted
 - a. PODER will continue with mask policy and revisit in the summer
 - b. Positive COVID cases at the school have leveled off
 - 2. Student academic scores
 - a. Recent assessment results are encouraging
 - b. Should still temper expectations for WY-TOPP due to COVID disruption
 - 3. Chess program – school is restarting chess programming
 - a. Not charging fees at this time
 - b. Competition held online for the time being
 - 4. Tennis program – School is preparing to re-start tennis activities for the summer
 - 5. National Charter School conference
 - a. Conference was cancelled last year due to COVID
 - b. Some PODER/PASS staff will travel to Savannah, Georgia
 - c. Will visit schools and meet college professors
 - d. Bob: who is attending the conference?
 - i. Marcos: A select group of teachers and admins
 - 6. WY-TOPP – Assessments at the end of the year will be held as normal
 - a. Kristina – when do the scores come out?
 - b. Marcos: scores are available immediately after the assessments
- F. Financials Approval (January 21')**
 - 1. Summary (Marcos)
 - a. PODER is still awaiting expected payments
 - b. Expenditures are over-budget due to unanticipated staffing needs
 - i. Cuts will be made but will not be significant as of now
 - ii. May need to scale back certain benefits

- iii. Goal is to go into summer with a balanced budget and at least \$600,000 in reserve
 - 2. Budget for 20-21' is still in flux
 - a. Marcos recommends the board re-approve the budget at next meeting
 - 3. Kristina: when will final budget cuts at the state level be known?
 - a. Marcos: Hopefully sometime in the next two months
 - 4. Bob: Is the budget shortfall related to accounts receivable? Or COVID?
 - a. Marcos: Related to both
 - i. Still awaiting CARES reimbursement
 - ii. School not receiving transportation reimbursements
 - iii. Does not qualify for Title 1 funds
 - iv. Extra staff was required this year
 - v. Trying to put more expenditures under the CARES Act
 - 5. Yara: Will extra staff be needed again next year?
 - a. Marcos: Not sure yet but the proposed budget will account for that
 - 6. Bob: Where are cuts likely?
 - a. Marcos: supplies, insurance, curriculum
 - b. Also trying to get para salaries covered by federal funds if possible
 - 7. Bob: how big is the reserve currently?
 - a. Roughly at \$624,000
 - 8. Kristina: what is the goal for the reserve?
 - a. Marcos: never want to be under \$300,000
 - 9. Marcos: Board will be reviewing two budgets at the next meeting
 - 10. Kristina motion to approve financials through Jan 21' (6:30pm); affirmed unanimous
- G. Executive Session**
- 1. Yara motion to enter Executive Session (6:31pm); affirmed unanimous
 - 2. Bob motion to exit Executive Session (7:05pm); affirmed unanimous
- H. Next Board Meeting**
- 1. Tuesday, May 4th (6:00pm) – PODER
- I. Adjourn** – Carlos motion to adjourn (7:08pm); affirmed unanimous