

SOUTHTECH CHARTER ACADEMY, INC.
SOUTHTECH PREPARATORY ACADEMY, INC.
SOUTHTECH SUCCESS CENTER, INC.
STA/STPA/STSC Governing Board Emergency Virtual Meeting Agenda
April 30, 2020

1. **Call to Order by James Notter at 7:04pm**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call: Lisa DeVine, Board Clerk**
Present: Roger Dunson, Ayesha Edmond, Russell Feldman, Dan Heller, Diane Heinz,
Robert Kesten, Carl McKoy, Suzanne Nicolini, and James Notter
Absent: None.
Quorum
4. **Open Meeting Act Statement:** Proper public notice has been made.
5. **Approval of the Minutes for the STA/STPA/STSC Regular Governing Board/SAC Board Meeting March 12, 2020.**
Motion: Diane Heinz Second: Suzanne Nicolini
All in favor. **Motion carries.**
6. **Introduction and Purpose of the Meeting – James Notter, Board Chair**
Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic we will be conducting Emergency Board meetings via Zoom until we are allowed to get back together again.
7. **Treasurer's/Financial Report for STA/STPA/STSC: Dan Heller, Board Treasurer**
STA/STPA/STSC Finance Committee held a virtual meeting prior to the Board meeting and recommends that the Board approve STA Items C-1 through C-6; STP Items PC-1 through PC-6; and STSC Items SCC-1 through SCC-3. He also detailed the positive financial changes SouthTech Schools has made with a year to date fiscal comparison of each of the schools.
8. **Reports**
 - a. **Board Chair (Superintendent Vacancy) – James Notter**
 - o **Charter Negotiations**
 1. Close to finalizing a 15-year Charter for SouthTech Academy
 - a. Contract to SDPBC School Board by June meeting
 - b. New charter contract runs through 2035
 - c. Two Items to Note
 - i. No Adult Education on new campus
 1. SDPBC taking back total control of all Adult Education sites
 2. STA will be sole occupant on the new campus
 - ii. Will not be able to use 14 portables currently on new campus as the District has locked them in as their resources and not ours (never included in the original Odyssey Property Lease Agreement)
 - b. **Principal – SouthTech Academy – Eileen Turenne**
 - o **Graduation**
 1. Unofficial graduation rate = 99%

2. 95% of graduates have at least one industry certification
3. May 13th – Senior's Last Day
4. May 20th-22nd – Drive-through Senior check out
 - a. Return devices, pick up cap and gown (which students will be allowed to keep), free senior t-shirt, and Mrs. Turenne and Mrs. Konigsberg will be cheering at the end of the drive through with messages posted up on the fence congratulating the Class of 2020 on their hard work
5. May 28th at 6:30pm – Virtual Graduation
- c. **Principal – SouthTech Preparatory Academy – Nicole Handy**
 - o Teacher Appreciation Week
 1. May 4th-8th
 2. Celebrating using non-traditional means
 - a. Teachers will be coming in to clean up classrooms using socially distance guidelines and will be surprised with baskets filled with snacks, GrubHub gift cards and more
 - b. Daily social media posts asking students and parents to express gratitude
 - c. Daily Raffle Drawings to win prizes
 - d. Yard/Door signs
 - o Virtual Moving-On Ceremony
 1. May 27th at 6:00pm
- d. **Committees**
 - o **SouthTech Academy Transition Committee – Steven Kozak, Committee Chair**
 1. Construction ongoing and on target with the July 1st handover
 2. Moving & Packing
 - a. First move will come at the end of May, beginning of June
 - b. Packing will take place over the next 4-6 weeks
 - c. Being handled with utmost caution so as to protect the health of all those involved
 - d. Academic teachers will begin packing their classrooms next week.
 - i. Monday-Thursday, Fridays will be office days
 - ii. By appointment only, without any visitors, wearing masks and gloves, and following socially distancing guidelines
 - iii. Starting with the North portables and Bldg. 2 to make way for South Intensive (moving into old STA campus)
 - iv. Each teacher will be given two 6-hour days to pack (some may need more time and that will be addressed on a case by case basis)
 - v. Team will be there to assist

1. Debbie Buccholz, Steven Kozak, Marilyn Ruiz, Roman Salas, Charles Williams and William Armitage

9. Public Comments on Agenda Items – None.

10. Introduction of Consent Agenda for SOUTHTECH ACADEMY – James Notter, Board Chair (Superintendent Vacancy)

Old Business

None.

