

## NOTICE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF FLAGSTAFF ARTS & LEADERSHIP ACADEMY, INC. (FALA)

*Our mission is to provide a transformative educational experience by developing leadership and cultivating academic excellence in the arts, sciences, and humanities. The individual growth of each student is supported and animated through our nurturing educational community.*

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02, notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of FALA will hold the following:

- Event: **Special Board** meeting open to the public
- Date: January 19, 2022
- Time: 5:30pm
- Link: <https://meet.google.com/vpi-nbfw-pbw?hs=122&authuser=0>
- Phone: **+1 406-530-8281; PIN: 328 163 830#**

### Event information:

- The Board/committee may consider any item on this agenda in any order and at any time during the meeting.
- Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.4, members of the Board/committee may participate either in person or by telephone, video or internet conferencing speakerphone or other technological devices.
- The Board may vote to hold an executive session for the purpose of obtaining legal advice from the Board's attorney on any matter listed on the agenda pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3).
- Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, 24-hours in advance by contacting Eli Cohen, Executive Director, 928-779-7223.
- Materials for this meeting are available at the following:
  - <http://flagarts.com/category/news/>
  - 3401 N. Fort Valley Road, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

### I. Call To Order - [Virtual Meeting Process](#)

**A. James calls the meeting to order at 5:34PM**

### II. Roll Call:

- A. James Yih, President **PRESENT**
- B. Ron Borkan, Vice President / Treasurer **PRESENT**
- C. Dr. Kyle Winfree, Secretary **PRESENT**
- D. Andy Bessler, Member **PRESENT**
- E. Debra Edgerton, Member **PRESENT**

### III. Approval of Agenda

**A. Ron moves to approve the agenda; Debra seconds; James aye, Ron aye, Kyle aye, Andy aye, Debra aye; Motion passes 5-0-0.**

### IV. Call to the Public:

- A. This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.
- B. Each individual may have five minutes to make a public comment. For the record, please state your full name (first name and last name) before you begin.

- Sarah Edmonds, FALA parent. Been making comments since 2020, Background prior to Psychology includes a Masters in Molecular Biology including research paper; 2 examples of Regulatory Capture - Members of Pfizer's Board are also in the media; Just because CDC and others say something doesn't mean it is true; Alarmed that FALA decided to take two days off given low transmission; Days off are harmful to children; Additionally there are concerns that there is insufficient input as to the Safe Return Plan; Also feels that we do not need to mandate masks to receive ESSER funds, and many schools are not doing so.
- Christina Wolfe, Community Member. Wants to advocate for all of our population including those with delicate medical conditions and also those who suffered much of learning loss. Overall, the request is to do all we can to stay in person to best serve our overall population.
- Blair Stone-Schneider, FALA parent of an immuno-compromised student. Would like to see Sarah's evidence regarding masking and community spread. Also agrees with Christina that we need to try

and maintain in person if we can as that accommodates for most students but also must protect our most vulnerable. Must try and come up with broad plans and continue with mitigation strategies such as masking.

- Christina Wolfe (followup). We all love and support our community and that is what makes us different and reminds us that being graceful and generous with each other is key.

## V. Action Items:

A. Presentation, discussion, and possible action re: Current state of COVID cases, mitigation protocols, learning modes (in-person and online), staff concerns, and recommendations.

- Documentation:

- [Safe Return Plan](#)
- [Instructional Model](#)

- Discussion:

