

Longleaf School of the Arts
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
322 Chapanoke Road Raleigh NC
July 26, 2021

5:30pm CALL TO ORDER Per GS143-318.10

- **Roll Call:** Cheryl Hiser, Chuck Hensey, Elizabeth Grovenstein, Dorinda Peacock

- **Absent with Notice:** Sabrina Francis, Rheji Burrell, Larry Williams

- **Mission Statement:** Longleaf School of the Arts will develop students into confident, responsible, and successful contributors in college, career, and community through mentorship and a challenging curriculum that integrates academics and the fine arts.

- **Agenda Approval - Chuck Hensey moved to approve the agenda. Cheryl Hiser seconded the motion. The motion is approved.**

5:35pm CONSENT AGENDA

A consent agenda is used to approve routine items by voting on all items at one time, instead of voting on individual motions. Prior to approving the consent agenda, the Board will review the consent agenda and any items requiring discussion will be removed from the consent agenda and placed on the standing agenda.

Consent Agenda Item	Description	Action
Meeting Minutes	Approve meeting minutes from 6/28/2021 LSA BoD meeting	

Cheryl Hiser moved to approve the consent agenda. Dorinda Peacock seconded. The motion is approved.

5:40pm OLD BUSINESS

- Enrollment Update
 - Between years, so far this summer 13 prior year students have requested records and/or submitted withdrawal forms. 1 9th, 7 10th, 2 11th, 3 12th. Have 5 new students that have completed registration process but have now withdrawn - 2 to Raleigh Charter, 1 Cardinal Gibbons, 1 to East Wake, 1 family moving out of state.
 - 297 - 19 9th graders, 124 10th grader, 77 11th graders, 77 12th graders (includes currently retained seniors that will graduate over the summer - 8 plus one that will not return).
 - With those changes, we have 275 returning students.

- 2021-22 Recruitment/Application Acceptance Update
 - 133 registered new students, 1 in process, 1 offer outstanding

- With the 133 new students and 275 returning students, current projected enrollment is 408, possibly 410 with the 2 currently in process/offered.
- Graduation Requirements
 - Office of Charter Success has approved the change in the Charter.

5:50pm NEW BUSINESS - No new business.

6:00pm HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

- Currently working to hire teachers to fill open positions.
- Have been scheduling students. Master schedule is completed.
- Finished in-person 4 week session of summer school last Friday. Students have until Aug 6th to finish coursework.
- July 31st - all students will be sent information for the new school year, including fees, MyHotLunchBox, etc.
- Mrs Herbst, school nurse, presented information regarding masking
 - CDC recommended unvaccinated students wear masks.
 - American Academy of Pediatrics recommends universal masking of all students and personnel for the upcoming school year.
 - NC DHHS Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit effective 07/30/21 says that schools may require universal masking if that serves the needs of the community.
 - Cases are 4x higher than 2 weeks ago, hospitalizations have doubled.
 - Wake County is now classified as Significant Community Spread.
 - Delta variant accounts for more than 80% of new cases.
 - Only 57% of NC adults are vaccinated, 24% of NC children ages 12-17 vaccinated.
 - If we require masks of only those unvaccinated, that could create stigma between the 2 student groups.
 - 94% of the positive cases are unvaccinated.
 - Mrs. Herbst recommends universal masking to be safe.
 - Mrs. Williams needs a decision before school starts.
 - Chuck Hensey asked what criteria would be used to decide if we need to go back to virtual learning. Mrs. Herbst says that we should follow health department guidance. We will have to report all positive cases and the health department will advise when/if we have to go back to virtual.
 - Elizabeth Grovenstein says the tool kit eliminated Plan A,B,C options so DHHS is expecting all schools to be in person.
 - Mrs. Herbst says that universal masking will cut down on the spread in our school and we know it has been proven effective.
 - Cheryl Hiser suggests waiting to hold a vote until we hear from the public during the Public Comment.

6:10pm

PUBLIC COMMENT

Andrew Bowen, student - How would universal masking affect playing wind instruments in band classes? Mrs. Herbst is unsure. Chuck H says that the new band director will probably explore options once on staff. Mrs. Williams says there is guidance on pp.11-12 of the NC DHHS Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit..

Connie Babb, administrator - We did not have a lot of cases to report and quarantine last year. While it isn't fun to have to wear a mask all the time, it is probably a good idea, at least for the first quarter.

Taylor Farnham, student - Are we still doing 6 feet distance or will it be shorter? Mrs Herbst advised the distance has been changed to 3 feet.

Elizabeth opened the floor for a motion regarding masking. Chuck Hensey moved that we start off the school year with an inside mask mandate and reevaluate in September. Dorinda Peacock seconded the motion. Motion is approved.

6:20pm

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Finance: Cheryl Hiser
 - June budget report, which is the full FY 2020-2021, was reviewed. Note that we did go over budget in a few categories but were overall within budget. Per Charter Success, we did not need a budget amendment for these variances. Regarding the capital expenditures, those purchases were previously approved by the board. Even with the capital expenditure, we added \$231,000 to our fund balance last year.
 - The Finance Committee presented a Technology Funding Request. We need 60 chromebooks to meet student needs for the upcoming school year. We also need 24 laptops for teacher classrooms to complete the virtual teaching classroom technology upgrade funded by the ESSER grant. Total funds needed are \$35,906, rounded to \$36,000. We will be applying for a grant which could reimburse up to \$33,600 of the \$36,000 but we cannot be sure we'll get the funding and need to order the technology before we will know as the grant deadline is August 13, 2021.
 - Elizabeth Grovenstein moves to approve the purchase of the 60 student Chromebooks and 24 classroom laptops. Dorinda Peacock seconds the motion. The motion is approved.

6:30pm

PUBLIC COMMENT

- **Andrew Bowen, student** - Wanted to know if equipment being used for virtual classroom was same as Mr Houck used. Yes. Are the laptops going to be Chromebooks? No, they will be actual laptops. He said thank goodness.

- **Brooklyn Winters, staff** - Thank Mrs. Elizabeth Groventein and Mrs. Julie Robertson for working on transportation from N Raleigh and Cary/Apex areas. Thanks to Kelly McLaughlin for working on carpool map.
- **Mrs Herbst, school nurse** - Would like to clarify that the student to student distance is 3 feet, as long as students are masked. However, the student to teacher and staff to staff is still 6 feet.

6:33pm CLOSED SESSION

Elizabeth Grovensten moves pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(5,6) the Board will move into closed session for the purpose of reviewing contracts. Cheryl Hiser seconds the motion. The motion is approved.

7:49 pm OPEN SESSION

Elizabeth Grovenstein moves to resume open session. Chuck Hensey seconds the motion. The motion is approved.

Cheryl Hiser moves that we approve the administration recommendation to hire Eric Morris as the new Assistant Head of School contingent upon successful background and reference checks. Elizabeth Grovenstein seconds the motion. The motion is approved.

Cheryl Hiser moves that we approve the administration recommendation to re-hire Alex Alberti to teach AP Psychology using the flipped classroom model, provided that a minimum of 15 students are enrolled for the class. There will be one or two sections depending upon the number of students registered. Dorinda Peacock seconds the motion. The motion is approved.

Elizabeth announced that we will hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, August 10th at 5:30 pm. Special Meeting will be conducted via ZOOM.

7:51pm ADJOURNMENT

Chuck Hensey moves to adjourn the meeting. Dorinda Peacock seconds the motion. The motion is approved.

Next Regular Board Meeting Date: August 23, 2021, 5:30pm at Longleaf School of the Arts

NOTE: Times are approximate.