

MINUTES
Ball Charter Schools (Dobson) Governing Board Meeting
Monday, September 9, 2019

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by John Huppenthal at 6:00 p.m. on September 9, 2019, in Room 23 at Dobson Academy, 2207 N. Dobson Rd., Chandler, AZ 85224.

- 2. Roll Call**

Present:

John Huppenthal, Governing Board President
Mike Sobieski, Governing Board Vice-President
Tara Yesenski, Dobson Governing Board Secretary
Mike Dyer, Dobson Governing Board (6:10 p.m. arrival)
Natalie McKenney, Dobson Governing Board

Others Present:

Amy Gurtler, Hearn Governing Board
Karah Gagnon, Val Vista Governing Board Secretary
Devin Grigg, Val Vista Governing Board
Dawne Winn, Dobson Principal
Gaye Leo, Hearn Principal
Deb Baca, Val Vista Principal
Annie Gilbert, Sr. Director of Finance and Operations
Parker Galope, Director of Student Support Services
Connie Johnston, Board Coordinator

Absent:

Marcus Harrison, Hearn Governing Board Secretary
Michael Larrabee, Hearn Governing Board

- 3. Pledge of Allegiance** – John Huppenthal led the Board and guests in the Pledge.
- 4. Approval of Agenda** - Motion by Tara Yesenski to approve the agenda of the Ball Charter Schools (Dobson) Regular Board Meeting. Second Natalie McKenney. All in favor (J. Huppenthal, M. Sobieski, N. McKenney, T. Yesenski). Motion carried.
- 5. School Recognition/Mission Moment**

Dawne Winn introduced Stacie Mitchell-Gweah, new Assistant Principal. The entire Dobson team is so grateful she is here.

Veteran 2d Grade teacher Kathie Walker expressed appreciation to the Board for increases, employee benefits, and renovation fund monies (especially new paint and carpet over the summer). The improvements help both teachers and students take pride in who we are. After nineteen years, Mrs. Walker indicated this may be her last year teaching. John expressed a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Walker and outstanding teachers like her.

Mrs. Walker is excited that John Huppenthal is in her classroom sharing the math program, and expressed kudos to Annie Gilbert, Parker Galope, Debra Baca, and Assistant Principal, Stacie Mitchell-Gweah. She thanked Dawne Winn (*who does not toot her own horn*), indicating she has never worked with anyone who works so hard, helping students, parents, and staff. Dawne is such an exceedingly caring person, she even helped Kathie's husband while she was going through a medical emergency!

- 6. Call to the Public** – Joe Geusic, education advocate, has been supporting children and education for over six and a half years, showing up at school board meetings throughout the State. He will continue to advocate, and described himself as “relentless and tenacious”. He chose Ball Charter Schools as his first Charter School Board meeting to attend and appreciated our transparency and consistently posting Board meeting notices and minutes.

7. Dobson Consent Agenda Items:

7.1 Previous Meeting Minutes – Regular Board Meeting of August 12, and Executive Committees of September 4, 2019.

7.2 Enrollment/Attendance Update – Dobson 471 (502)

7.3 Personnel Items – **New Hires**: Dany Arellano, Kids Club Lead Teacher; Paige Connors, Lead Teacher Kids Club; Diana Zelayandia, Para Professional SPED; **Reassignments**: Adrienne Rivera, Part Time to Full Time; **Separations**: Crystal Wallace, Teacher, 8/12/19; Tricia Powell, Para Professional, 8/12/19; Anthony Arellano, Kids Club Lead Teacher, 8/21/19; Dany Arellano, Kids Club Lead Teacher, 8/21/19

Motion by Natalie McKenney to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Mike Dyer Second. All in favor. (J. Huppenthal, M. Sobieski, T. Yesenski, N. McKenney, M. Dyer). Consent Agenda approved.

8. Dobson Principal Monthly Report

Dawne provided an enrollment update indicating Dobson is still hitting their goals/markers. She has had six tours since Monday, resulting in enrollment additions. She thanked the Board for their due diligence and support. Focusing on three-year important needs for Dobson, Dawne indicated assuring school administrators are implementing curriculum with fidelity, faculty is mindful of cross culture and provided training to be more inclusive, and will soon receive a presentation on trauma in academics.

9. BCS Director of Student Support Services Monthly Report – *Parker Galope*

Parker reported on SPED numbers for September. Ten to fifteen percent falls within the range for Department of Education numbers. Parker noted these students came to us already identified. Parker shared she is grateful for Lauren Raymond, her Student Support Specialist. John asked about the student Parker had mentioned last month who is home bound. Parker reported it is going well—using a tablet and digital buddy the student is involved in classroom activity.

