

North Davis Preparatory Academy Electronic Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 22, 2020



Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85773964865>

Meeting ID: 857 7396 4865

Mobile: +1 669 900 9128 US

This meeting of the board of directors will be held via Zoom. Members of the public will be accommodated using the information provided. [Allowable Under: Executive Order Suspending the Enforcement of Provisions of Utah Code §§ 52-4-202 and 52-4-207, and Related State Agency Orders, Rules, and Regulations, Due to Infectious Disease COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus]

In Attendance: Monte Poll, Maggie Arave, Rita Brock, Clint Heiner, Dale Pfister

Others in Attendance: Dawn Kawaguchi, Cole Arnold, Ryan Robinson, Trent Brown, Misty Smith, David Robertson

VISION:

North Davis Preparatory Academy students develop a love of learning, experience high academic achievement, and enjoy high bi-literate proficiency.

BOARD CONSTITUTION:

- ★ We will Govern, not Manage. We will set the direction and goals for the school, but we will not micromanage the day to day administration of the school.
- ★ We will speak with "One Voice". We will recognize that our authority is only valid as a group and not as individuals. We will not use our position on the Board to promote our own personal agendas.
- ★ We will make the Spanish language a key element of our school.
- ★ We will make decisions that will keep NDPA financially stable.
- ★ We will review our Charter before making any dramatic changes to school policy.

MINUTES

9:07 AM – INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- Welcome and Introductions – Monte Poll stated that in lieu of time we will forgo the normal pledge of allegiance, vision and board constitution. He also stated that we have another meeting in a couple of weeks.

CONSENT ITEMS

- June 3, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes
- June 24, 2020 Electronic Board Meeting Minutes

Monte Poll made a motion to approve the CONSENT ITEMS. The votes were as follows:

NOTE: Times on this agenda are estimated as a courtesy only. Actual times may vary.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing accommodations for this meeting should call Dawn Kawaguchi at (801) 444-9378 to make appropriate arrangements.

Monte Poll – Aye
Maggie Arave – Aye
Rita Brock – Aye
Clint Heiner – Aye
Dale Pfister – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS (To Be Voted Upon During Board Meeting)

- *Discuss and Vote on Refinancing Bond Counsel* – Cole Arnold stated that the school is looking to refinance the current school bonds and gave a quick recap of where we are in that process. He introduced the school’s financial advisor, David Robertson to give an update on the refinance. He reminded the board that they are looking at two different options: direct placement through bank bonds or public offering through the State’s credit enhancement program. David gave an overview of a historical rates of MMD. We are in a great position because interest rates are at an all-time low. He reviewed the two options of refinance that will best fit the school. The public offering or a direct purchase through a bank institution which both would require the school to go through the state’s credit enhancement program to receive a tax-exempt rate. David reviewed the pros and cons of each route. To move forward, we will need to hire bond counsel (represents the issuer) and borrowers counsel. David stated that we have received bids from four of the five state approved entities. Gilmore & Bell came in with the lowest bid, so David is recommending them for the school’s bond counsel. Side note: This is the same company that was the bond counsel on the current bond. The fifth party that could have responded to bond counsel, Brandon Johnson, has actually responded as borrower’s counselor as the sole responder. David is recommending Farnsworth Johnson as the borrower’s counsel. David gave a brief timeline for both routes/processes. David is leaning towards the direct placement route because it achieves the flexibility that the school wants. However, the two big things that we will need to be cognizant about and work closely with the school is when we are getting about years 7-9 that we look at school refunding to take care of the last 10 years of this debt and to make sure that school keeps excellent finances to keep the integrity of the general fund. Monte stated that he is leaning towards the direct placement route. Cole gave an overview of the direct placement vs. public offerings for the school. Cole is also leaning towards the direct placement route. David recommends putting aside about \$100k annually to go towards capital improvements if they decide to go the direct placement route. There was a discussion on how much will be left on the bonds after 10 years, penalties after one year and pros and cons that there are in refinancing early and the direction for David to move forward on. **Monte Poll made a motion to approve Gilmore & Bell as Bond Council, and Farnsworth Johnson as Borrowers Council. The votes were as follows:**

Monte Poll – Aye
Maggie Arave – Aye
Rita Brock – Aye
Clint Heiner – Aye
Dale Pfister – Aye

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Motion passed unanimously.

- *Discuss and Vote on Refinancing Borrowers Counsel* – There was not further discussion. See above for voting. *David Robertson was excused at 9:39 a.m.*
- *Discuss and Vote on 2020-2021 Early Literacy Plan* – Ryan Robinson reviewed the background on the Early Literacy Plan for K-3 reading plan intervention. Because of we weren't able to get the end of year data, the state has asked that we extend last year's plan for this year. Ryan reviewed the plan. **Monte Poll made a motion to approve 2020-2021 Early Literacy Plan. The votes were as follows:**

Monte Poll – Aye

Maggie Arave – Aye

Rita Brock – Aye

Clint Heiner – Aye

Dale Pfister – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

- *Discuss and Vote on School Reopening Requirements Template* – Ryan Robinson stated that this is something new that the state has required the school to fill out. He reviewed the School Reopening Requirements Template. The state has requirements and the school had to say how they were going to implement those requirements in repopulating schools; monitoring incidents; containing potential outbreaks; temporary reclosing (if necessary); and mitigation tactics for specific school setting. This document is required to be approved by the board. We have sent out a parent survey asking how families would want to return to school. We had just under 20% requested online only. We had the same percentage want to come back to a normal five days a week school. And over 70% wanted some sort of hybrid A/B day, four days a week, or some other thing. Given those results, we are going to have online only option for those families that want. We will be purchasing an online curriculum and hiring addition staff to teach and facilitate this group (k-4 teacher and 5-9 teacher). The A/B schedule will be based around immersion and exposure students. Given that model we think we will have around 11-15 students per class. Fridays will be used to have small groups work specifically on areas of concerns. Fridays are not a day off for teachers or students. The online model will be presented at the August meeting. Our teachers' biggest concerns are continued sanitation of the school and class sizes and it's the same for families. We are going to increase cleaning and increase our PPE for students and teachers. Monte has asked the board to understand the plan so that they can help field questions. There was discussion on when the reopening school plan will be sent out to the parents, how families are going to be split, and are there going to options for working parents. Monte reminded the board to the direct parent questions to Ryan. Rita thanked Ryan for all of his hard work on the reopening plan. **Monte Poll made a motion to approve the School Reopening Requirements Template and authorize the school's Principal to make changes to the Template throughout the school year that are consistent with recommendations or requirements from the state or county. The votes were as follows:**

Monte Poll – Aye

Maggie Arave – Aye

Rita Brock – Aye

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Clint Heiner – Aye
Dale Pfister – Aye
Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS (Items for Discussion Only)

- **Calendaring Items – Monte Poll**
 - Next Board Meeting – August 5th @ 6 p.m.
 - National Charter School Convention – June 20-23 in New Orleans

10:20 AM – Monte Poll made a motion to ADJOURN. Motion passed unanimously.

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