

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: January 25, 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; Dr. Monica Jara Guerra, Director of Community Initiatives; Michelle Lumis, Executive Assistant; Mike Romero, Chief Operating Officer; Dr. Wendy Creek, Chief Academic Officer; Adam Alvidrez, Director of School Operations

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; Blanca Barajas, Teacher, Grimmway Academy Arvin

Grimm Family Education Foundation Staff present via teleconference: Evelyn Steed, Office Manager

Others Present via teleconference: Cindy Franz, Kristin Dietz and Jazmin Estrada, EdTec, Back Office Provider; Elia Sagasta, Assistant Superintendent, Richland School

District; Emma Pereida-Martinez, Assistant Superintendent, Arvin Union School District

3. *FLAG SALUTE*

4. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

A motion was made by, Manuel Pantoja seconded by, Jean Fuller, and passed, to approve via roll call the minutes of the Board meeting dated December 10, 2020.

| 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 both Grimmway Academy school sites continue to remain open on the adopted Hybrid A/B model, with approximately one-third of our families opting for full distance learning (Cohort D).

Casey shared the CMO operations team has worked closely with faculty, staff, and leadership at both sites to ensure a safe learning environment for our scholars -- continuing with daily health screenings, enforcing distancing, and mask wearing.

Casey discussed the Kern County Vaccine schedule and is working on providing teachers and staff with information and data on the vaccine -- including a Zoom Q&A with medical health professionals.

Casey provided a summary of the Governor's 2021-2022 budget proposal for K-12. Casey also discussed the In-person Instruction Grant and new California Department of Public Health Safe Schools for All Guidance. Casey provided a snapshot of current COVID-19 data for Grimmway Schools.

Mike Romero, Chief Operating Officer, provided the Operations and Human Resources (HR) updates. Mike shared Grimmway Schools' action steps to a positive COVID case for students, with the board. The protocols are reviewed with sites and CMO leadership to improve upon response protocols to prevent further cases. Grimmway Schools is committed to a safe and measured re-opening for our scholars. All staff completed their 3rd round of routine, on-site testing over Winter break.

Adam Alvidrez, Director of School Operations, shared Infinite Campus has been selected as the new Student Information System (SIS) vendor. Transition will begin this school year with data migration in the Spring, professional development in the summer and a go-live date by August 2021.

By March 1st, the School Safety Plans will be updated and presented to the Board.

Adam shared that over 7,200 grab and go meals were distributed over Winter break. Adam thanked the Café staff and front workers for continuing to feed our scholars and families.

Grimmway Schools has partnered with an inventory management system, Flowtrac, which will track inventory and provide access to a cloud-based customized software platform. The home office will be piloting this new software, with the goal of deploying out to the school sites by summer.

President Tom Mestmaker, asked COO, Mike Romero about the self-funded medical plans. Mike shared the self-funded plans are doing well and there has not been any impact or spike in claims due to COVID-19.

Dr. Wendy Creek, Chief Academic Officer, offered her appreciation to all staff at each school site. Wendy provided an update on Cohort D (Distance Learning). Families have the option to keep students' home who were medically fragile or had health concerns that would prohibit them from safely returning to campus. There are currently 484 scholars participating in Cohort D, 127 from Shafter (575 on campus) and 357 from Arvin (463 on campus).

Both sites administered SBAC interims in December before leaving for Winter break. NWEA MAP testing and STAR math and reading testing for 7th graders is scheduled for the end of January/beginning of February. Results of all testing will be presented at the February board meeting.

Humanities teachers from both sites started receiving training from the California Reading and Literacy Project in December and will continue throughout the Spring. STEM teachers began lesson study training with Dr. Anita Kreide (formerly of the Center for Math and Science Teaching at LMU) which will ground them in the lesson planning model advocated by the Next Generation Science Standards, as well as provide them with a collaborative structure to plan and evaluate each other's lessons. This training will also run through the spring.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-Grimmway Academy Shafter

Brook Webb, Principal of Grimmway Academy Shafter, shared, during the Winter Professional Learning sessions, the GA Shafter instructional team took a deep dive into their data. Initial NWEA data was reviewed in comparison to Quarter 2 Interims, Lexia/PowerUp current levels, and STAR reading current levels. The data sparked heavy conversations about current instructional practices and inspired discourse regarding next steps towards additional transformative efforts to reimagine best practices.

For Quarter 3 GA Shafter is focusing heavily on strengthening scholar's early literacy skills and foundational math skills by homing in on individual student deficits.