- Eli addresses the current status of COVID on campus:
  - Exposure/Testing:
    - (a) Since returning to campus we have had 15 positive cases on campus.
    - (b) Through contact tracing, we believe 3 of those have come from transmission on campus.
    - (c) To date, only one staff member (not a classroom teacher) has tested positive.
    - (d) Approx. 60 students have been identified as close contacts and are in various states of quarantine depending on vaccination status.
    - (e) Pooled testing will begin twice weekly starting 1/24.
    - (f) Rapid tests are available for staff if needed
  - Mitigation Strategies:
    - (a) Masking remains mandatory indoors.
    - (b) We are providing medical grade masks and KN95s to whomever wants
    - (c) Classrooms are cleaned in between periods
    - (d) We're limiting eating in classrooms
    - (e) Heaters have been added outdoors to encourage more students to be outside.
    - (f) Air filters are being changed regularly
  - Educational:
    - (a) Students currently absent are being marked as Quarantine Present so as not to lose attendance/credit.
    - (b) They are required to contact teachers and stay on top of work
    - (c) We have been informed that students are struggling with keeping up on work due to difficulties with accessing material, and we are working with teachers to streamline this.
- James asks about the effort needed to monitor exposures and absences. Eli indicates that it is mostly he and Meg (Front Desk) who oversee this and that it is certainly a strain on resources. Average 1 hour a day for Eli, and more for Meg.
- Andy asks if there are any rooms that have more filtering concerns than others. Eli indicates that Student Study Center may have given less windows but otherwise no. He suggests looking into CO2 monitors:
  - [NIST Airflow Model Could Help Reduce Indoor Exposure to Aerosols Carrying Coronavirus | NIST](#)
- Andy asks how measures are being received on campus by students. Audrey Baird (teacher/member of Leadership) indicates that students are respectful and interested in all measures. Students clean each room, wear masks, and want to do pooled testing.
- Debra asks if we have any protocols for when we may close. Eli states that there has been lots of discussion, but no set protocol.
- Ron inquires about the opening criteria that we had that has long passed. In theory we are not adhering to these, but they are no longer in discussion. James states that we could set criteria if we wanted to.
- Debra asks about the purpose of this meeting if we are not going to make any decisions.
- James states that this was partially to get an update but we also could propose criteria or other mitigation strategies if we choose.
- Debra states that if we're going to make decisions, we'd like to hear from Staff and Community as to what they want and then support that.
- Christina indicates that the overwhelming desire is to stay in person (kids are cleaning and

want to do all we can to stay) and that things are mostly working. There is community concern that we may be heading into a repeat of 2020, but we are trying to do new strategies to support families and kids. Most are afraid to go online.

- Andy states that the Board should be asking for staff recommendations. He likes the idea of a certain criteria (for example community transmission %). This could be agreed on and then revisit if we hit it. Would still like to hear more from staff.
- Kyle wants to know that if we offer hybrid (ie. more support to families), would that help keep numbers low?
- Carol Hixson (SPED teacher): Agrees with all of Christina's comments and states that there is lots of research that shows how much of a toll going online has hurt students, both learning loss and SEL trauma. She also discussed the SPED department; They are more stretched than before, so for certain we need to do everything we can to stay in person.
- Ron indicates that he knows that schools are staying open irregardless. Kids are catching it more outside of school than in.
- James states that he is a strong proponent of in-person learning, and that there is no substitute for that. He wants to commend all of the staff and Leadership for what we're doing and all the protocols. He's also open to that instead of a threshold, that we go by feel instead, and wants to hear from Leadership/Staff when it becomes overburdening and what they suggest. Essentially, to follow LT recommendations.
- Ron is concerned that time would be of the essence.
- Andy/Christina suggest that perhaps a member of BOD participates in LT COVID discussions if need be.
- Eli states that he appreciates BOD support of LT. This definitely helps rapport with staff and allows us to make emergency decisions if need be knowing that we are supported.
- Debra wants to support staff however we need
- James suggests that he would like to finish the conversation soon and asks for any final remarks or recommendations.
- Kyle would like to establish a threshold (numerical or feeling), and also wants to discuss more of how we can help students who are quarantined. How will we support more and more students online?
- Carol supports that LT be able to handle thresholds
- Eli appreciates the support that we can make the decision but also agrees that we need to have a strategy to best serve students.
- **James/Kyle request that staff and LT will report on thresholds and community spread and what would trigger reduction in learning mode; Would like to have LT present something to BOD as to how we can best provide educational options.**
- **Christina clarifies as follows: Consideration of ideas to support alternative participation in learning and criteria for how students are given access to this.**
- James - Thank you to everyone for participating and having a great and respectful discussion and supporting our community

B. Presentation, discussion, and possible action re: Scheduling of Special Board Meeting to Review Executive Director Evaluation Survey Results

- Surveys are due by the end of the week
- James will take a week to review
- James proposes a couple of different dates that may be possible.
- **Board agrees on 2/7 5:30PM**

VI. Adjournment:

- A. **James motions to adjourn the meeting at 7:04PM; Debra seconds; James aye, Ron aye, Kyle aye, Andy aye, Debra aye; Motion passes 5-0-0.**

Agenda Posted: 2022-01-18 07:10AM  
Minutes Posted: 2022-01-21 12:00PM