

MINUTES

Of the Board of Directors of Grow Public Schools

(A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation)

I. PRELIMINARY

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Time: 4:01pm

Date: June 27, 2022

Location: 901 Nectarine Court Arvin, CA 93203

2. DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

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

Absent: Tom Mestmaker, President

Grow Public Schools Staff Present: Casey Yeazel, Chief Executive Officer; Michelle Lumis, Executive Assistant; Mike Romero, Chief Operating Officer; Adam Alvidrez, Director of School Operations; Rick Phillips, Operations Manager; Elizabeth Ramos, Interpreter, via teleconference; Zulema Ela, Assistant Principal of Academics, Grow Academy Arvin; Melody Castillo, Accounting Manager, via teleconference; Dr. Monica Jara Guerra, Director of Community Initiatives, via teleconference; Hurshel Williams, Principal, Grow Academy Arvin; Lacie Harris; Principal, Grow Academy Shafter; Sylvia Gonzalez, Assistant Principal of Student Services, Grow Academy Shafter; Tanya Kelley, Assistant Principal of Academics, Grow Academy Shafter; Tatia Hunter-Jennings, Assistant Principal of Student Services, Grow Academy Arvin, via teleconference

Grimm Family Education Foundation Staff Present: Barbara Grimm Marshall, Founder and Doc Ervin, Vice President of Special Projects

Other attendees: Eva Elenes; Cindy Frantz, Back-Office Provider, EdTec; Mary Hernandez, via teleconference; Laneisha Hammond, via teleconference; Elia Sagasta, Curriculum and Instruction Director, Richland School District

3. FLAG SALUTE
4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT - None

II. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of May 23, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of June 1, 2022, Special Board Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of Purchase Orders and Warrants and Credit Card Registers for May 2022
4. Approval of 2022-23 Education Protection Account (EPA) Spending Plan for Grow Public Schools
5. Approval of 403(b) Match Affirmation for 2022-23
6. Approval of 2022-23 Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS) Memorandum of Understanding County Level Educational Services for K-6 Students for Grow Academy Arvin and Grow Academy Shafter
7. Approval of 2022-23 Success for All Contract for GA Arvin
8. Approval of 2022-23 Success for All Contract for GA Shafter
9. Approval of University of La Verne College of Education Fieldwork

On a motion made duly by Jean Fuller seconded by Matt Look, and carried, the Board approved the Consent Agenda.

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

III. COMMUNICATIONS

LEADERSHIP REPORT

Casey Yeazel, Chief Executive Officer, shared the California budget update and the discretionary funding for schools. Casey also discussed the impact of SB 740 Facility Grants and ADA Hold Harmless. The fiscal year 22-23 budget proposal was discussed and a COLA breakdown was provided to the board.

Grow Public Schools joined a cohort of nationwide charter networks in the Charter School Compensation Initiative, sponsored by the Charter School Growth Fund and EdFuel.

Casey provided an update on Assembly Bill 2484 and Senate Bill 1343.

Effective July 1st, Dr. Ric Esquivel will join the Home Office team as the Chief of Schools. This position replaces the Chief Academic Officer. Jenny Bard has also joined the Home Office team as the Director of Teacher Development. At GA Shafter, Tanya Kelley has

been hired as the Assistant Principal of Academics and Sylvia Gonzalez has been hired as the Assistant Principal of Student Services. Casey welcomed all the new hires to Grow Public Schools.

Mike Romero, Chief Operating Officer, shared the Universal PreKindergarten (UPK) Parent presentation. The UPK planning document will be submitted to the California Department of Education and self-certified.

Mike shared the retention rates for each campus: GA Arvin – 94% and GA Shafter – 86%. New staff orientation was held on June 4th. Approximately fifteen new teachers will be joining Grow Public Schools for the 22-23 school year.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-Grow Academy Arvin

Principal, Hurshel Williams shared on June 1st, GA Arvin hosted an Open House Event. This event incorporated Family Book Night, Literacy Fair, an Art Exhibit, Edible School Yard (ESY) Garden Tours, ESY Kitchen tea making lessons, crafts and mariachis. Over 400 families attended the event.

A record \$11,000 in book fair sales were raised. Hurshel thanked all the families and the educational partners who supported GA Arvin.

Hurshel shared Local Control and Accountability Plan Goal two, action 12 - Parent Appreciation. On Wednesday June 15th, GA Arvin hosted a Parent Appreciation Carnival. Scholars and their families were invited to attend a schoolwide carnival that was held in parents/guardians' honor. In addition to traditional carnival attractions, the event featured live music by Los Morros de Cali, catered meals by Los Ponchos, a reptile exhibit by Wind Wolves, and a make and bake your own pizza by the ESY Kitchen and Garden team. Over 500 families attended the event.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-Grow Academy Shafter

Principal, Lacie Harris, shared Local Control and Accountability Plan Goal one – Provide a dynamic learning experience that inspires students and teachers to reach for higher academic achievement. GA Shafter hosted their first Promotion which was huge success. Positive feedback was received from families, staff, and the community. Scholars were awarded with various academic and citizenship awards selected by the middle school team. Scholars prepared heartfelt letters that were read aloud in a touching display of gratitude during the ceremony. Parents were honored to present the promotion certificates to their promoting 8th grade scholar as their names were read aloud. The Café prepared a wonderful menu, which included a delectable roasted chicken and rice dinner.

PARENT REPORT – NONE

IV. FISCAL REPORT

Cindy Franz from EdTec (back-office provider) provided the May Revise state budget update and the 2021-22 financial update, along with the 2022-23 budget draft and assumptions.

V. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION

1. The Directors were presented with the approval of the approval of Navigate360 Agreement – Retroactive to June 9, 2022, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja and carried, the Board approved the Navigate360 Agreement – Retroactive to June 9, 2022.

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 Scholar Grove Contract that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Jean Fuller and carried, the Board approved The Scholar Grove Contract.

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 the New Teacher Center Agreement for 2022-23, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja and carried, the Board approved the New Teacher Center Agreement for 2022-23.

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 the 2022-23 Bolton Insurance Proposal, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Jean Fuller, seconded by Matt Look and carried, the Board approved the 2022-23 Bolton Insurance Proposal.

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 2022-23 GA Arvin Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Budget Overview for Parents, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja and carried, the Board approved the 2022-23 GA Arvin Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Budget Overview for Parents.

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 2022-23 GA Shafter Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Budget Overview for Parents, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Jean Fuller and carried, the Board approved the 2022-23 GA Shafter Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Budget Overview for Parents.

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 GA Arvin Local Indicators, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Jean Fuller, seconded by Matt Look and carried, the Board approved the GA Arvin Local Indicators.

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 GA Shafter Local Indicators, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Manuel Pantoja, seconded by Matt Look and carried, the Board approved the GA Shafter Local Indicators.

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 2022-23 GA Arvin Budget, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja and carried, the Board approved the 2022-23 GA Arvin Budget.

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 2022-23 GA Shafter Budget that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Jean Fuller, seconded by Matt Look and carried, the Board approved the 2022-23 GA Shafter Budget.

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

11. The Directors were presented with the approval of 2022-23 Grow Public Schools CMO Budget, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja and carried, the Board approved the 2022-23 Grow Public Schools CMO Budget.

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

VI. ADJORNMENT

On a motion the board adjourned at 4:59 pm.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I certify that I am the duly elected Secretary of the Grow Public Schools, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation; that these minutes, consisting of seven (7) pages are the minutes of the regular board meeting of the Board of Directors held on June 27, 2022.



Secretary

