

# MINUTES

## Of the Board of Directors of Grimmway Schools

(A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation)

### I. PRELIMINARY

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors of this corporation, held their meeting at the time, on the day, and at the place set forth as follows:

Time: 4:02 p.m.

Date: October 30, 2017

Place: 471 W. Los Angeles Street Shafter, CA 93263

#### 2. DIRECTORS PRESENT

The following directors, constituting a quorum of the Board, were present at the meeting:

Present: Tom Mestmaker, Ernie Unruh, Manuel Pantoja

Absent: Sean McNally

Grimm Family Education Foundation Staff Present: Barbara Grimm-Marshall, Founder and Ricky Phillips, Accounting Clerk

Grimmway Schools Staff Present: Paul Escala, Executive Director; Casey Yeazel, Chief Academic Officer; Michelle Lumis, Executive Assistant; Greg West, Director of School Support Services; Mike Romero, Director of Human Resources

Grimmway Academy Staff Present: Cole Sampson, Principal; Joanna Kendrick, Principal; Beth Wood, Teacher; Sabrina Reimert, Vice Principal and Katelyn Prosser, Vice Principal

Others Present: Cindy Frantz, Back Office Provider with EdTec; Elia Sagasta, Director, Richland School District; Olga Cruz, SPGA Vice President; Brianne, President of Parents of Grimmway Academy Shafter

#### 3. FLAG SALUTE

#### 4. BOARD APPOINTMENT

The Board deferred the appointment of Star Parents of Grimmway Academy (SPGA) President, Matt Look to the November 27, 2017 board meeting due to Mr. Look being unable to attend the board meeting.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ernie Unruh, seconded by, Manuel Pantoja and passed, to approve the minutes of the Board meeting dated October 30, 2017.

Resolved further, that the Secretary of the Corporation is authorized and directed to insert a copy of these certified minutes into the book of minutes of this Corporation and to see that a certified copy of these minutes is kept at the principal's office for the transaction of business of this Corporation.

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Yay</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Tom Mestmaker	X		
Sean McNally			X
Manuel Pantoja	X		
Ernie Unruh	X		

II. COMMUNICATIONS

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: NA

LEADERSHIP REPORT

Executive Director, Paul Escala shared that as a result of investments from Charter School Growth Fund (CSGF) and NewSchools Venture Fund, several members of the Grimmway Schools leadership team participated in retreats in San Francisco and Washington D.C. The retreats included sharing best practices for teacher retention, strategies and tactics for retaining the best and brightest school staff, and looking at innovative school models. Other items shared during the retreat included challenges that are facing California charter schools.

Paul shared that he attended a two-day summit in San Francisco with charter school leaders from California at the California Charter School Association (CCSA) executive summit on growth and advocacy. This summit focused on the current state of the charter school movement, future growth and advocacy strategies we as school communities will deploy in the coming future to educate the public about the value of choice in public education.

As a result of our partnership with Charter School Growth Fund (CSGF), the Schwab Foundation has invited Grimmway Schools to apply for a \$200,000 grant to support the advancement of our mission. The application has been submitted and we will have an answer in November.

Grimmway Schools leadership has been working closely with Teach for America (TFA) representatives to develop a proposal that would produce up to 20 new teachers for Grimmway Schools over the next three years. The details of this proposal are beginning to take shape, along with a fund development strategy. Paul stated that he would continue to keep the Board informed on the developments as these matters progress.

Paul was eager to announce that after several months of planning, the Grimmway Schools Charter Management Office (CMO) is moving into their new office space on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Paul encouraged everyone to stop by and visit the new CMO office at 5080 California Ave. Suite 100.

Paul shared the 16-17 Grimmway Academy Arvin Oversight Review Audit completed by KCSOS had no findings and noted the assessment included in the board binder.

#### *FALL DATA PRESENTATION- Grimmway Schools*

Casey Yeazel, Chief Academic Officer started off the PowerPoint presentation sharing Greg West, Director of School Support Services is collecting data as part of his new role.

Greg presented statewide assessments, sharing that the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) and California English Language Development Test (CELDT) have changes this school year. The English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) is replacing the CELT for students whose language is other than English.

Greg shared that Grimmway Academy has their assessments in addition to the SBAC. Students also take the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) and Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) tests. Interim Assessments are also given to provide benchmark data to show progress towards mastery in Math and English Language Standards. Teacher generated classroom assessments are also given through out the school year.

Cole Sampson, Principal for GA Arvin, shared that there is a large deficit in reading and math with Kindergarteners. The achievement gap in Kindergarten is based on NWEA assessments given at the beginning of the school year. Data shows that gap closes in third grade, but in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, the gap starts to grow again. By the time students reach 8<sup>th</sup> grade, the achievement gap is closed.

Joanna Kendrick, Principal for GA Shafter, shared that students have a significant gap in reading and math as well. Students took the NWEA MAP Assessment. Second grade was the lowest performing grade. The results also indicated that only 25% of students entering Kindergarten are ready.