In the past two weeks since returning from Winter Break, 15 scholars have returned to onsite learning. GA Shafter is enhancing communication efforts with parents in the weeks to come with the hope of encouraging more families to reconsider coming back to campus.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-Grimmway Academy Arvin

Hurshel Williams, Principal of Grimmway Academy Arvin, shared upon returning from Winter Break, Grimmway Academy Arvin's instructional staff participated in an extensive "Data Analysis Protocols" exercise within the professional development that took place throughout the week of January 4th, 2021. The process was designed and implemented to afford grade level as well as departmental instructional teams the opportunity to complete an in-depth examination of the results from our Winter 2020 Interim Assessment Blocks (IAB). Throughout the exercise, instructors were charged with completing certain tasks aimed at facilitating the identification of trends, norms, or variants.

ARVIN AND SHAFTER PARENT REPORT - NA

GRIMMWAY SCHOOLS STAFF REPORT

Blanca Barajas, teacher at Grimmway Academy Arvin, provided the staff report. Blanca shared additional staff and curriculum were added to help support English Learners. During Winter professional development, new data was compared and analyzed to help focus on providing specific instruction to English Learners and Special Education students. Individual learning plans have been implemented, which helps students take charge of their own learning.

OPT OUT OF CHARTERSAFE INSURANCE

Casey shared Grimmway Schools' intent to opt out of CharterSafe Insurance for the 2021-2022 period and explore other options with multiple carriers to provide bids on insurance and do a cost/service comparison.

FISCAL REPORT – OCTOBER 2020

Cindy Franz from EdTec (back-office provider) shared the fiscal report for December 2020.

For GA Arvin, Cindy shared the forecasted net income decreased to \$1,517,194.

For GA Shafter, the forecasted net income decreased to \$792,750.

For the Home Office, the forecasted net income increased to \$579,304.

Cindy shared the projected cash flow for GA Shafter will be negative at fiscal year-end. Internal borrowing will be addressed at the April board meeting, with more certainty on timing of additional federal funds and the fiscal year 2022 budget.

Cindy also gave an update on the Governor’s January budget proposal and the in-person grant, that Casey discussed previously. Overall, a positive outlook on funding.

III. ACTION ITEMS

1. The Directors were presented with the approval of the Purchase Orders and Warrants and Credit Card Register for November 2020 that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Ernie Unruh seconded by Jean Fuller, and carried, the Board approved via roll call the Purchase Orders and Warrants and Credit Card Register for November 2020.

| 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 the Purchase Orders and Warrants and Credit Card Register for December 2020 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 Purchase Orders and Warrants and Credit Card Register for December 2020.

| 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 20-21 School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for GA Arvin that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Ernie Unruh, and carried, the Board approved via roll call the 20-21 School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for GA Arvin.

| 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 20-21 School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for GA Shafter that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja, and carried, the Board approved via roll call the 20-21 School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for GA Shafter.

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

5. The Directors were presented with the approval of Student Information System – Infinite Campus 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 Student Information System – Infinite Campus.

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

6. The Directors were presented with the approval of 19-20 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for GA Arvin that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Ernie Unruh, seconded by Matt Look, and carried, the Board approved via roll call the 19-20 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for GA Arvin.

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

7. The Directors were presented with the approval of 19-20 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for GA Shafter 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 19-20 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for GA Shafter.

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

8. The Directors were presented with the approval of Authorization to Contract with Bellwether Education Partners Retroactive to June 12, 2020 that were considered, and discussed. Casey shared that Bellwether are the evaluators for the CSP grant. Grimmway Schools pays Bellwether and is then reimbursed by the CSP grant. On a motion duly made by Ernie Unruh, seconded by Jean Fuller, and carried, the Board approved via roll call the Authorization to Contract with Bellwether Education Partners Retroactive to June 12, 2020.

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

9. The Directors were presented with the approval of COVID Prevention Program (CPP) aka Injury and Illness Prevention Plan (IIPP) Addendum for GA Arvin that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja, and carried, the Board approved via roll call the of COVID Prevention Program (CPP) aka Injury and Illness Prevention Plan (IIPP) Addendum for GA Arvin.

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

10. The Directors were presented with the approval of COVID Prevention Program (CPP) aka Injury and Illness Prevention Plan (IIPP) Addendum for GA Shafter that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja, and carried, the Board approved via roll call the of COVID Prevention Program (CPP) aka Injury and Illness Prevention Plan (IIPP) Addendum for GA Shafter.

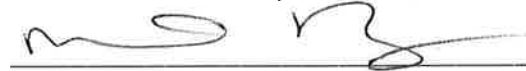
| Board Member | Yay | Nay | Absent | Abstain |
|----------------|-----|-----|--------|---------|
| Tom Mestmaker | X | | | |
| Manuel Pantoja | X | | | |
| Ernie Unruh | X | | | |
| Matt Look | X | | | |
| Jean Fuller | X | | | |

IV. ADJORNMENT

On a motion the board adjourned at 4:56 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 eight (8) pages are the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on January 25, 2021.



 Secretary