

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: September 28, 2020

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; Matt Look, Star Parents of Grimmway Academy (SPGA) and Parent Representative; Ernie Unruh, Kern County Superintendent of Schools Representative; Dr. Jean Fuller, Grimm Family Education Foundation Representative

Absent: NA

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; Melody Castillo, Accounting Manager

Grimmway Academy Staff Present via teleconference: Zulema Ela, Vice Principal of Academics; Hurshel Williams, Principal, Grimmway Academy Arvin; Brook Webb, Principal, Grimmway Academy Shafter; Serena Castillo, Lead Edible School Yard Educator

Grimm Family Education Foundation Staff present via teleconference: Rick Phillips, Fiscal Manager

Others Present via teleconference: Cindy Franz, Back Office Provider and Emma Pereida-Martinez, Assistant Superintendent, Arvin Union School District; Elia Sagasta, Assistant Superintendent, Richland School District;

- 3. *FLAG SALUTE*
- 4. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

A motion was made by, Matt Look seconded by, Jean Fuller, and passed, to approve via roll call the minutes of the Board meeting dated August 31, 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.

A motion was made by, Ernie Unruh seconded by, Jean Fuller, and passed, to approve via roll call the minutes of the Public Hearing dated September 22, 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, provided an update on schools reopening. Schools in Kern County are still not currently allowed to have students on site for general instruction. Options for instruction include, distance learning, targeted cohorts and submitting a waiver for students in Kindergarten through sixth grade to return campus via a hybrid model. Once Kern County moves into red tier for three weeks, we can reopen schools without a waiver. Casey shared, unless the California Department of Education (CDE) revises their school reopening guidelines, Grimmway Schools will still have to

adhere to the distancing guidelines, which results in approximately half of our students on campus per day (A/B Hybrid model).

Casey gave a legislative update on Senate Bill 820 and Assembly Bill 2765 - Prevailing Wage Requirements for Charter School Conduit Bond Projects.

Casey shared GA Shafter's annual oversight report had no negative findings. The report was presented to the Richland School Board on September 14th. GA Arvin's annual oversight report had one negative finding. The finding had to do with teacher certification, and was immediately remedied.

Casey presented the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan stakeholder feedback via PowerPoint to the board.

Dr. Wendy Creek, Chief Academic Officer, shared the Instructional Task Force has been meeting weekly to plan and implement teacher support by offering four different training options to choose from during Friday professional development time. The training options were based on feedback from teacher surveys as well as input from instructional coaches and administrators at both sites. Moving forward the Instructional Task Force will form the basis of the curriculum committee and transition to connect both sites around shared curriculum.

Small cohorts of students have been working with teachers on both campuses to complete initial language testing as well as targeted Special Education services. Both sites have also finished their first rounds of NWEA testing. The NWEA data, along with student achievement data in Illuminate, will be used to plan instruction and student supports into the second quarter.

Mike Romero, Chief Operating Officer, provided the Human Resources (HR) and Operations updates. Certificated staff will be returning to campus beginning October 12th. The intent is to provide our teachers with the support, structure, and resources they need to navigate through Distance Learning.

Mike reported that Grimmway Schools will continue to cover all COVID-19 related testing costs. There have not seen any increased claim costs directly related to COVID-19, but Human Resources will continue to track in weekly claim reports.

Site leaders and Home Office staff have been actively identifying a number of tech upgrades and enhancements to ensure teachers are equipped to offer high-quality distance learning lessons. In partnership with our IT provider, Signa-Terra, we are in the process of identifying and vetting a number of tech upgrades and software enhancements. Final quotes will be presented to the Board in October.

On the Operations side, Mike shared school sites have continued dispersing Grab-and-Go meals to the communities since the start of the school year. Numbers continue to increase as the weather and air quality improves. On August 31st, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the extension of critical waivers that will allow the

continued operation of the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option through December 31, 2020.

The facilities managers have been actively managing the daily sanitation and weekly deep cleaning needs of the sites to ensure a safe workplace for our staff and scholars. The operations team is in the process of identifying and vetting a number of air purifying options for classrooms and will bring final quotes to the Board in October.

Casey shared the Community Initiatives update and reported Dr. Monica Jara Guerra is working with municipal governments in both Shafter and Arvin on issues related to COVID, in particular child supervision. Through Dr. Jara Guerra's leadership, the Shafter Parks and Recreation Department is open to collaboration on programs that would provide some level of child supervision, however, details based upon the new CDPH guidance just released, have not been shared with Shafter community.

