

DESTIN HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN FORUM BOARD MEETING

MINUTES taken by HEIDI LOCICERO, secretary

Date/Time: Tuesday August 23, 2022 6:00 Location: Destin High School

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT FOUNTAIN

ROLL CALL Present: FOUNTAIN, SILVER, LOCICERO, STONE, PALMER, LUTTRELL, O'NEAL, NOHRENBURG, HARRIS.

(note: PALMER left meeting prior to new business)

I. MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES MADE BY: PALMER SECONDED BY: STONE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

August 9th 2022

Sent to the board prior to the meeting

II. NO PROPOSED CHANGES TO AGENDA

III. RECOGNIZE SPECIAL GUEST

Myra Williams- Former board member of Founding Board was recognized by the board for her outstanding service and for completing her term. She was awarded a Waterford engraved clock and bouquet of flowers to commemorate the momentous occasion. Myra will move forward as a Board Member Emeritus and indicated that she intends to still volunteer at DHS, help Heidi with marketing and public relations as needed, along with overseeing the Destin Garden Club's butterfly garden on campus. A rousing round of applause was given for Williams.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

V. REPORTS (AS NEEDED) STANDING COMMITTEES

- Grant Committee Drew and Sarah Updates -Impact 100, Triumph:**

· **PALMER reported that Impact 100 Grant is in the review process and the liaison continues to be helpful in guiding us through the submission process.**

· **Triumph application information is being compiled by LoCicero, Stone and Palmer. Waiting on Cruickshank to provide the CTE info and then the application will be submitted. Excellent letter of support given to LoCicero by Mayor Gary Jarvis. Teacher Julie Worth and student Morgan Sparks also provided letters of testimony.**

· **Palmer to give update at next meeting on the amount of “credit” we have with grant writer, Hannah.**

· **Fundraising Sarah -Phase 2 Building campaign: STONE gave financial overview from weekly call with Red Apple and where we stand. Indicated that building fund campaign needs some strategic planning sessions to organize.**

· **PR Marketing Heidi: LoCicero reported that “Walk and Talks with Christine” will begin in September, with the goal of inviting community leaders and stakeholders, to actually view our campus, meet the head of school and find out more on how to support us and give money.**

· **LoCicero reported that a marketing committee is going to be formed to assist with ongoing efforts. Brand standards are being developed for dissemination.**

· **Continued efforts and implementation of better communication is requested between Athletics and the board to stay ahead of media needs, calendar dates, calls to action and parent dissemination. There were 11 news stories that gave DHS publicity in the past 2 weeks.**

- **● IT Chris Harris - IT and security: HARRIS reported that there are still delays with Covid shipments for equipment needed for students and faculty. He is procuring temporary solutions and will follow up on items needed asap. Reported that equipment for new building is in the works, iPads, pro-teachers.**

- **HARRIS set up 2 new board member emails and they are operational.**

- **● Athletics Mitch:**

- **SILVER reported that he spoke to AD DORN to request improved communication and cooperation. Noticed that help is needed in the Athletic realm and now has Kandyce Silver assisting and helping them get organized 1 day per week. This should improve concerns. SILVER reported an interested party expressed willingness to help with a stadium. Discussions continue.**

- **● Facilities Denise: FOUNTAIN reported that the closing was moved back and is expected to take place in the next 2 weeks. She has gathered all necessary documents and is waiting on further instructions.**

- **● Finance Bond Update- Denise: FOUNTAIN gave update on the bond stand point and said we will not return the EM to Owens until we know that the closing is imminent and finalized. County Letter by 8/24 and closing by 9/10/22**

- **Board Liked LoCICERO's idea of each board member writing the Owens family a personal letter of thanks.**

- **Facilities of Weight Room Discussed. 6 weeks for completion. Flooring, Weights 250K, 60K floor. Portables: stairwells need to be moved.**

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- **Janitorial Services are needed for campus daily. Head of School and husband have been coming in to help clean the campus, while Coach E is hospitalized. A call to help to board or staff did not go out. Going**

forward, request to help should be sent to board members and parents to share the work load or we hire temp help.

