



Real Learning for Real Life®



**MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR SIATech, Inc.
SIATech and SIATech Academy South Charter High Schools
September 15, 2020**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME GUESTS

Chairman Fickel called the meeting to order at 11:31 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 Terrance Mims and seconded by Shirley Bullard, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as posted.

APPROVED

1. Regular Meeting Agenda for September 15, 2020
2. Regular Meeting Minutes for August 18, 2020

RECEIVED

3. SIATech-SAS Financial Reports through August 31, 2020

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

IV. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

4. Superintendent's Report – Highlights include:

- a. Communications Plan
 - i. The goal is to increase internal communications, we are now in the planning stages.
 - ii. Thanked the internal communications steering committee volunteers for their valuable input.
 - iii. Identified 5 key internal communications challenges and launched the SIATech Intranet "SIATech Hub" to help focus on the top priorities.
 - iv. Established a regular check in with principals, a *virtual roadshow* to connect across the state.
- b. Entry Plan – Currently in Phase 3: Analysis
 - i. Review of data to identify performance gaps.
 - ii. Audit of instructional core to ensure high-quality teaching and learning.



iii. Conduct an equity audit to assess organizational needs with respect to diversity, equity and inclusion.

c. Leadership Coaching and Board Development

i. Leadership and Coaching – Terrance will reach out to the suggested resources and discuss possible individuals to assist with this effort at the October board meeting.

ii. Board Development – Terrance started the conversation of a board retreat or workshop. Further discussion will take place once the new board member has been installed.

5. Safe Re-opening Plan Update

Mike Hadjiaghai reviewed the SIATech School Re-opening Plan with the Board. He emphasized the three different program models; classroom-based, independent study and community based. These sites are in multiple counties and the guidelines may differ by those locations. This plan was presented at the Learning Summit and will be shared at the All Staff Meeting tomorrow. The Safe Re-Opening Plan will be posted on the SIATech website as well as the SIATech intranet.

6. Instructional Report

a. Learning Summit

i. This is the second summit held in a virtual setting. Positive participant quotes were displayed for viewing.

ii. Used the Whova app (event management software): data shows 163 attendees, 235 photos shared and 2,443 community messages.

iii. Introduced Guiding Principles for Continuous Improvement: Clarity, Coherence and Collaboration. The equity and inclusion initiative was made known along with the key concepts of the framework.

7. Capitol Update

Ernie Silva indicated the legislature is in recess until January 2021. The CDE adopted new career readiness measures for DASS schools including Job Corps and WIOA and will show up on the dashboard next year. Credit will be given for Job Corps and WIOA completion. NJCA is confident there will be funding for JC Chromebook distribution in the near future. The 2020 Virtual RAPSA Forum is fast approaching. An invitation will be sent to all SIATech board members to participate in the event.

V. **BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION**

8. **Approved** DASS Renewal for SIATech

9. **Approved** DASS Renewal for SIATech Academy South

Linda Leigh presented a snapshot based on data of all May 2020 active students. To qualify for Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS), schools must serve at least a 70% at-risk population. The nonduplicated counts for SIATech and SIATech Academy

South include areas of credit deficiency, recovered dropouts, foster youth, homeless youth, as well as the percentage totals of these categories. Linda Leigh asked the Board to approve the three-year DASS renewals for SIATech and SIATech Academy South.

On a motion from Shirley Bullard and seconded by Jane Ross, the Board unanimously approved the DASS Renewals for SIATech and SIATech Academy South as presented.

10. Discussed Board Candidate Search Update

Jane Ross discussed the process taken by the subcommittee to identify the final candidate to move forward for recommendation. The committee has selected Esmeralda Lopez to serve on the Board for a 3-year term. The Board will vote on the board candidate recommendation at the Special Board Meeting on September 22, 2020.

11. Discussed Board meeting start times

Michael Fickel led the conversation of changing the start time of the SIATech Board Meetings. After further discussion, the Board agreed to allow Michael Fickel and Terrance Mims to converse further and bring back a time for discussion at the Special Board Meeting on September 22, 2020.

- Special Board Meeting on September 22, 2020 to start at 12:00 p.m.
- Special Board Meeting on September 29, 2020 to start at 12:00 p.m.

12. Calendar of Upcoming Events – *for information*

- a. Special SIATech Board Meeting – September 22, 2020 12:00 p.m.
- b. Special SIATech Board Meeting – September 29, 2020 12:00 p.m.
- c. 2020 RAPSA Forum – November 18-20, 2020 (Virtual)

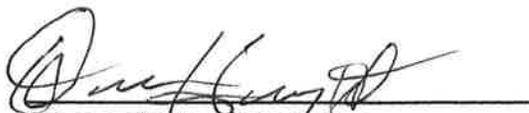
13. Proposed Agenda Items for Next Regular Meeting – **October 20, 2020 11:30 a.m.**

- a. Standard and Staff Reports to the Board
- b. Seat New Board Candidate

VI. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD – None

VII. ADJOURNMENT – 1:09 p.m.

Recorder: Pricilla Perez



Don Haught, Board Secretary



Date