



Real Learning for Real Life®



**MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR SIATech, Inc.  
SIATech and SIATech Academy South Charter High Schools  
August 17, 2021**

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME GUESTS**

*Chairman Fickel called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. The Chair recognized a quorum. In addition to Chairman Fickel, board members present virtually were Terrance Mims; Don Haught; Jane Ross; Francisco Sanchez; Esmeralda Lopez; and Bobbie Arterberry III. Other participants include central office and site staff.*

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

*On a motion from Francisco Sanchez and seconded by Don Haught, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as posted.*

**APPROVED**

1. Regular Meeting Agenda for August 17, 2021
2. Regular Meeting Minutes for June 15, 2021

**RECEIVED**

3. Monthly Financials through July 31, 2021

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**

**IV. PUBLIC HEARING**

**4. Independent Study Policy Changes**

- a. SIATech Independent Study Board Policy #6101
- b. SIATech Academy South Independent Study Board Policy #6101

**Open Hearing: Time 5:05 p.m.**

**No Public Comments**

**Closed Hearing: Time 5:17 p.m.**

**V. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

5. **Approved** SIATech Independent Study Board Policy #6101

*On a motion from Bobbie Arterberry III and seconded by Francisco Sanchez, the Board unanimously approved the SIATech Independent Study Board Policy #6101.*



6. **Approved** SIATech Academy South Independent Study Board Policy #6101  
*On a motion from Terrance Mims and seconded by Francisco Sanchez, the Board unanimously approved the SIATech Academy South Independent Study Board Policy #6101.*

7. **Approved** SIATech Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention  
Board Policy #5141.52  
*On a motion from Terrance Mims and seconded by Don Haught, the Board unanimously approved the the SIATech Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention Board Policy #5141.52.*

8. **Approved** SIATech Academy South Suicide Prevention, Intervention and  
Postvention Board Policy #5141.52  
*On a motion from Terrance Mims and seconded by Don Haught, the Board unanimously approved the SIATech Academy South Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention Board Policy #5141.52.*

9. **Received** SIATech Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention  
Administrative Procedures and Protocol #5141.52  
*On a motion from Don Haught and seconded by Francisco Sanchez, the Board unanimously approved the receipt of the SIATech Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention Administrative Procedures and Protocol #5141.52.*

10. **Received** SIATech Academy South Suicide Prevention, Intervention and  
Postvention Administrative Procedures and Protocol #5141.52  
*On a motion from Don Haught and seconded by Francisco Sanchez, the Board unanimously approved the receipt of the SIATech Academy South Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention Administrative Procedures and Protocol #5141.52.*

## VI. FINANCE/BUSINESS SERVICES

### 11. **Discussed** Note Payable for NEWCorp

Tom Renner provided the Board with historical and current figures on the NEWCorp debt to SIATech. The NEWCorp board did not approved the promissory note we submitted and have asked for a revised plan due to current COVID circumstances. Based on feedback and direction from the SIATech board, the revised promissory note will include 1) payments of \$5,000 per month 2) plus an annual payment of \$88,000 3) 4% interest 4) extension of payments ending in June 2026.

## VII. HUMAN RESOURCES

### 12. Health Benefits Update for 2021-2022

Lin Miller talked about the benefit changes for 2020-2021. Our switch to Guardian for dental benefits includes a -9.3% decrease in cost from current rates with a two-year rate guarantee. Decrements were made to the Blue Shield PPO plan with some office co-pay increases of \$5 and a slight increase to the annual deductible. The Flexible Spending Account maximum remains at \$2,750 for the 2020-2022 year.

Open Enrollment starts August 27 – September 4 and will take effect on October 1, 2021.

## **VIII. REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

### **13. Superintendent's Report**

- a. Superintendent Update – highlights include:
  - Lin Miller spoke about the COVID-19 Testing Program at SIATech in accordance with the recent order issued by Governor Newsome that requires all school staff to either show proof of vaccination status or be tested for COVID-19 at least once a week.
  - We are closely monitoring the enrollment numbers at Job Corps and Independent Study sites; we are no longer in Hold-Harmless for ADA.

- b. Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) Update

Stacey Wilkins provided an overview and update with changes to the ELO since approval at the June board meeting. ELO funds can be used through June 30, 2023, with a possible extension. The five categories that fall under the purpose of direct support and services for students include 1) addressing learning gaps, 2) student support integration, 3) academic services, 4) graduation and college and career completion and 5) staff staining. Once school sites have plans determined, they will go to the central office for review and approval then forwarded to business services for funding.

To ensure ELO funding is equitable, each site will receive a minimum of \$25,000.00. Additional funds will be given to sites based on enrollment following a four tiered-model (additional 5-20k).

- c. Strategic Engagement Plan and Legislative Affairs

Introduction of the Strategic Engagement Team: Dominic DiMare, Arc Strategies, Khieem (Khi) Jackson, Mission Strategy Group and Liz Brenner, SIATech's Chief Development Officer presented on the New Independent Study Regulations, action taken by the group, results, and the impact on SIATech.

Goal 5 of our strategic plan is expanding our impact – by strengthening existing partnerships and building new strategic partnerships to more effectively serve at-promise students. A draft of the SIATech Engagement Plan (SEP) was shared, it is a tool to support this area of focus.

## **IX. BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION**

### **14. Calendar – for information**

- a. SIATech-SAS Board Retreat/Meeting – September 28, 2021/Location TBA
  - (a) Board meeting changed from September 21 to September 28
- b. 2021 RAPSA Forum – November 18-19, 2021 (Virtual)

**15. Proposed Agenda Items for Next Regular Meeting – September 28, 2021**

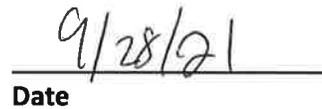
- a. Standard and Staff Reports to the Board
- b. A Special Board Meeting to approve the 2020-2021 unaudited actuals for SIATech and SIATech Academy South is needed before September 15, 2021
  - o Pricilla Perez will coordinate this meeting with the Board.

**X. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD** – The Board chair recognized the September birthdays. Board member Ross expressed her appreciation by acknowledging and thanking all for their hard work and dedication.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT** – 7:21 p.m.

Recorder: Pricilla Perez

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Esmeralda Lopez, Board Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date