The Shafter City Council created an education ad hoc committee to discuss educational issues that impact the city and our schools. There was discussion about residents in Shafter not wearing masks and a decision to develop a campaign around health and safety issues related to COVID - especially wearing masks. Michael Bobadilla from the CMO Home Office is volunteering his expertise as a graphic designer to the campaign.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-Grimmway Academy Arvin

Hurshel Williams, Principal of Grimmway Academy Arvin, shared NWEA MAP Growth Assessments were administered remotely during the Fall 2020 quarter. A comparative analysis of the Fall 2020 results to the Winter 2019 results revealed that learning loss was minimized in most instances due to the efforts of the GA Arvin instructional team and commitment of our GA Arvin scholars and their families throughout the Spring 2020 distance learning period. The NWEA ELA and Math outcomes increased an average of 2-3 points on the RIT score with the highest gains made within our 7th and 8th cohorts. In regards to the NWEA Math results, students did improve upon their overall average, but the gains in Math were not as great as the ELA and Reading scores.

The GA Arvin Instructional team will be taking a deep dive into these diagnostic results during our September 29, 2020 Data Day. The data will be analyzed and targeted instruction on Priority Standards through the use of NWEA MAP skills pathways will be provided to scholars. MAP Skills allows personalized instruction for all students. Those students failing to make appropriate gains towards meeting their NWEA MAP Growth Targets will receive additional personalized instruction within targeted cohorts both on site as well as virtually throughout the second quarter beginning October 12th 2020.

Hurshel shared staff are set to return to campus on Monday, October 12th.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-Grimmway Academy Shafter

Brook Webb, Principal of Grimmway Academy Shafter, shared NWEA fall assessments have also wrapped up at GA Shafter. Literacy month is wrapping up with Celebrity Reader day and drive-thru literacy bags were handed out in conjunction with literacy night.

Scholars in grades K-7, just completed a RAPID placement assessment in the newly adopted Lexia Core 5 (Grades K-5)/PowerUp (Grades 6 and 7) Literacy Program. Lexia/PowerUp is a Tier I program that addresses both intervention and acceleration needs by identifying individual student deficits and strengths and provides skill building activities that support student growth. Intervention Coordinator, Madison Anderholt will be monitoring all students' present levels and will be meeting with teachers and support staff regularly to ensure the fidelity of the program.

Brook shared scholars have been using the gamified web-based platform Reflex Math to work towards fact fluency. In just 8 days of use, scholars have completed over 300,000 math facts and are making significant gains towards mastery.

ARVIN AND SHAFTER PARENT REPORT

SPGA President Matt Look shared elections were held and the same officers were re-elected to the 2020-21 SY.

GRIMMWAY SCHOOLS STAFF REPORT

Serena Castillo, Lead Edible School Yard (ESY) Instructor at Grimmway Academy Arvin, provided the staff report. Serena shared the ESY has been hosting virtual cooking and gardening classes and are wrapping up Literacy month. The extra produce in the ESY garden are being boxed and distributed to families. Approximately 67 pounds of produce were provided to over ten families.

LEARNING CONTINUITY AND ATTENDANCE PLAN - STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

Casey shared the stakeholder feedback from the LCP surveys with the board. The feedback helped formed the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plans. The feedback was gathered via surveys that were sent to parents and students.

FISCAL REPORT – AUGUST 2020

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

Cindy shared the 2019-20 Unaudited Actuals for Grimmway Schools are strong and driven by health care adjustments. Grimmway Schools has a strong ending cash balance with accrued revenue.

For GA Arvin, Cindy shared the forecasted net income increased to \$1,374,175.

For GA Shafter, the forecasted net income increased to \$852,586.

For the Home Office, the forecasted net income increased to \$506,346.

Focus on the use of the Learning Loss Mitigation funds related to COVID-19 has led to savings.

Cindy shared the projected cash flow for GA Shafter will be negative at yearend due to spring referrals in FY21. Cash management options include intercompany loans, line of credit, vendor negotiation, tax revenue anticipated notes TRANS, and extending loans.

III. ACTION ITEMS

1. The Directors were presented with the approval of the Purchase Orders and Warrants and Credit Card Register for August 2020 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 the Purchase Orders and Warrants and Credit Card Register for August 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 Learning Continuity & Attendance Plan 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 Learning Continuity & Attendance Plan for GA Arvin.

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 Learning Continuity & Attendance Plan for GA Shafter 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 Learning Continuity & Attendance Plan for GA Shafter.

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 FY 19-20 Unaudited Actuals 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 FY 19-20 Unaudited Actuals for GA Arvin.

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 FY 19-20 Unaudited Actuals for GA Shafter 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 FY 19-20 Unaudited Actuals for GA Shafter.

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 Amended Grimmway Schools Bylaws that were considered, and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Jean Fuller, and carried, the Board approved via roll call the Amended Grimmway Schools Bylaws.

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 the GoGuardian – Beacon Classroom Management Solution 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 the GoGuardian – Beacon Classroom Management Solution.

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 the Grimmway Schools Reopening Waiver 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 Grimmway School Reopening Waiver.

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 5:08 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 September 28, 2020.

Secretary