

Meeting Minutes: Governance Committee

Date/Time: August 26, 2021/7:30 a.m.

Location: Board Room

Start: 7:30 a.m.

End: 8:57 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Nikkie Gullickson, Seth Holden, Rebecca Knutson, Jim Johnson, Robin Nelson

Committee Members Absent: none

Non-Committee Members Present: Jennifer Benson (via phone)

Staff Members Present: Doug Andring, Jackie Gapp, Missy Eidsness, Rupak Gandhi, Robert Grosz

Recorder: AnnMarie Campbell

Agenda Item	Discussion – Conclusion	Recommendations/Actions
Approval of July 22 Minutes	The Committee reviewed and approved the minutes of the July 22 committee meeting.	The minutes will be posted on the Board's section of the public website.
Agenda Planning for September Meetings	<p><i>Refer to Agenda planner for Third Quarter 2021</i> Discussion occurred on the topics needed to be included at the September meetings. The agenda topics were set as follows:</p> <p><u>September 14</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reports: Superintendent Report, FEA Report, SRO Program, Senior High Exit Surveys, Summer School Report• Consent: Annual Compliance Report, Monitoring of GP-1,2,3, School District Financial Report, Award of Bid – Trollwood Storage Building, Award of Bid – Music Instrument Covers• Business: Operational Plan, Postponed motion from August 24• Board Reports: Appoint NDSBA Convention Delegates <p><u>September 28</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budget Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m.• Reports: Superintendent, FEA Report, Trollwood Performing Arts School Report,• Student Wellness Family Facilitator Report, R/SI-4: Engagement & Experience in Co-curricular Activities Monitoring Report• Consent: Work Session Summary, Annual Approval of AP 4715, August Financial Reports, Monitoring of GP-4,5,9,10, Monitoring of EL-16• Business: Budget Final Approval, MOU Committee Appointments• Board Reports: Committee Work Goals <p>Typically, administration brings the Strategic Plan for reapproval to the Board in September. However, administration plans to seek community input on the plan at the annual State of the Schools Address and Public Focus Group in January. After that input is received, administration will work to update the plan and bring it to the Board for reapproval.</p>	
Work Session – September 21	A work session has been planned for September 21 in the Board Room starting at 8:00 a.m. Discussion occurred on potential agenda items, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adding items to Board agendas & GP-2E (30 minutes)• Long term planning – ECSE & Hawthorne Addition, other large projects (1 hour)• Special Education program evaluation (UofM presenting) (1 hour)	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Budget review (before approval at September 28) (45 minutes) • Committees from negotiations (1 hour) • Standard of Effort Considerations & Budget <p>Consensus was reached that the Standard of Effort agenda item will be postponed until the spring or summer 2022 work session after other long term planning projects are decided and the salary structure committee has completed their work. Therefore, the agenda will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding items to Board agendas & GP-2E • Long term planning – ECSE & Hawthorne Addition, other large projects • Special Education program evaluation (UofM presenting) • Final Budget review (before approval at September 28) • Committees from negotiations <p>The goal would be to conclude the work session by 3:00 p.m. but there is a hard stop of the session by 4:00 p.m. due to a Health Insurance Committee meeting scheduled that day. Dr. Gandhi, Rebecca Knutson, and AnnMarie Campbell will finalize the agenda and preparations for the work session.</p>	<p>Agenda topics for the work session were determined; Dr. Gandhi, Rebecca Knutson, and AnnMarie Campbell will finalization work session preparations.</p>
Mobility Report	<p>Robin Nelson requested to discuss the original intent of the mobility report. The report originated about 10 years ago in order to look at graduation rates and transfers to Woodrow Wilson High School. She shared that the report does not have much impact or need at this time. Discussion occurred about the need and continuation of the report, and what Board members and administration are to do with the information from the report. The point that the District does not have control over student mobility was noted. Consensus was reached that the report will not be done biannually; if administration has a concern about mobility, it will be brought to the Board or it will be worked into another presentation (i.e. enrollment or academic performance data).</p>	<p>Consensus was reached to discontinue the bi-annual mobility report.</p>
COVID-19 Board Member/Board Room Protocol	<p>Discussion occurred on the District’s masking requirement inside all FPS buildings and how the policy is adhered to during Board meetings, in particular when Board members or audience members do not adhere to policy. Discussion occurred on the possibility of virtual meetings and if public comment could occur virtually; state law now allows for fully virtual meetings as long as there is access to the virtual meeting for the public. Dr. Gandhi and AnnMarie Campbell would need to discuss options for virtual public comment with IT Director Bill Westrick. Discussion occurred on the possibility of suspending public comment. Consensus was reached to work with administration to allow for audience participation via virtual means only; this change would be effective for the September 14 meeting. Discussion continued on how to host Board meetings, in person or virtual, and any processes for Board members when masking requirements are not followed. GP-12: Addressing Board Member Violations currently ends with censure. Discussion occurred if other items should be added to the policy such as removal of committees, removal from offices, removal from liaison assignments, etc. Committee members did not feel such actions were appropriate. Discussion occurred on mask exemptions, what steps are taken in schools or for staff if someone refuses to wear a mask, and trespassing process for those who are not in compliance. Discussion occurred on how to hold Board meetings, in person</p>	

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	<p>or virtually, due to a Board member not wearing a mask. Consensus was reached to move Board meetings to virtual meetings starting with the September 14 meeting until further notice due to not all Board members being compliant in wearing masks while on district property. The status of committee meetings will be left up to the committee chairs for in-person or virtual.</p>	<p>Board meetings will be held virtually starting September 14 until further notice; how committee meetings will be held will be decided by the committee chairs.</p>
<p>NSBA Annual Conference</p>	<p>A request was made by Board member David Paulson for all Board members to be able to attend the NSBA annual conference in 2022 funded by the District due to the 2021 conference being held virtually (an impact of COVID-19). GP-14: Travel Policy and Procedures for FPS Board Members states:</p> <p><i>Board members may attend the annual National Schools Boards Association conference on a rotating basis as funded by the District. Board members may attend the conference twice in a four-year term, in year one through year three of a term. Exceptions can be made by the Board President. Members should work with the Board Secretary to complete their registration and travel plans within the time deadlines given by the Board President. On off years, Board members may attend the annual conference by personally assuming all associated costs.</i></p> <p>Per policy, four Board members would be eligible for attendance in 2022, which is what is planned for in the budget. Discussion occurred. Consensus was reached to hold to the current policy.</p>	<p>Board member attendance at the NSBA Annual Conference will be based upon GP-14.</p>
<p>COVID-19 Data</p>	<p>Board member Brian Nelson requested the Governance Committee talk about a regular COVID-19 update and review of data agenda item at Board meetings. Discussion occurred. The district will be posting data on Fridays regarding COVID-19. Discussion occurred on how the Board passed a motion to follow recommendations from Fargo Cass Public Health for the 2021-22 school year; if recommendations change, FPS requirements, such as masking, will change. Consensus was reached that Board members be informed of where to find COVID-19 data on our website and that Dr. Gandhi share information to the Board through his Superintendent's Report.</p>	
<p>General Counsel</p>	<p>Dr. Gandhi shared that FPS has hired a lawyer to serve as its general counsel. Effective the September 14 Board meeting, the individual will be attending Board meetings. Additionally, the individual will be attending Board committee meetings. The person will provide legal counsel to the Board but does not have an academic operations background. He encouraged Board members to lean on the individual for legal information; operations information will need to be sought from academic administrators. Discussion occurred. It was noted the individual will not be part of Cabinet at this time.</p>	

The next meeting will be held September 23 at 7:30 a.m.