Greg showed interim math and English Language Arts (ELA) results for each school site. School leaders are integrating math and science with what is being taught in the Edible School Yard to help close the achievement gap in math, along with identifying the challenges for learning for students. Students at each school site are working towards mastery in math and ELA. School staff is working hard on how to highly motivate and engage students.

Greg provided the following demographic data during the presentation, sharing that Grimmway Academy Arvin has 27% English Language Learners and Grimmway Academy Shafter has 38% English Language Learners. Total of 1230 students are enrolled for both school sites, while ADA is strong for GA Arvin at 96.5 % and GA Shafter at 96.4%.

Paul informed the board that more data will be shared throughout the school year as data is collected.

#### *PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-Grimmway Academy Arvin*

Principal, Cole Sampson shared the outcome of Data Day for GA Arvin. Reflecting back on the first quarter of school, Cole shared that teachers focused on English Learner strategies, breakout sessions on how to run mini stations in the classroom and re-teach plans. The focus for the second quarter of school will be on EL instructional strategies and differentiation.

Cole shared that the ESY had a family cooking class and garden day which was well attended. Academic Parent Teacher Team (APTT) meetings wrapped up and had an attendance rate of 86%. During APTT meetings, a math focus was shared with parents.

Board member Ernie Unruh shared that the culture is strong at school based on “coffee shop talk.”

#### *PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-Grimmway Academy Shafter*

Principal, Joanna Kendrick echoed the same sentiments as Cole Sampson regarding Data Day. Overall, GA Shafter is seeing steady improvements in math and English Language Arts.

Lastly, teachers and staff have been preparing for APTT meetings. A school wide focus for winter quarter is “persisting in problem solving.” A school-wide *problem of the week* will be completed as a home activity. Parents will facilitate problem solving skills through a series of questions and testing possible solutions with their child.

#### *SPGA REPORT*

Vice President, Olga Cruz reported there has been no quorum at the last two meetings, even though there are seven board members. Paul stated the bylaws are being reviewed for a potential change.

## *GS STAFF REPORT*

Beth Wood, Learning Lab Teacher, shared the staff report for GA Shafter. Solution teams are being built after the Success for All (SFA) model with classes and staff with Kinder Corners, Reading Wings, and tutors. Parent and family involvement, along with community connections and attendance are also a focus of the solution teams.

## *LCAP SURVEY TO BOARD*

Joanna discussed an upcoming survey she would be forwarding to the Board of Directors for feedback and input regarding the LCAP for GA Shafter. Joanna would be forwarding a Google form to the Directors shortly after the board meeting.

## *PGAS REPORT*

Breanne Swann, newly elected as the first president of Parents of Grimmway Academy Shafter, shared that she has two children who attend GA Shafter and she is pleased with the school and looks forward to watching her children grow at GA Shafter.

## *FISCAL REPORT*

Cindy Franz from EdTec (back-office provider) shared the October 2017 financial update. For GA Shafter, Cindy shared the forecasted net income is currently \$-60,000, a \$102,000 decrease over the previous forecast. Cindy stated a large grant for GA Shafter is not included, but will be included in November's financial update. An Added expense for Shafter includes an increase in utilities. An SB740 reduction for Shafter could mean a reduced estimate of what GA Shafter will receive in funds. ADA is forecasted at 413, with no change from prior forecast. Shafter's expenses are occurring as expected.

For GA Arvin, Cindy shared the forecasted net income is currently \$567,000, a \$193,000 decrease over the previous forecast. Enrollment looks good, ADA is currently at 783. Arvin's expenses are occurring as expected.

For the CMO, Cindy shared the forecasted net income is currently \$381,000, a \$10,000 decrease from the previous forecast. CMO fees will be trued up in October, then made monthly. The CMO's expenses are occurring as expected.

Cindy shared that monthly consolidated balance sheet looks good in terms of cash flow, and a strong balance sheet at \$4.9 million overall. By the next board meeting in November, a reforecast of the budget will be shared, clarifying grant expenses and restricted budgets, along with a clean-up of the chart of accounts and reconcile and record intercompany transfers.

Board member, Ernie Unruh asked Cindy when prop 39 funding would come in. Cindy stated we have received two payments, which were more than \$100,000. The last

payment will come in February 2018 and will be the smallest. About 60% of the funds were used for efficiency updates for GA Arvin. Ernie stated he wanted to make sure we were spending the money to save money. Board member, Tom Mestmaker stated he liked EdTec's fiscal format.

### III. ACTION ITEMS

#### A. FISCAL

1. The Directors were presented with the Purchase Orders and Warrants for the month of September 2017 that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Manuel Pantoja, seconded by, Ernie Unruh and carried, the Board approved the September 2017 purchase orders and warrants.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent
Tom Mestmaker	X		
Sean McNally			X
Manuel Pantoja	X		
Ernie Unruh	X		

On a motion the board adjourned at 4:51 pm.

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### CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I certify that I am the duly elected Secretary of the Grimmway Schools, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation; that these minutes, consisting of six (6) pages are the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on October 30, 2017.

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Secretary