

EMPIRE SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Due to Safer at Home Orders, this meeting was held virtually.

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES

August 28, 2020

11:00 a.m.

Our mission is to empower students by fostering their innate curiosity, engaging their parents, and promoting optimum learning by collaboratively developing a personalized learning program for each student.

Present:

Craig Schneider, Board Chair Michelle Nagelvoort, Vice Chair Ivo Caouette, Board Director Dianne Mendez-Cantu, Board Director Jessica Large, Board Director Tracey Vela, Board Director (left meeting at 11:34 a.m.)	Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent of Operations Tanya Rogers, Asst. Superintendent of Business Natali South, Director of Executive Support
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- Action: Call to Order**
 - Mr. Schneider called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. and Natali South established a quorum through roll call.
- Action: Approval of Agenda**
 - Ms. Mendez-Cantu moved to approve the agenda.
 - Ms. Large seconded.
 - Discussion: None
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Schneider, Nagelvoort, Caouette, Mendez-Cantu, Large, Vela; 0 Noes; 1 Absent: Rodriguez; Motion Adopted
- Action: Approval of Minutes from June 11, 2020**
 - Mr. Caouette moved to approve Minutes from the June 11, 2020 meeting.
 - Ms. Large seconded.
 - Discussion: None
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Schneider, Nagelvoort, Caouette, Mendez-Cantu, Large, Vela; 0 Noes; 1 Absent: Rodriguez; Motion Adopted

4. **Public Comments**

- None

5. **Public Hearing and Discussion**

- A Public Hearing was opened at 11:08 a.m. regarding the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. No public comments were made and the hearing was closed at 11:11 a.m. The response window will remain open until Sept. 11, 2020, and the plan will be brought forward for approval at the September 14, 2020 Board meeting.

6. **Closed Session – Entered into at 11:12 a.m.**

- Conference with Legal Counsel regarding Potential Litigation

7. **Open Session - Entered into at 11:48 a.m.**

- Report of Action Taken in Closed Session
 - The Board authorized staff to pursue litigation by joining either or both lawsuits as discussed.

8. **Board Comments**

- Mr. Couette: Do we have a plan to reopen our locations once we are off the watchlist?
 - Dr. Hermsmeyer indicated that a definite plan has not been made yet, but that October 1st would be the earliest we would possibly return to classroom instruction. We are closely monitoring the situation and want to return as soon as it is reasonably safe to do so.
- Mr. Schneider: I want to warn against the theory that once a vaccine is the cure for this situation. If and when a vaccine becomes available, it won't have had time to be proven effective or safe, and the whole thing is becoming political.

12. **Action: Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

- Ms. Mendez-Cantu moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:03 p.m.
- Mr. Caouette seconded.
- Vote: 5 Ayes: Schneider, Nagelvoort, Caouette, Mendez-Cantu, Large, 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Rodriguez, Vela; Motion Adopted



Jessica Large, Secretary

09/10/2020

Date

