



Real Learning for Real Life®



**MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR SIATech, Inc.
SIATech and SIATech Academy South Charter High Schools
August 18, 2020**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME GUESTS

Chairman Fickel called the meeting to order at 11:38 a.m. The Chair recognized a quorum. In addition to Chairman Fickel, board members present virtually were Terrance Mims; Don Haught; Shirley Bullard; Francisco Sanchez; Jane Ross; and Bobbie Arterberry III. Other participants include central office and site staff.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

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

APPROVED

1. Regular Meeting Agenda for August 18, 2020
2. Regular Meeting Minutes for June 16, 2020

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

IV. FINANCE/BUSINESS SERVICES

3. Approved SIATech Unaudited Actuals for 2019-2020

Tom Renner presented the Unaudited Actuals to the Board. Highlights showed an increase of ADA from 1068 at the beginning of the year to 1121 at P-2. This was a stellar year and the second year in a row ending with a sizable surplus. Overall revenue ended 4% higher than the adopted budget and less in overall expenditures. The ADA was counted through February 29 (P-2) is the basis number to be funded on for the current year (hold harmless). Job Corps, Independent Study, and South Sacramento all increased their ADA from the prior year. The fund balance is 4.6 million dollars and restores the levels in 2009-2010. We anticipate no funding increases for the next two or three years, resulting in a deficit next year and the following year. The fund balance will help us get through these times in the future. Economic uncertainties are at a 14% level.

On a motion from Shirley Bullard and seconded by Jane Ross, the Board unanimously approved the SIATech Unaudited Actuals for 2019-2020.

4. Approved SIATech Academy South Unaudited Actuals for 2019-2020

Tracy Brown provided the recap of the SIATech Academy South Unaudited Actuals. She noted the overall revenues totaled \$2,212,752 and expenditures were \$2,174,942 for a surplus of \$37,810. This leaves an ending fund balance of \$837,298, \$673,650 is designated for economic uncertainties (a 31% level). P-2 ADA was at 167. We were able to relocate the Culver City staff to other locations.

On a motion from Cisco Sanchez and seconded by Shirley Bullard, the Board unanimously approved the SIATech Academy South Unaudited Actuals for 2019-2020.

5. Approved SIATech/NEWC Corp Statement of Work for 2020-2021

Mike Hadjiaghai noted the services and fees provided are discussed each year. There are substantial changes this year aimed at independence from SIATech. The two areas of services in the SOW include IT and business/finance. The business/finance services will shift to NEWC Corp as of January 2021. Effective January – June 2021, finance will be available as a source of support but not actually doing the work. The total yearly amount due to SIATech is \$126,000, paid in 12 monthly installments as follows: \$16,000 per month, July – December 2020, and \$5,000 per month, January – June 2021. As of 2021-2022, IT is the only service to be provided. NEWC Corp will be completely self-sufficient after the 2021-2022 SY. NEWC Corp will also transition from a CA to a FL corporation.

On a motion from Don Haught and seconded by Cisco Sanchez, the Board unanimously approved the SIATech/NEWC Corp Statement of Work for 2020-2021 presented.

V. HUMAN RESOURCES

6. Health Benefits Update for 2020-2021

Lin Miller talked about the benefit changes for 2020-2021. Renewal rates for existing medical plan came in high, Marsh & McLennan then marketed our medical benefits to multiple carriers. MMA received an outstanding bid from Blue Shield offering two separate HMO medical plans and a PPO plan. Effective October 1, 2020, SIATech will offer two Blue Shield HMO Plans (limited network and full network), Blue Shield PPO plan and Kaiser HMO. Estimated savings on moving to Blue Shield plans could be as high as a -21%. Flexible Spending Account increased to a maximum of \$2,750 for the 2020-2021 year.

Medical: four medical plan options for all employees next year with decreases in some areas.

Dental: 4% decrease with no plan changes.

Vision and life: rate guarantees until October 2022.

Open enrollment starts August 31 – September 4 and will take effect on October 1, 2020.

VI. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

7. Superintendent Report

a. Communications Plan

- A steering committee has been established
 - Includes principals, teachers, ITAs and central office staff

- SIATech needs an intranet, a centralized location for information
- Two way communication is a focus
- The staff communications evaluation matrix indicates we are somewhat effective as of right now

b. Entry Plan

- Reviewed the three entry plan goals
- Timeline includes three phases
- Entry plan commitments
- Phases 1, 2, and 3 will be used to develop a strategic direction and systemwide plan for continuous improvement
 - Completed by July 2021

8. School Re-Opening Planning Committee Update

Mike Hadjiaghai provided an update on the School Re-opening Planning Committee. The committee is comprised of central office and principals of all three program types. The expected completion date is August 31, 2020. Plan details will be provided to staff at the upcoming Learning Summit and the re-opening plan will be presented to the Board in September.

Liz spoke to the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan, to be adopted by the Board by September 30, 2020. A public hearing and budget will take place at a board meeting prior to the adoption. It is a comprehensive explanation on how the LEA supports its students and their families during the pandemic. It ensures all schools are publishing what they are doing, in English and in Spanish. Within five days after adoption, we will file the plan with our charter authorizers and county offices of ed. The School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) will be completed later this year.

9. Update from the CA Sites

Nicole Taylor talked about the principal leadership committee, a principal framework to ensure we are meeting all needs. A survey was sent to principals to assess their needs to include in the framework. We are also working on distance learning plans for each sites and improving on our areas of need for students and staff. Job Corps sites are working with their partners to ensure we are meeting the needs and deploying devices.

10. Instructional Report

a. SIATech WASC Accreditation

Liz Hessom shared the official letter reflecting the six-year WASC accreditation status with a one-day mid-cycle visit, through June 30, 2026.

11. Capitol Update

Ernie Silva noted the 2-year California State Legislature sessions adjourn in August.

SIATech Support Bills

- AB 1007 (Jones-Sawyer)
- AB 1384 (O'Donnell)
- SB 1296 (Durazo)

VII. BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION

12. Discussed Board Candidate Search Update

Jane Ross provided a summary to the Board and asked for input on next steps.

The committee agreed to meet and further discuss, then come back with a recommendation at the next board meeting. Jane will send a template and a timeline to the Board and update the candidates on where we are at with the process.

~~**13. Discussed Shirley Bullard Scholarship**~~

14. Discussed Board meeting start times

Michael Fickel polled the board members for their preferred board meeting start times. The desired start times varied and unable to reach a decision at this time. The September board meeting will remain at 11:30 a.m. and this topic will be revisited at the next board meeting.

15. Discussed and set a Special Board Meeting in September

- a. September 22 at 11:30 a.m. has been added to the board calendar for a Special Board Meeting to adopt the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan for SIATech and SIATech Academy South.

16. Calendar of Upcoming Events – *for information*

- a. SIATech Learning Summit August 26-28, 2020

22. Proposed Agenda Items for Next Regular Meeting – **September 15, 2020 11:30 a.m.**

- a. Standard and Staff Reports to the Board
- b. Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan Hearing
- c. Board Candidate Search Update
- d. Board meeting start time
- e. Superintendent
 - Entry Plan
 - Communications Plan
 - Leadership Coaching

VIII. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD -- None

IX. ADJOURNMENT -- 2:21 p.m.

Recorder: Pricilla Perez



Don Haight, Board Secretary



Date