PARTNERSHIP SCHOOLS

School Governing Board Meeting Agenda March 26, 2024

Notice of Regular Meeting: 9:15 AM

1477 W. Commerce Ct. Tucson, AZ 85746

General Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comment

The Partnership Schools Governing Board welcomes public comment on issues within the jurisdiction of the schools. Comments should be limited to three minutes per individual. At the conclusion of public comment, the Board members may respond to the comments made by the public to the Committee, may ask staff to review a matter, or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. Members of the Committee, however, may not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during public comment unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action. Finally, be advised that internal high school(s) and academy processes are available to students and employees for communication.

Reports:

Superintendents Reports

- Enrollment/Recruitment
- Finance
- Grants
- Infrastructure
- Benchmark Data Review

Action Items:

- Motion to approve Minutes from the January 23, 2024, Partnership Schools Governing Board Meeting.
- Motion to approve SY 24-25 Calendars for Arizona Collegiate High School, LEA Entity ID: 90536 (Pima Prevention Partnership), Pima Partnership Academy, LEA Entity ID: 89864 (Pima Prevention Partnership dba Pima Partnership Academy), and Pima Partnership High School, LEA Entity ID: 79959 (Pima Prevention Partnership dba Pima Partnership School, The).
- Motion to approve the Wellness-policy-evaluation for all Partnership Schools FY24.
- Motion to adopt and approve the FY24 Revised Budget for Pima Partnership Academy (LEA Entity ID: 89864, Pima Prevention Partnership dba Pima Partnership Academy).

Announcements:

The next regular meeting is proposed for April 23, 2024, 9:15a.m. at COPE Community Services, Inc. 1477 W. Commerce Court, Tucson, AZ 85746.

Adjournment:

Partnership Schools Governing Board Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2024, at COPE Community Services
1477 W. Commerce Ct. Tucson, AZ 85746

Members Present:

- Khalid Al-Maskari (Via Zoom)
- Daniella Hisey (Via Zoom)
- Joe Higgins (Via Zoom)
- Richard Paige (Via Zoom)

Staff Present:

- Ian Kidd, Superintendent (In person)
- Rod Cook, CEO (In person)

Guests Present:

- Clarissa Jimenez, COPE (In person)

General Matters:

1. **Call to Order**
   Ms. Hisey called the Partnership Schools Governing Board meeting to order at 9:16 a.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
   The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Public Comment**
   No public comments were made.

Reports

1. **Superintendent's Report**

   a. **Enrollment/Recruitment**
   Mr. Kidd reported to the Board stated enrollment and recruitment is something the schools are always working on. Arizona Collegiate High School has 141 students, Pima Partnership High School (PPHS) has 110 students enrolled. The Pima Partnership High School had to get rid of some students that had behavioral issues or had some gang affiliations. It was about 7-8 students that had to leave PPHS. Mr. Kidd also reported to the Board the Pima Prevention Academy (PPA) revised budget is on the agenda today because it was projected to have 55 students when PPA stayed steady at 45 students.

   Mr. Al-Maskari asked for which school did not meet the projected enrollment numbers. Mr. Kidd stated PPA did not reach the 55 students they had projected for in the budgets and they stayed steady at 45 students throughout the year. Mr. Kidd also reported that Arizona Collegiate High School (ACHS) has a lot of students in their online program, but they cannot have more than 40% of their students in the online program. Mr. AL-Maskari also asked if the marketing company is helping with enrollment numbers. Mr. Kidd reported to the Board in Phoenix is where they are using the marketing company to help with enrollments. The Tucson schools are doing more in-house things to help enrollment like the refer a friend program and going to community events. Mr. Kidd informed the Board the folklorico performers went to the rodeo to perform and at a car dealership event over the past weekend. The Tucson schools also has a recruiter

who goes to other schools and the smaller districts to build relationships and get some kids enrolled in PPP that are having trouble in the bigger schools.

