

**Regular Joint Meeting of the  
High Desert “Partnership in Academic Excellence” Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors  
Academy for Academic Excellence School Board Committee and  
Norton Space and Aeronautics Academy School Board Committee**

**Minutes  
March 9, 2015**

**1.0 Call to Order**

Chairman Bud Biggs called the meeting to order at 7:10 a.m.

**2.0 Roll Call**

Foundation Board Members Duberly Beck, Bud Biggs, Regina Bell, Buck Goodspeed, Andrew Jaramillo, Scott Johnson, Jose Palafox, Kevin Porter, Tom Rosenbaum, Donna Siegel, Russell Stringham, Marcia Vargas and Rick Wolf were present.

Foundation Board Members David Bains, Jack Hamilton, Robert Lovingood, and Kirt Mahlum were absent.

AAE School Board Committee Members Jose Palafox, Kevin Porter, Russell Stringham and Rick Wolf were present.

AAE School Board Committee Members David Bains and Robert Lovingood were absent.

NSAA School Board Committee Members Duberly Beck, Andrew Jaramillo, Scott Johnson, Tom Rosenbaum and Marcia Vargas were present.

Staff members Ryan Dorcey, Darren Dowd, Teresa Dowd, Guadalupe Girard, Lisa Lamb, Stacy Newman, Toni Preciado, Jim Quinn, Paul Rosell, Gordon Soholt and Jim Southwick were also present.

Linda Fabre represented the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools.

**3.0 Public Comments: None**

**4.0 Special Presentations/Announcements: Bud Biggs, Chairman of the Board, noted that Employee of the Semester Awards went to Vivian Llaneras and Teresa Villanueva.**

**5.0 Correspondence: Thank you letters from Nick Natali, Nancy Mendoza and David Pike for scholarship funds were included in the packet.**

**6.0 Discussion Items**

**.01** Jim Southwick discussed assessments and accountability. This is the first year we are doing CASPP testing, which replaces STAR. There is a State board agenda item to postpone API. California is applying for a waiver.

**.02** Rick Piercy reported that he has been interviewing all Directors and went over some of their answers to the following questions: 1. What has been the highlight of the year so far? 2. What has been the low point? 3. What do you see as the greatest challenge to your department over the next 3-5 years? 4. What do you see as the greatest challenge to the organization over the next 3-5 years? 5. What needs to be done to assure LCER reaches its goals?

## 7.0 **Information**

.01 Staff reports were included in the packet.

.02 Internal Financials were included in the packet.

.03 Foundation Board Attendance Log was included in the packet.

.04 Gordon Soholt reported that he and Darren Dowd met with VVWRA regarding the sewer line to be sure it is clear of where the fields will go at AAE. They also met with SB County Flood Control who is moving forward on their project. They also met with the Town of Apple Valley and our architects regarding relocating the sewer line that is near the middle school portables. Jim Quinn is working on traffic signal reimbursement from the Town. Gordon, Dale Marsden and Dr. Morales of CSUSB are meeting this week regarding a possible site on their campus. 2 more portables will be added to NSAA next year. Thank you to Buck for a \$3,000 donation he got for us from Chevron.

.04 Lisa Lamb reported that the AAE WASC review was a great visit and was very positive. Their recommendations were to create a more intentional long term plan for curriculum adoption and to keep up what we're doing with math and language arts. Last week AAE was notified they were the Daily Press "Best of the Desert" again for elementary, middle school and high school. The AAE charter renewal is going to AVUSD for review.

.04 Lupita Girard reported that their student leadership attended a conference with AAE student leadership. NSAA is continuing to emphasize college readiness and is attending a CSUSB field trip tomorrow. Staff is working with the new Illuminate program. AAE and NSAA will be playing each other in soccer on April 7 at 3:30 at NSAA. The basketball team didn't have enough students to participate.

