

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: 4:00 p.m.

Date: April 26, 2021

Meeting held via teleconference

2. DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

Present: Tom Mestmaker, President; Manuel Pantoja, Secretary and Arvin Community Representative; Dr. Jean Fuller, Grimm Family Education Foundation Representative; Matt Look, Star Parents of Grimmway Academy (SPGA) and Parent Representative; Ernie Unruh, Kern County Superintendent of Schools Representative

Absent: N/A

Grimmway Schools Staff Present via teleconference: Casey Yeazel, Chief Executive Officer; Michelle Lumis, Executive Assistant; Mike Romero, Chief Operating Officer; Dr. Wendy Creek, Chief Academic Officer; Adam Alvidrez, Director of School Operations; Dr. Monica Jara Guerra, Director of Community Initiatives; and Melody Castillo, Accounting Manager

Grimmway Academy Staff Present via teleconference: Zulema Ela, Vice Principal of Academics, Grimmway Academy Arvin; Hurshel Williams, Principal, Grimmway Academy Arvin; Brook Webb, Principal, Grimmway Academy Shafter; Tatia Hunter-Jennings, Vice Principal of Student Services, Grimmway Academy Arvin; Katie Wiebe, Literary Specialist, Grimmway Academy Shafter

Grimm Family Education Foundation Staff present: N/A

Others Present via teleconference: Kristin Dietz, EdTec, Back Office Provider; Elia Sagasta, Assistant Superintendent, Richland School District; and Joel Tejada

3. *FLAG SALUTE*

4. *BOARD REAPPOINTMENT*

The board accepted the reappointment of Manuel Pantoja as the Grimm Family Education Foundation representative, for a two-year term as Secretary of the Grimmway Schools Board of Directors.

5. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

A motion was made by, Jean Fuller seconded by, Ernie Unruh, and passed, to approve via roll call the minutes of the Board meeting dated March 22, 2021.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker				X
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh	X			
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller	X			

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 Home Office for the transaction of business of this Corporation.

A motion was made by, Jean Fuller seconded by, Matt Look, and passed, to approve via roll call the minutes of the Board meeting dated April 8, 2021.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh	X			
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller	X			

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 Home Office for the transaction of business of this Corporation.

II. COMMUNICATIONS

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – NONE

GS LEADERSHIP REPORT

Casey Yeazel, Chief Executive Officer, shared that on Thursday April 12th, all K-4 scholars returned to school for daily in person learning. The following Monday, April 19th, all grades returned for daily in person learning. Casey praised the teachers, staff, and leadership teams at both of our schools for their professionalism, their solutions-oriented approach to managing the unprecedented challenges that they face daily, and most important – for their continued dedication to serving our scholars.

On April 21st and 22nd, GA Shafter and GA Arvin held their public random drawings for those grade levels having a waiting list at the end of our open enrollment period. GA Arvin had drawing for three grade levels, GA Shafter for one grade level.

Casey provided a legislative update on AB 1316 and the impact this bill could have on charter schools.

Casey discussed budget deferrals, the strategic growth plan and replication for a potential high school, along with building professional capacity with the partnership of Alder Graduate School of Education.

Casey provided a snapshot of current COVID data for Grimmway Schools as of April 23, 2021.

Mike Romero, Chief Operating Officer, provided the Operations and Human Resources (HR) updates. Mike shared the budget development for the 2021-2022 school is being finalized, while the Home Office and school leadership are working closely with EdTec to develop a detailed spending plan for the various one-time funds with particular attention to the Expanded Learning Grant, which will be shared with the board next month.

On the benefits side, preliminary renewal numbers have been received from TriStar. Early figures suggest a possible increase between 1-3%. More information will be shared in the coming weeks, with a report back once the renewals are finalized.

Kick-off meetings have commenced with the new Student Information Systems (SIS) provider, Infinite Campus. Adam Alvidrez, Director of School Operations, is leading the implementation process. Data Migration will begin in early May and full site production will occur in June, with a Go-Live date of July 1.

Both school sites are participating in stakeholder engagement meetings to solicit feedback for the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). The feedback collected will be used to align with the three main goals identified in the LCAP, and help to shape possible new action steps that will help to improve service delivery for our scholars and families, especially for foster, homeless, and migrant student populations. Each school's LCAP is due by July 1, 2021.

Dr. Wendy Creek, Chief Academic Officer, shared the US Department of Education (USDE) has approved California's plan to allow local education agencies (LEAs) to meet federally mandated testing requirements for the 2020-21 school year with "the most viable option for assessment in their local context." The SBAC Assessment has been modified for remote administration and the length of the exam adjusted as a result of the pandemic shut down and remote administration. These "viable options" include assessments such as the NWEA MAP and Renaissance STAR testing. Grimmway Schools administers the NWEA MAP assessment every year, and also used the STAR testing during the current school year.