Ms. Hisey asked if Mr. Kidd has seen any changes post COVID with students coming back in-person after being online. Mr. Kidd informed the Board there has not been an increase in students coming back in-person. Recently the Charter Board gave a presentation with the State's total enrollment numbers for students at charter, public, and private schools. There have been about 60,000 students that disappeared during the COVID time, and they have not really recovered them. Arizona has also had a steady decline in the school age population. The charter schools are holding steady with enrollment numbers staying at 30% but the bigger schools are declining rapidly. Partly is due to kids enrolling in online programs and not going in-person.

Mr. Kidd informed the Board the online schooling from their school data collection shows the online schooling is unsuccessful. The online completion rate is way lower than the in-person completion rate. It also affects the testing and the at-risk students or special ed students who can fall further behind with the online model. The online model isn't the greatest because it makes the kids responsible for getting online to do their work when before in-person they had trouble even getting to school. Mr. Cook stated that hopefully the State Board will see the online model is not working well for students or that they make it so you have to meet a criteria to be online.

Mr. Higgins stated that even in North Carolina where he is currently at is at a 10% decrease as well, it is a trend around the country. Mr. Higgins asked if there has been any news or word from the Department of Education about grading test scores on a curve or reducing the cut scores. Mr. Kidd informed the Board there has not been any word on that, but there is a downward trend with the cut scores and if they steadily decline hopefully, they will change some things. Mr. Higgins stated that at least the charter schools have strong grades right now but not as strong as pre COVID. Mr. Kidd stated that the PPP schools are fortunate to that they are not graded just on test scores but other factors as well. If they were graded the same as the higher academic schools, they would not be at the same grades. Mr. Higgins stated the one thing to watch out for is for the COVID kids that were in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades during those times and are now getting to 4th, 5th, and 6th grade they are behind academically. Mr. Kidd informed the Board that yes, even his 6th graders come in two to three grades behind and it really affects those at-risk kids.

b. Finance

Mr. Kidd reported to the Board the finance team will be starting on the new school year's budgets April 1st. The PPA revised budget is on the agenda today and had to be revised due to not meeting projected enrollment numbers.

c. Grants

Mr. Kidd reported to the Board the Esser grants which were during COVID are coming to an end. Mr. Kidd reported the schools and finance teams have been planning for the reduction in funding. There are two teachers that are leaving once the school year is done. One teacher is leaving to become a nurse and another teacher is moving states, so we aren't losing them to another school which is good. These two positions will not be filled, and other teachers will help with the classes they had taught in the next school year.

Mr. Kidd also reported they are looking at other grants to apply for to help get instructional coaches. Hopefully that will be approved to help with the graduation rate as an alternative school.

d. Infrastructure

Mr. Kidd reported to the Board that there are no updates for infrastructure since there have been no issues.

e. **Benchmark Data**

Mr. Kidd reported to the Board the Department of Education wants the benchmark data shared with the Board. Mr. Kidd explained that the schools are an accelerated program so their pre and post test is different than other schools. The PPP schools do a pre and posttest each quarter to see if there is any growth. The benchmark data will be compared to State testing and the state testing will be in April. Mr. Kidd stated the PPP schools do prepare their students for the ACT tests which is usually for students who go on to a 4-year college. A lot of PPP students do not go to a 4-year college, they go to a community college or something similar. PPP schools have submitted the alternative school application which is helpful to the testing and benchmark data.

The teachers should be able to show the growth of their students who attend class regularly. The focus of the benchmark data is to show the growth from the teachers' students. Most teachers can show a 35% growth rate, but if they cannot then that is when Mr. Kidd will sit with them to see why or what other factors affected the rate. Sometimes it can be attendance, behavioral issues, or something else. It is also looked at for different classrooms and other teachers growth rate.

1. **Motion to approve minutes from the January 23, 2024, Partnership Schools Governing Board Meeting.**
The Board reviewed the meeting minutes from the January 23, 2024, meeting.

Motion: Mr. Al-Maskari moved to approve the January 23, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Higgins seconded the motion.