## 8.0 **Standing Board Committee Reports**

.01 (a) Budget/Audit Committee – Russ Stringham reported that the Budget Committee met and reviewed bank accounts and discussed the Tetra relationship. A discussion was also held on exploring NSAA 9-12. The fundraising to building AAE's first campus was discussed as well as issues with SB. An ad hoc exploration committee could be established to work on this. There were no volunteers for the committee.

(b) Fundraising Committee – Donna Siegel reported that the Foundation's art show is on April 18. There will art from all ages, a craft fair, face painting, music, caricatures, food, and more. Radio interviews have been set up as well as Daily Press ads. There will be a reception the evening before. Please invite friends and acquaintances. All proceeds provide scholarships that are available for AAE, NSAA and community students and teachers. Regina appealed for the Board to attend or purchase tickets for others.

(c) Personnel Committee – Regina Bell reported that the Personnel Committee is working on policies to bring forward. She also asked if anyone would like to join the committee. Jose volunteered to join the committee.

## 9.0 **Staff Comments:** None

10.0 **Board Member Comments:** Scott Johnson asked if AYP is also in transition like API. We will still get an AYP score.

## 11.0 **Foundation Board Consent Agenda**

On a motion by Andrew Jaramillo, seconded by Buck Goodspeed, vote 13-0, the Foundation Board of Directors approved Consent Agenda Items 11.01 – 11.13.

.01 Approve Minutes of December 8, 2014 Regular Meeting

- .02 Approve July 1, 2014 – February 28, 2015 Financial Reports
- .03 Approve Foundation Financial Reports for November, December and January 2015
- .04 Approve AR1340 – Request for Public Records
- .05 Approve BP1340 – Request for Public Records
- .06 Approve BP2000 – Concepts and Roles Revisions
- .07 Approve AR2400 – Hiring Practices Revisions
- .08 Approve BP2400 – Hiring Practices Revisions
- .09 Approve BP2401 – At Will Employer Revisions
- .10 Approve BP2410 – Employee Status Change Revisions
- .11 Approve BP4361 – Family & Medical Leave Revisions
- .12 Approve Mission Statements and Foundational Pillars Updates
- .13 Approve California Association of Health and Education Linked Professions JPA Agreement

### **12.0 Foundation Board Action Items**

- .01 The audit of the EUREKA acquisition is currently in the hands of the lawyers. It is a nonprofit California Career Information System company in San Francisco. If acquired we would want to keep it a separate organization and name this Board as their Board members. On a motion by Scott Johnson, seconded by Marcia Vargas, vote 13 - 0, the Foundation Board of Directors authorized Gordon Soholt to make the final acquisition deal once we hear back from the lawyers.

### **13.0 AAE School Board Committee Consent Agenda**

On a motion by Jose Palafox, seconded by Russ Stringham, vote 4-0, the AAE School Board Committee approved Consent Agenda Items 13.01 – 13.04.

- .01 Approve Minutes of February 12, 2015 Regular Meeting
- .02 Approve AAE Comparatives
- .03 Approve AAE High School Graduation Requirement Changes
- .04 Approve AAE 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Report

### **14.0 AAE School Board Committee Action Item**

The State of California is reviewing those on waivers and granted those in the program to be on a waiver an additional 2 years. On a motion by Russ Stringham, seconded by Jose Palafox, vote 4-0, the AAE School Board Committee approved a Subsequent SLP Variable Term Waiver permit for Courtney Robinson.

### **15.0 NSAA School Board Committee Consent Agenda**

On a motion by Duberly Beck, seconded by Marcia Vargas, vote 5-0, the NSAA School Board Committee approved Consent Agenda Items 15.01 – 15.03.

- .01 Approve Minutes of February 17, 2015 Regular Meeting
- .02 Approve NSAA Finance Report
- .03 Approve NSAA 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Report

**16.0 Closed Session**

The Foundation Board convened into closed session at 8:23 a.m. to conference with legal counsel regarding significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: 1 case. The Foundation Board reconvened into open session at 8:53 a.m. Bud Biggs, Chairman of the Board reported that no action was taken during closed session.

**17.0 Adjournment**

Chairman Biggs adjourned the meeting at 9:03 a.m.