Administrative Items

- A-1** I recommend that the Board adopt Policy 1.032 Emergency Policy Relating to School Board Meetings.

Personnel Items

None.

Financial Items

- C-1** I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly Charter school bank account reconciliation for the month ending February 29, 2020 as required by the Sponsor.
- C-2** I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the Charter school monthly Disbursement Report for the month ending February 29, 2020 as required by the Sponsor.
- C-3** I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly financial statements for the month ending February 29, 2020 as required by the Sponsor.
- C-4** I recommend that the Board approve the Amended Transportation Agreement with A&S Transportation, Inc. for SY20.
- C-5** I recommend that the Board approve the transportation agreement with A&S Transportation, Inc.
- C-6** I recommend that the Board approve the contract with Powell Landscaping & Design, Inc.

Emergency Items

None.

11. Poll Board for Items to be Pulled for Comment or Questions

Suzanne Nicolini pulled Items C-4 and C-5.

12. Approval of SouthTech Academy Consent Agenda Except for Items Pulled

Motion: Robert Kesten

Second: Roger Dunson

All in favor. Motion carries.

13. Approval of Each Pulled Item (Item-by Item) – Introduction by James Notter, Board Chair (Superintendent Vacancy)

- a. **C-4:** Ms. Nicolini wanted to know what changes were being made in the new contract with A&S Transportation that justified the increase in fees as these are older buses that do not have air conditioning. She also asked if the buses were going to be stored on our new campus. Ms. McInerney informed her that the buses would not be stored on the new campus, nor would A&S have an office there. She further explained that C-4 is an amendment to the SY20 contract in which A&S had verbally agreed to forgo the 2% annual raise for the year in exchange for us providing those accommodations. This item was needed to have the amendment in writing and applies only to SY20. The agreement for SY21, SY22, and SY23 is part of Item C-5.

Regarding the condition of the buses, Ms. McInerney said that A&S stated they would try to give SouthTech better buses, possibly with air conditioning, but could not guarantee it unless the upgrades are paid for at a cost of \$25.00 per bus, per day to add air conditioning. SouthTech currently uses 15-16 buses at a rate of \$267.00 per day. Therefore, it would cost around \$67,000 to add air conditioning. Any changes in that amount needs to go through the Finance Committee before being brought to the Board. Ms. Nicolini said she had been informed by students that some buses do not have properly functioning windows. Ms. McInerney assured the Board that A&S is in compliance with state and local regulations. She said if there is an issue with windows on a bus they would need to contact A&S on an individual basis, but that can only happen when made aware of an issue. Mr. Notter said he would like to see a procedure put in place for students to immediately notify staff of any issues or concerns. When prompted for options regarding the contract, Mr. Notter explained that the board could wait until May if they felt a new contract was necessary, or pass it tonight with a monitoring piece being drawn up and adopted at a future meeting. Board members agreed that this is a monitoring issue and that student involvement is needed to ensure that A&S is fulfilling their end of the maintenance agreement.

Motion to approve pulled items: Robert Kesten

Second: Suzanne Nicolini

All in favor. **Motion carries.**

- b. C-5: Ms. Nicolini said that the discussion already covered her concerns for both items, C-4 and C-5. No further discussion needed.

Motion to approve pulled items: Robert Kesten

Second: Suzanne Nicolini

All in favor. **Motion carries.**

- c. Mr. Notter agreed to personally meet with an A&S representative to express the maintenance concerns.

14. Public Comments on non-Agenda Items – None.

15. Introduction of Consent Agenda for SOUTHTECH PREPARATORY ACADEMY-

Board Chair (Superintendent Vacancy):

Old Business

None.

Administrative Items

PA-1 I recommend that the Board adopt Policy 1.032 Emergency Policy Relating to School Board Meetings.

Personnel Items

None.

Financial Items

PC-1 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly Charter school bank account reconciliation for the month ending February 29, 2020 as required by the Sponsor.