Vote:

Khalid Al-Maskari: Affirmative
Joe Higgins: Affirmative
Daniella Hisey: Affirmative
Richard Paige: Affirmative

The motion was unanimously approved.

2. **Motion to approve SY 24-25 Calendars for Arizona Collegiate High School, LEA Entity ID: 90536 (Pima Prevention Partnership), Pima Partnership Academy, LEA Entity ID: 89864 (Pima Prevention Partnership dba Pima Partnership Academy), and Pima Partnership High School, LEA Entity ID: 79959 (Pima Prevention Partnership dba Pima Partnership School, The).**
The Board reviewed the SY24-25 Calendars for Arizona Collegiate High School, LEA Entity ID: 90536 (Pima Prevention Partnership), Pima Partnership Academy, LEA Entity ID: 89864 (Pima Prevention Partnership dba Pima Partnership Academy), and Pima Partnership High School, LEA Entity ID: 79959 (Pima Prevention Partnership dba Pima Partnership School, The).

Mr. Higgins asked if the calendars were all in line with state regulations. Mr. Kidd informed the Board that all calendars have 180 days of school. The Phoenix high school mirrors the Phoenix union of schools, and the Tucson schools also mirror the TUSD school calendars. The only difference with the PPP schools is they get an Easter break instead of having a teacher grading day every quarter. The reason for that is attendance was down during Easter time and it gives the teachers and students a break before state testing and graduation.

Motion: Mr. Paige moved to approve SY24-25 Calendars for Arizona Collegiate High School, LEA Entity ID: 90536 (Pima Prevention Partnership), Pima Partnership Academy, LEA Entity ID: 89864 (Pima Prevention Partnership dba Pima Partnership Academy), and Pima Partnership High School, LEA Entity ID: 79959 (Pima Prevention Partnership dba Pima Partnership School, The). Mr. Al-Maskari seconded the motion.

Vote:

Khalid Al-Maskari: Affirmative
Joe Higgins: Affirmative
Daniella Hisey: Affirmative
Richard Paige: Affirmative

The motion was unanimously approved.

3. **Motion to approve the Wellness-policy-evaluation for all Partnership Schools FY24.**
Mr. Kidd informed the Board the Wellness policy evaluation is for the school lunch program that should be updated every year. This is to make sure the schools are in line with nutritional and mental health regulations. This is more of a self-reflection to make sure those measures are met. This is also posted on the schools website.

Motion: Mr. Al-Maskari moved to approve the Wellness policy-evaluation for all Partnership Schools FY24. Mr. Higgins seconded the motion.

Vote:

Khalid Al-Maskari: Affirmative
Joe Higgins: Affirmative
Daniella Hisey: Affirmative
Richard Paige: Affirmative

The motion was unanimously approved.

4. **Motion to adopt and approve the FY24 Revised Budget for Pima Partnership Academy (LEA Entity ID: 89864, Pima Prevention Partnership dba Pima Partnership Academy).**
Mr. Kidd informed the Board the Pima Partnership Academy estimated for 55 students for the school year 23/24 but did not meet those measures. The school stayed steady at 45 students, so the budget needed to be revised to show the correct number of enrollments.

Motion: Mr. Paige moved to adopt and approve the FY24 Revised Budget for Pima Partnership Academy (LEA Entity ID: 89864, Pima Prevention Partnership dba Pima Partnership Academy). Mr. Higgins seconded the motion.

Vote:

Khalid Al-Maskari: Affirmative
Joe Higgins: Affirmative
Daniella Hisey: Affirmative
Richard Paige: Affirmative

The motion was unanimously approved.

Announcements

1. **Next Meeting**
   The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 9:15 a.m. at COPE Community Services, Inc. 1477 W. Commerce Court, Tucson, AZ 85746.

Adjournment

1. **Motion:** Mr. Paige moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Higgins seconded the motion.
   The School Board meeting was adjourned at 9:41 a.m.