Both school sites are in the process of organizing and analyzing the third quarter SBAC mirror ICA exams, in order to prioritize which standards, need to be reviewed in advance of the SBAC next month. An overview of those results at the May Board meeting.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-Grimmway Academy Shafter

Brook Webb, Principal of Grimmway Academy Shafter, reported that since the return from Spring Break, 74 scholars have returned to campus. This brings the onsite total to 615 scholars; only 72 remain on distance learning. Brook shared that three feet of distance is easily maintained in all classrooms. Currently, the lunch rotation consists of half of the class staying in the classroom, while the other half goes into the Cafe. This allows for all scholars to remain 6 feet apart while eating, while also keeping them in an air-conditioned setting. The challenge associated with the return to in-person learning has been with morning drop-off and after-noon pick-up. With increased scholars comes increased traffic, however in just a few short days with a few minor adjustments, traffic has become less congested while keeping the flow steady.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-Grimmway Academy Arvin

Hurshel Williams, Principal of Grimmway Academy Arvin, shared upon returning from Spring Break on April 6th, 2021, Grimmway Academy Arvin began preparing for the return to five school days on site per week, for all Kindergarten-8th students receiving in-person instruction. Preparation included adding desks and chairs within classrooms to reflect the current California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) 3 feet indoor social distancing between students, adjusting staggered entrance and exit times to account for the increase in students, as well as stakeholders and restructuring designated outdoor cohort activities areas.

An immediate increase in the number of families requesting to return students to in-person instruction occurred. The percentage of scholars onsite climbed from 56% in quarter 3 to the current percentage of 73%.

ARVIN AND SHAFTER PARENT REPORT

Katie Wiebe, Literacy Specialist, Grimmway Academy Shafter, shared the parent report. A virtual author visit was held for parents and students. The authors are from the community and shared the process of writing and illustrating their books. A bookfair was held for two weeks, giving parents and students ample opportunity to shop. This was GA Shafter’s highest grossing bookfair in sales. Five Grimmway Academy Shafter scholars are painting a mural, in conjunction with a local artist in downtown Shafter on James and Sunset Street. The Save the Shafter Library effort is underway. Solutions are being worked on to keep the library open to Shafter families.

GRIMMWAY SCHOOLS STAFF REPORT - NA

FISCAL REPORT – March 2021

Kristin Dietz from EdTec (back-office provider) shared the fiscal report for March 2021.

Kristin shared a COVID funding cheat sheet, showing all eight funding sources, resource codes and the timeline for each funding source.

For GA Arvin, Kristin shared the forecasted net income increased to \$1,415,040.

For GA Shafter, the forecasted net income increased to \$788,313. Shafter cash dips negative at year-end due to Spring deferrals. Kristin shared the strategy for GA Shafter to weather the deferrals, by extending an intercompany loan repayment to December 2021 and deferring a portion of year-end CMO fee payment from June to July. GA Shafter’s cash position is expected to improve significantly in fiscal year 21-22

For the Home Office, the forecasted net income remained unchanged at \$581,736.

Kristin shared budget development planning has started for next year. The final budgets will be approved in advance of June 30, 2021.

III. ACTION ITEMS

1. The Directors were presented with the approval of the Purchase Orders and Warrants and Credit Card Register for March 2021 that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Ernie Unruh seconded by Manuel Pantoja, and carried, the Board approved via roll call the Purchase Orders and Warrants and Credit Card Register for March 2021.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh	X			
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller	X			

2. The Directors were presented with the approval of Alder Graduate School of Education Services Agreement that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Jean Fuller seconded by Matt Look, and carried, the Board approved via roll call the Alder Graduate School of Education Services Agreement.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh	X			
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller	X			

3. The Directors were presented with the approval of Grimmway Schools Integrity Plan that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Jean Fuller, seconded by Ernie Unruh, and carried, the Board approved via roll call the Grimmway Schools Integrity Plan.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh	X			
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller	X			

4. The Directors were presented with the approval of Kindergarten Early Admission Request that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Jean Fuller, seconded by Manuel Pantoja, and carried, the Board approved via roll call Kindergarten Early Admission Request.

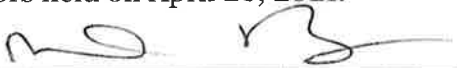
Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh	X			
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller	X			

IV. ADJORNMENT

On a motion the board adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

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 April 26, 2021.



 Secretary