10. Senior Director of Finance and Operations Monthly Report – *Annie Gilbert*

10.1 Finance Director Report Summary – September 2019

10.2 Ball Dashboard – FY20 through August Consolidated

10.3 Dobson Dashboard – FY20 through August

10.4 Hearn Dashboard – FY20 through August

10.5 Val Vista Dashboard – FY20 through August

10.6 FY16, FY17, Projected FY 18 Energy Data

10.7 FY16, FY17, Projected FY18 Energy Data Bar Graph

Annie's report was included in the packet and she called attention to the following: Pg. 60 indicates the growth of the schools, there is a positive cash flow for all three campuses, and adjusted net income is a new category.

Annie called the Board's attention to a Val Vista enrollment error in PowerSchool from last year. It has been an arduous process to rectify. She is halfway through the rectifying process, and it will have a major ripple effect if not resolved with the auditors. November 15 is the drop dead date. John indicated this should be thought of as a systems issue and PowerSchool needs to join with us to get systemically resolved. Annie indicated retired Dobson teacher, Pam Mahoney, will spend 5-10 hrs. a week verifying that state reporting reconciles with local reporting, eliminating unexpected surprises. This is another layer of assistance, freeing up the Principals.

The last item in Annie's report were the tables on energy costs. Dobson's costs have gone down significantly over the last four years due to mindfulness and LED retrofit. Hearn has had a slight increase, and Val Vista has had little change.

11. Planning and Development Committee Report – Mike Dyer

Mike distributed the Fall Work Retreat agenda and indicated he looks forward to seeing everyone at his office at 3:00 p.m. for an informative session.

12. Digital Learning Committee Report – Parker Galope

Parker reported we are increasing student performance/engagement.

13. Curriculum and Systems Committee Report – Mike Sobieski

Mike called attention to the meeting minutes presented in the packet. The 301 Performance Pay document has been finalized and the RTI dashboard continues to be a work in progress. These documents will be distributed to principals to forward to their staff and also provided to Committee members.

Deb called attention to the news that a new assessment tools, the AZ M2, will be coming in spring of 2022. No rationale was provided for the change from AZ Merit.

Mike indicated a couple items are coming to the surface—to what extent do we continue to balance consistency across campuses without causing disruption. We are becoming more forward-looking as to curriculum as it comes up for renewal. How much do we want to differentiate as far as nontechnical components? Suggest we take these issues head on (delicately) re: navigate the ongoing debate on climate change, U.S. history, and sex education. Mike is happy to facilitate.

14. Academic Excellence

Annie reported letter grades are pending.

15. Discussion and Possible Action Item: Annual Performance Evaluation Tool for FY20, Director of Student Support Services and Sr. Director of Finance and Operations.

John Huppenthal suggested considering the Senior Director of Finance and Operations Performance Evaluation Tool at this meeting, and returning next month with the Performance Tool for the Director of Student Support Services.

Natalie McKenney moved to approve the FY20 Performance Evaluation Tool for the Senior Director of Finance and Operations. Mike Dyer Second. All in favor. (J. Huppenthal, M. Sobieski, T. Yesenski, N. McKenney, M. Dyer). Motion carried.

16. Discussion and Possible Action Item: Employee Handbook Update (Longevity Incentive for Completion of Service).

This item had been tabled at the last meeting to enable presentation and feedback from the teachers. Although frugal, the teachers recognized it as a start.

Mike Dyer moved to approve the longevity incentive as submitted. Natalie McKenney Second. All in favor. (J. Huppenthal, M. Sobieski, T. Yesenski, N. McKenney, M. Dyer). Motion carried.

17. Discussion and Possible Action Item: FY20 Stipends Approval – Principals submitted nonathletic stipends, all of which have been budgeted for.

Mike Dyer moved to approve the stipends. Natalie McKenney Second. All in favor. (J. Huppenthal, M. Sobieski, T. Yesenski, N. McKenney, M. Dyer). Motion carried.

18. Future Agenda Items – There were none.

19. Adjournment

Motion by Mike Dyer to adjourn. Tara Yesenski Second. All in favor. (J. Huppenthal, M. Sobieski, T. Yesenski, N. McKenney, M. Dyer). Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

The next BCS (Dobson) Board Meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Val Vista Academy.

Approved by Ball Charter Schools (Dobson) Governing Board

Board President

Date