PC-2 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the Charter school monthly Disbursement Report for the month ending February 29, 2020 as required by the Sponsor.

PC-3 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly financial statements

for

the month ending February 29, 2020 as required by the Sponsor.

PC-4 I recommend that the Board approve the Amended Transportation Agreement

with A&S Transportation, Inc. for SY20.

PC-5 I recommend that the Board approve the transportation agreement with A&S Transportation, Inc.

PC-6 I recommend that the Board approve the Food Services Agreement for FY21 with the Sponsor and authorize the Board Chair to sign all related documents.

Emergency Items

None.

16. Poll Board for Items to be Pulled for Comment or Questions – None.

17. Approval of SouthTech Preparatory Academy Consent Agenda Except for Items Pulled:

Motion: Robert Kesten

Second: Suzanne Nicolini

All in favor. **Motion carries.**

18. Approval of Each Pulled Item (Item-by Item) – N/A

19. Public Comments on non-Agenda Items – None.

20. Introduction of Consent Agenda for SOUTHTECH SUCCESS CENTER

GOVERNING BOARD – Board Chair (Superintendent Vacancy):

Old Business

None.

Administrative Items

SCA-1 I recommend that the Board adopt Policy 1.032 Emergency Policy Relating to School Board Meetings.

Personnel Items

None.

Financial Items

SCC-1 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly Charter school bank account reconciliation for the month ending February 29, 2020 as required by the Sponsor.

SCC-2 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the Charter school monthly Disbursement Report for the month ending February 29, 2020 as required by the Sponsor.

SCC-3 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly financial statements for

the month ending February 29, 2020 as required by the Sponsor.

Emergency Items

None.

21. Poll Board for Items to be Pulled for Comment or Questions – None.

22. Approval of SouthTech Success Center Consent Agenda Except for Items Pulled

Motion: Robert Kesten

Second: Dan Heller

All in favor. **Motion carries.**

23. Approval of Each Pulled Item (Item-by Item) – N/A

24. Public Comments on non-agenda items – None.

25. Board Comments

Mr. Heller asked for an update on the recruitment status of the Executive Director position. Mrs. Melillo stated that they were moving along status quo. The original plan as discussed in the last meeting was to interview the top 7 candidates and bring the top 3 from that group to the Board. However, due to the coronavirus pandemic there was a pause in the timeline while the committee waited to learn more about the reopening of the state. During that time an

email was sent to all 7 candidates to see if they were still interested in the position with only 3 responding affirmatively. It is now up to the board to decide if they would like the committee to interview all 3 of the remaining candidates and present them to the board or if they would like to make a change in the procedures. Also the board will need to decide if there needs to be a change to the timeline. After discussion amongst the board members, it was decided that the selection committee would move forward with Zoom interviews which would be recorded for the board to be able to watch. Board members will submit 2 questions to be asked in addition to the committee's questions, and all candidates will receive the same questions during the interview. After the interviews have all concluded board members will decide which candidates, if any, they would like to bring back to be interviewed by the Board. Mr. Feldman requested that the selection committee not give any recommendations to board members until after they have had a chance to view the recorded interviews so that the board would be objective in their decisions. Ms. Melillo agreed that this was a great plan and said that she would reach out to the candidates and get the interviews scheduled as soon as possible. In the meantime, she will email the resumes of the 3 remaining candidates to Board members. Mr. Notter said that he would follow up with an updated timeline by Wednesday, May 6th. Mr. McKoy encouraged Board Members to review Florida Sunshine Laws, as it pertains to any member communicating with another member, including the Board Chair, about an item that possibly may come up for a vote could be in violation of Florida Sunshine Laws. Board members expressed their gratitude to staff and instructors during these difficult times.

26. Motion to Adjourn

Introduced by: Robert Kesten

All in favor. Motion carries.

Time: 8:33 PM

Minutes Prepared by:

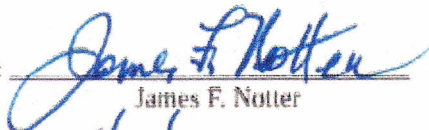


Lisa DeVine

Date:

5/21/2020

Approved by:



James F. Notter

Date:

5/21/20