



BOARD MEETING AGENDA: Conference Call

Wednesday, April 29, 2020

(Conference Call)

Apologies for absence: Gerald Fanion, Paul Stephens

1. Welcome (Bishop Ed Stephens, Jr.)

Bishop Stephens opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their time this morning. He reiterated that we're all going through this season together, and he asked that people let his office know if there's anything that any team member needs at this time.

2. Academic Report (Mr. James Johnson)

2.1 Roadmap to Continual Learning

Mr. Johnson confirmed that we will not be returning to the physical building this school year. However, we have held some Town Hall meetings for both lower and upper elementary parents, ensuring them that learning will continue until the last day of scheduled school through our online platforms and printed materials.

Mr. Johnson explained to parents that we'd like them to stay engaged throughout this process in order to prevent the achievement gap from widening any further.

Later in the Board Meeting, Dr. Stephens thanked Mr. Johnson for his excellent execution of these Town Hall meetings which were much appreciated and supported by our parents. Our communication throughout this crisis has been incredible and STAR families were grateful to hear from both administration and teachers.

2.2 19/20 Closeout and Grades

We cannot take grades for anything done outside of the classroom. However, we can assign a grade improvement that will allow up to 5 points to be added to a student's quarter 3 grade.

2.3 20/21 Enrollment and Registration

Mr. Johnson has been working with Dr. Stephens on creating footage to help with our online enrollment campaign. Dr. Stephens has been using a drone to capture both internal and external footage of STAR Academy's campus, which will allow us to provide a virtual tour of the school without physical visits being necessary.

Our 20/21 enrollment will be strictly online, and so a high priority has been placed on ensuring parents have all the relevant documents and information needed.

3. Operations Report (Dr. Ed Stephens III)

3.1 Land Mapping

Dr. Stephens communicated that he, Mr. Middleton and Mr. Johnson are actively engaging in regular conversations about solving the need for additional space. We've set an aggressive target for the number of students (350), and aggressive steps need to be taken in order to cater for our growing student body.

To that end, land mapping is moving along. Dr. Stephens explained that he's waiting for numbers and drawings from architects and contractors. If Board Members have any recommendations of people who might want to submit bids and plans, that would be much appreciated. We have to have at least 3 bids come in before we can move ahead with any decisions.

3.2 STAR Moving Forward

The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) is working on an Operations Manual. This will outline all of STAR's systems and processes – both internally and externally – so the Board will be able to see how everything works together in a seamless operation. It will also be invaluable in the event of something happening to the ELT, allowing for operations to continue in the best way possible with minor interruption.

Dr. Stephens gave a quick update on our intervention program, providing added support to students in smaller group settings. This has been able to continue remotely in this season and all our donors for this specific program are ecstatic about our current progress.

3.3 Thanks

Dr. Stephens gave a heartfelt shout out to all the Board Members. He has been overwhelmed by everyone's support, and by the way in which people have been reaching out, offering to help. He commented that their commitment isn't making a *difference* in the lives of the students, it's making *the difference*. He and the team are extremely grateful.

Dr. Stephens also wanted to thank Mr. Paul Stephens. As a result of Mr. Stephens' position with Pimientos and Holiday Ham, 300 meals were provided for our families. We were able to partner on one of the distribution days when parents came to pick up packages for the students. It was an amazing day and Dr. Stephens encouraged the Board to check out the digital footage on STAR's social media platform.

3.4 Opportunities

Dr. Stephens let everyone know that STAR Academy will be coming alongside Golden Gate Cathedral (GGC) tomorrow (April 30th) as they sponsor free gas for families in the Raleigh/Fraser area. STAR is so grateful for that opportunity.

Bishop Stephens talked about being involved in Redwing Group's plans to provide meals in the afternoons for school children. GGC will be a location for that, and both GGC and STAR are grateful to be involved.

Dr. Stephens communicated that STAR needs a canopy for the end of the K2 hallway by the fall of this year. During bad or inclement weather, children are often at risk of getting drenched during dismissal at the end of each day, and we'd like to minimize that risk. Dr. Stephens estimates that this will be a \$15k investment.

4. Closing Remarks (Bishop Ed Stephens, Jr.)

Bishop Stephens reiterated his gratitude for Dr. Stephens' hard work, as well as Mr. Johnson's leadership. He heard from someone in the city that no schools were communicating with parents and he was able to speak confidently of how STAR is regularly reaching out to parents and students.

Dr. Carson expressed his thanks for how STAR Academy is ploughing through. He's so proud of how the team has responded to all the necessary changes and how they've reached out to families. This sentiment was echoed by various Board Members.

As there were no further comments or questions, the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 27th 2020, 7am