



# ALLEGIANCE STEAM ACADEMY

## Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

October 29, 2020

### Board Minutes

#### I. PRELIMINARY

##### A. Call to Order

*The meeting was called to order by Board Chair at 5:12 pm*

##### B. Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Samantha Odo, Board Chair	<u>    x    </u>	<u>          </u>
Jason Liso, Treasurer	<u>    x    </u>	<u>          </u>
Marcilyn Jones, Secretary	<u>    x    </u>	<u>          </u>
Troy Stevens, Member	<u>    x    </u>	<u>          </u>
Claudia Reynolds, Member	<u>    x    </u>	<u>          </u>

##### C. Public Comments, Items not on the agenda

*Deanna Campagna shared her concerns about opening at this time. Teachers want students to safely return to campus.*

*Caitly Martinez shared that her child has regressed and that his IEP is not being upheld. She believes we should follow the data and bring students back on campus.*

*Julie Leonard shared that parents and teachers have the opportunity to stay home and make that choice and she feels that parents that want to send their children to school should have that option as well.*

*Crystalinda Gonzales shared that she is grateful for the work that teachers have done and that she thinks Allegiance is one of the best schools. She supports the teachers and knows that they are working very hard during distance learning.*

*Reyna Coronado shared that she doesn't agree with the hybrid model. She is concerned about students sitting in the same classroom all day.*

*Dakota Fabro shared concerns about equity for all students. School will not be the same when we return and wants it to open safely.*

*Diana DeSousa shared that her daughter is regressing and she has never had issues in school before this. Children need to be learning in a classroom, not in front of a computer screen.*

*Margarita Cosio shared that COVID is everywhere and school will not be the same for students when they return. She is concerned about children wearing the same mask all week and that the issues that can arise from that.*

*Veronica Sandoval shared that the school has been great at supporting students at home. Her children don't want to return to campus if they will be confined to a classroom all day in a mask.*

*Laura Kerns shared that she appreciated the work of teachers at ASA, yet her child is regressing. She is confident that the school will take the necessary precautions to keep kids safe. Parents / kids are flexible and will adjust to changes needed to open the school.*

*Laura Vestey shared that Allegiance was created to give parents a school of choice, to decide what is best for their children. She encourages the board to apply for the waiver and then go from there.*

*Melissa (unknown last name) shared that she feels that children need to be back on campus because distance learning isn't working and she is concerned about the social emotional health of students.*

*Raquel Diaz shared that she has 3 children at Allegiance and that they are struggling but she agrees with the teachers that spoke that students should not be back on campus right now. They should only return when it is safe.*

*Erin (unknown last name) would like to thank teachers for their hard work and hopes that the board will apply for the waiver.*

*Kristi (unknown last name) said she doesn't want her kids to go back if it's not safe and says there are other parents like her that don't want the school to open under a waiver.*

*Samantha Odo requested a 5 minute recess at 6:13pm. The meeting resumed at 6:17pm.*

## **D. Approval of agenda for Regular Board Meeting on September 14, 2020**

*Motion ( Troy Stevens ), second ( Marcilyn Jones ), motion carried by a vote 4-0 to approve the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting on September 14, 2020.*

## **II. OPEN SESSION**

### **A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **B. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR INFORMATION**

None

### **C. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR CONSENT**

1. *Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Directors on October 5, 2020*

*Motion to approve ( Jason Liso ), Second ( Samantha Odo ), Motion passes with a vote of 5-0.*

### **D. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION / ACTION**

#### **1. Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Local Plan 2020-2021**

- *Dr. Moreno presented. Troy Stevens asked if there was anything added to the plan that relates to COVID-19. Dr. Moreno responded that there is nothing specifically related to COVID in the plan.*

*Motion to approve the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Local Plan 2020-2021. Motion ( Troy Stevens ), Second ( Marcilyn Jones ), Motion passes by a vote of 5-0 to approve the Financial Update for June 2020.*

### **E. STUDY SESSION**

#### **1. 2020/ 2021 Reopening of School**

*Dr. Cognetta, Dr. Moreno, and Mrs. Lohoff presented the Reopening Guidebook and Safety Plan available in the agenda packet.*

### **F. Communications**

#### **1. Comments from Board of Directors**

*Claudia Reynolds: Thanks the community for speaking and wants to make the best decision for the kids.*

*Troy Stevens: He wants to let the community know that he has read all of their emails and appreciate them all. He is thinking about all 810 kids right now and knows the staff, parents, and oard will adjust and do what's best for the kids. He agrees that hybrid isn't ideal but does appreciate the plan the was put together. He is in favor of applying for the waiver.*

*Marcilyn Jones: Thanked leadership for the waiver presentation and all of the information that was shared. She understands the hardships that many families have faced and tries to think of all perspectives. She encourages all parents to advocate for their children. Marcy thanks the teachers for all of the work they are putting into distance learning.*

*Jason Liso: Jason thanked the teachers for their work. He wants to remind everyone to take what they see on social media with a grain of salt. He hopes that teachers don't take anything they read or hear personally because he doesn't think the dissatisfaction with distance learning has anything to do with the effort they put into teaching or with their capabilities. If ASA is granted the waiver, it will be because our elected leaders have deemed it safe. He thinks it is important that as a school of choice that we keep the waiver option for our families.*

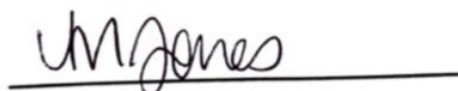
*Samantha Odo: She wants to thank the administration for putting together the study session. She wants the community to know that her number one priority is all of the students at Allegiance STEAM Academy. She is going to make what she feels is the best decision for them. Sam would also like teachers to know anything negative they read on social media is not how the community as a whole feels. So many parents appreciate all of the hard work of the ASA staff.*

## **F. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to adjourn the October 29, 2020 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors at 9:27 pm. Motion ( Troy Stevens ), Second ( Jason Liso ), Motion carries by a vote of 5-0.*



**Samantha Odo, Board Chair**



**Marcilyn Jones, Board Secretary**