



THE FRENCH AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARIZONA
French Immersion Charter School

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 13, 2020

An Emergency Meeting of the FrenchAm Academy Board was called to order in the FrenchAm Academy Front Office by Corinne Arnout at 4:35pm. Amy Shaw took roll and the following members were present:

- Corinne Arnout, Board President
- Vanessa Anspach, Director
- Roch Renaudot, Director
- Amy Shaw, Director
- Jaye Williams, Director, Absent, proxy vote to Vanessa Anspach

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Patrice Arnout: Wants to know if the State of Arizona will pay for the students as usual during any time the school may be closed.

Julie Scanio: Wants the Board to vote that all FrenchAm schools be closed for a minimum of 14 days, the incubation period of COVID-19, per the Centers for Disease Control.

NEW BUSINESS

1. FrenchAm Academy response to COVID-19
 - 1.1. General discussion of the COVID-19 situation and appropriate response was held. Points discussed included:
 - 1.1.1. Whether the State would continue to pay for students during time of closure
 - 1.1.1.1. Vanessa Anspach requested an email be sent to both the AZ Dept of Education School Finance group and to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools to ask this question and determine an answer.
 - 1.1.2. How long to close
 - 1.1.2.1. Various options were discussed including a one week vs two week closure

- 1.1.2.2. Online resources were consulted; CDC says symptoms show between 2-14 days following exposure to COVID-19. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html>)
- 1.1.3. Guidance from the Governor Ducey
 - 1.1.3.1. The question was raised to possibly wait for guidance from the governor before closing the schools. It was decided that the vote would be taken to decide if they would close. If yes, then it was decided to allow no more than one additional day for guidance from the State to come in before announcing to the parents to allow them as much planning time as possible.
 - 1.1.4. Idea of online instruction/homework
 - 1.1.4.1. It was determined that the school's 149 day calendar currently allows for approximately 1117 hours of instruction. As the minimum hours for grade 4 is 890, the maximum of all grades, we currently have an additional 227 hours in the current schedule. This allows for prolonged school closure before alternative methods of instruction would need to be utilized.
 - 1.1.4.2. It was also discussed that our charter precludes online instruction; we are authorized for in-person, instructor-led instruction not online.
 - 1.1.4.3. It was decided that resources and suggestions for parents wishing to continue at-home learning would be provided commensurate to what is recommended each year for summer break.
 - 1.1.5. Deep cleaning
 - 1.1.5.1. A second deep cleaning was suggested to happen during the time of closure.
 - 1.1.5.2. It was decided the current professional cleaning crew engaged to provide janitorial services would be requested to continue to come as normal during closure and work to deep clean the entirety of both schools.
- 1.2. Corinne Arnout moved to close FrenchAm Academy until Monday, March 30, 2020. Amy Shaw seconded. Motion carried unanimously (Anspach, Arnout, Renaudot, Shaw, Williams (via proxy to Anspach)).
- 1.3. AZ Merit testing was discussed, since it begins on Monday, March 30th when we return from the closure. We will await further guidance from ADE on this.
- 1.4. Communication Plan
 - 1.4.1. An email will be drafted to be sent to all parents tomorrow afternoon informing them of the school closure. The email will include guidance on:
 - 1.4.1.1. Resources for updated COVID-19 information from the CDC, ADHS, and ADE
 - 1.4.1.2. Rescheduling of events from 3/16 - 3/29 including:
 1. Parent-Teacher Conferences
 2. Move to Chandler Parent Information Sessions

1. It was agreed to notify parents that the move is unaffected by these events but info sessions will be rescheduled.
 3. Java “Bake Sale” Thursday
 4. Dinosaur Visit
 5. Scholastic Book Order
- 1.4.1.3. AZ Merit Testing - awaiting further guidance
 - 1.4.1.4. Cancelling their Lunchkins orders
 - 1.4.1.5. Adjustments of fees paid for Friday Care for Q4
 - 1.4.1.6. Deep cleaning of school during closure
 - 1.4.1.7. Hours of instruction allowing for prolonged school closure
 - 1.4.1.8. Resources/guidance for at-home learning as given during summer break
 - 1.4.1.9. Reminder to watch email for all further updates during the evolving situation
 - 1.4.1.10. Thanks for parent patience and flexibility
- 1.4.2. This email will be sent to staff just before it is sent to parents.
- 1.5. General Sick Policy changes
 - 1.5.1. It was discussed to possibly amend the current Absence policies and procedures to meet the needs of the COVID-19 outbreak. It was decided to wait for further guidance on the matter as the situation evolves and to reconvene the Board at such time as this guidance necessitated a response or change to policy.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Shaw