General Help Discussed: Volunteers arriving first day of school were turned away as "no help needed." Former elementary school teacher experienced offered to work and help. Told no help needed. (Luttrell, Stone) Need to get a procedure for volunteers and what requirements such as finger printing, background checks done, so that staff can utilize help to get caught up. Deputy Henry offered to get requirements for RAPTOR.

- Nominating Committee-Heidi: LoCICERO introduced the 2 new board members, Keli O'Neal and Ashley Nohrenberg. Both received their nametags, details for Governance Training. Stephanie Larabee has accepted the position of Chairwoman of the Board Advisory Council and she is gathering members and a date to being meeting.

VI. AD HOC COMMITTEES: Nothing to report

VII. OLD/CONTINUED BUSINESS

- Website: has been updated by STONE
- Aviation Program Update: LoCICERO indicated that Southern Airways is interested in working with DHS on the program. Timing will have to be the end of the year, once the company goes public or first of the year once operations settles down. LOCICERO to discuss options with a partner of Southern's who may be able to help get the program underway in the meantime, since Crucikshank is ready to offer the program.

Motion made to nominate LoCICERO as board secretary by STONE.
FOUNTAIN seconded. Vote was Unanimous.

- Culinary Update: Passed Health Inspection. Need new warmer, oven, other items. STONE indicted that Audrey/Scott Jacobs offered to

donate. Other restaurant groups offered assistance as well. Outreach to commence.

VIII. INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- ● **Destin Water Users-Update: FOUNTAIN is working with DWU to determine exactly what the new water credits and costs will be. Received word from board attorney, ARNOLD, that charter schools should not be charged, as public in the state of Florida. FOUNTAIN to investigate and make a plan of action.**
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- ● **Board Advisory Council-Stephaine Larbee accepted Chairwoman position**

Description of the council and Call for nominations: LOCICERO and FOUNTAIN will collaborate, get Larabee names and move forward with date of first meeting.

IX.. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Announcement of OCSB races early results made: Kelly, Evanchyk winning, Lamar and Buckman neck and neck as of now. Polls to close in 5 minutes.

1. **MIKE PARKER, educator in Fishing Program and community member addressed the board with gratitude for the willingness to implement the Fishing Program and discussed its success and popularity of the program thus far. Complimented head of school on leadership and expressed interest in growing the fishing program. Mentioned that he is seeking an additional instructor to help with the program. Indicated that additional staffing in the office of school would be helpful. Shared the new curriculum textbook and guide. Reported record numbers of applicants for the Fishing program.**
2. **PREBBLE RAMSWELL, former board president addressed the board to express concern over the social media posts by a current board member, regarding the Okaloosa County School Board election candidates. Felt Palmer was vocal about her**

bringing negative light to the board, when she faced adversity, yet he was doing the same. Said parents and locals have mentioned the Facebook group and the posts specifically to her expressing concern. Several on the board said they too, had heard the feedback.

Expressed concern and frustration that she feels we're "rewriting" the history of the board and school's start to leave her out of the conversation as a founder, following the challenges she encountered in 2021. She offered her continued support and paperwork that she has, to continue helping the board work on the success of the school. LoCICERO reminded RAMSWELL that her service on the board was appreciated and recognized often. Her photo continues to hang in the school lobby as a founder and her dedication to the greater mission is admirable. RAMSWELL, mentioned a few areas of concern and FOUNTAIN pointed out that those areas are up to date and being tracked according to our bylaws. HARRIS commended RAMSWELL for her past service on the board and attempted to make a motion to recognize RAMSWELL as a board member emeritus, however, he was reminded that New Business portion was over and that would be a next meeting topic, if he was so moved.

STONE and FOUNTAIN echoed statements of admiration and support for RAMSWELL and reminded her that we are doing everything we can to keep the school moving forward in a positive direction and welcome her help and volunteering. Thanked her for being chairwoman of the DHS 5K. Ramswell to send board and Marketing/PR the details once information is received from DORN.

3. Deputy Henry gave the board information on what OCSD steps volunteers have to take with regard to background checks and fingerprinting, if they are to volunteer on campus. RAPTOR approved is necessary.

FOUNTAIN saw no further public commenters and the meeting was dismissed ADJOURNED.

