

# Hawthorn Academy

## Board of Directors Meeting

**Date:** October 11, 2023

**Time:** 8:45AM

**Location:** 1437 W. 11400 S. South Jordan, UT 84095

**In Attendance:** Meggen Pettit, Heidi Scott, Brooke Lara, Tammi Wright, Amy Tatton, Janielle Edwards

**Excused:** Jamie Dickinson

**Others In Attendance:** Floyd Stensrud, Chantel Wixon, Cathie Hurst, Alicia Ady, Halley Miranda, Autumn Brown, Britney Garcia



## MINUTES

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### CALL TO ORDER

Amy Tatton called the meeting to order at 8:51 AM.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Autumn Brown a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher discussed the desire to add hedgehogs being added as an approved animal in the school animal policy. She spoke of the benefits of allowing this change.

Heidi Scott and Janielle Edwards joined the meeting at 8:53am

Brittney Garcia joined the meeting at 9:00AM

### REPORTS

- Director's Report

Halley Miranda presented the current enrollment for both campuses. They are currently at 1404 enrollment. She reported the enrollment on day 11 since most of the drop that happens at the beginning of the school year, occurs by day 10. At the west campus they had 93% retention from last year. They also discussed enrollment goals. Halley discussed the use of frog tummy for the enrollment lottery. She discussed the new portal for applying for enrollment and the ease of use. The board and administration reviewed the reason why 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment at South campus could possibly be lower than anticipated. The October 1<sup>st</sup> count was at 1402 for enrollment.

Britney Garcia presented the beginning of year test scores. She discussed that in kindergarten they really look more at the middle of year testing and end of year testing more than the beginning of the year because there is such a diverse range of backgrounds coming into kindergarten. At the South Jordan location overall, 65% of kids in grades 1-3 are on benchmark. This is higher than previous years. She discussed how the school wants to see these number continuously increase. The school has decided to continue testing in the upper grades so they can see the continuity of test scores from kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. 91% of the 6<sup>th</sup> graders are on benchmark. This jumped because the benchmark is now scored on a middle school level. She also presented the data from the West Jordan campus. These scores

are a little higher than the South Jordan location. She discussed how the West Jordan campus has a higher retention rate which could contribute to the higher test scores. She discussed the difference in Acadience reading testing (grades 1-3) and RISE reading testing (grades 4-6). Britney Garcia also discussed math scores. She talked about the reason kindergarten computation scores are lower at the beginning of the school year. She discussed how reading also effects the math tests because teachers are not allowed to read any part of the test to the students. Therefore, if the student can't read the test then they can't complete the test whether they know the math or not.

Floyd Stensrud shared with the board the kids and adults' response to the recent trip to the Ron Clark Academy. He said the enthusiasm was amazing and the kids were really looking for things that could be improved at their school by observing the Ron Clark Academy. One of the students that was on the trip suggested having a powwow with the teachers to discuss improvements that could be made. Floyd provided an insurance update, a title 1 update and asked the board about saying the pledge of allegiance at the beginning of board meetings. Floyd also discussed the status of the insurance item listed below.

- Budget Report

Heidi Scott spoke about the budget meeting that was held last week. They are completely finished with IB at the school. The students are continuing to raise funds to fund the trip to the Ron Clark Academy. She discussed how they don't have final numbers for Sept because the report comes out later than some of the board meetings because they are held early in the month. Cathie Hurst verified that the board members are getting the auto emails with the budget reports for each month. Tammi Wright discussed her participation in the budget meeting this month. Heidi discussed how different board members can attend the budget meeting each time if they want to participate. She discussed how enrollment effects the budget. Cathie Hurst discussed how the school is receiving good PTIF interest right now. She defined what the PTIF is (public treasures investment fund). She discussed what a sweep account is and how it could benefit the school. The accountants are looking into it to see if it would be a good option for Hawthorn. Cathie also discussed audits and the audit process. They discussed possible future purchases and improvements for the school. Heidi Scott discussed the different funding sources the school has.

## CONSENT ITEMS

- September 13, 2023, Board Meeting and Closed Session Minutes  
*Heidi Scott made a motion to approve the September 13, 2023, Board Meeting and Closed Session Minutes. Brooke Lara seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Meggen Pettit, Aye; Heidi Scott, Aye; Brooke Lara, Aye; Tammi Wright, Aye; Amy Tatton, Aye; Janielle Edwards, Aye.*

## VOTING AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Policies to Amend
  - Student Conduct and Discipline Policy
  - Attendance Policy

- Platte Nielsen discussed the necessary changes to the Student Conduct and Discipline Policy and the Attendance Policy. These changes will ensure that the school is in compliance with the laws from the 2023 Legislative Session. The board received redline version of these policies in their documentation packet. *Heidi Scott made a motion to approve the amended Student Conduct and Discipline Policy and the amended Attendance Policy. Brooke Lara seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Meggen Pettit, Aye; Heidi Scott, Aye; Brooke Lara, Aye; Tammi Wright, Aye; Amy Tatton, Aye; Janielle Edwards, Aye.*
- Insurance Coverage  
Floyd discussed how 77-78 people are signed up for interviews/meetings. People from Spherica will meet with the 77-78 and figure out for which benefits they could enroll. Heidi Scott discussed how teachers could enroll in the marketplace even if they are offered benefits. They just won't receive the tax benefits. She wanted to make sure teachers know that they can use it and won't have legal ramifications. Floyd discussed how they will revert to their old coverage if they are unable to get their enrollment high enough to qualify for the new insurance. He would like to have firm numbers by Oct 20<sup>th</sup> in order to have a 10-day buffer to rescind their end of coverage in case they don't hit their target enrollment numbers. They have 18 signed up on their current health plan.
  - Altria Settlement Offer  
The board was told that this is not finalized as of yet. The final numbers that have been awarded to the school will be presented next month.
  - Division 6 Construction Invoice  
The board discussed the entry remodel and the progress that has been made. They discussed the need to approve the full amount for the remodel of the entryway and the kindergarten classroom.  
*Heidi Scott made a motion to approve the Division 6 invoices up to \$95,000. Tammi Wright seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Meggen Pettit, Aye; Heidi Scott, Aye; Brooke Lara, Aye; Tammi Wright, Aye; Amy Tatton, Aye; Janielle Edwards, Aye.*
  - Imagine Learning Quotes  
Floyd Stensrud discussed the need to purchase licenses for imagine learning. He discussed how most of the purchase will be covered by a grant.  
*Heidi Scott made a motion to approve the Imagine Learning Quotes not to exceed \$70,000. Brooke Lara seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Meggen Pettit, Aye; Heidi Scott, Aye; Brooke Lara, Aye; Tammi Wright, Aye; Amy Tatton, Aye; Janielle Edwards, Aye.*

## CALENDARING

- Next Meeting November 8, 2023

**CLOSED SESSION-** to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(1)(a).

This item was tabled – there was no closed session at this time.

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**ADJOURN**

*At 10:51 AM Janielle Edwards made a motion to adjourn. Brooke Lara seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Meggen Pettit, Aye; Heidi Scott, Aye; Brooke Lara, Aye; Tammi Wright, Aye; Amy Tatton, Aye; Janielle Edwards, Aye.*

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