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APPROVED MINUTES

CORAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE LAS VEGAS SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Meeting Information

Date: Monday, October 1, 2018

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Sandy Ridge Campus, 1051 Sandy Ridge Ave. Henderson, NV 89052

Posting of Agenda:

This agenda was posted at the following locations:

Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas ("CASLV"), Green Valley Library, Enterprise Library, James Gibson Library, Paseo Verde Library, Whitney Library, CASLV website at www.caslv.org, and Nevada Public Notice website at <http://notice.nv.gov>.

Format / Procedures / Rules:

[See Agenda for information regarding format, procedure, and rules governing the meeting]

Agenda

Call to order Ms. Diggins called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Roll Call Present: Ms. Diggins; Ms. Hayman; Ms. Kazelskis, and Dr. Warren.

Mr. Tandogan and Mr. Gibson joined the meeting via teleconference (Mr. Gibson left the meeting at 6:00 pm, Mr. Tandogan left the meeting at 6:20 pm). Absent: Mr. Zhang.

Pledge of Allegiance

A. Public Comment (*Information*)

[Please see the Agenda for the procedures and rules regarding Public Comments.]

There were no public comments at this time.

B. Consent Agenda (*Possible Action*)

[Please see the Agenda for the procedures and rules regarding the Consent Agenda.]

1. Approval of August 28, 2018 Special Board Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the Special Board Meeting Minutes, by Ms. Diggins, Seconded by Ms. Hayman.

ACTION: Motion unanimously carried.

2. Approval of September 8, 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the September 8, 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, by Ms. Diggins, Seconded by Ms. Hayman.

ACTION: Motion unanimously carried.

C. Discussion/Possible Action Items

1. Contracts, Purchases and Procurements below \$50,000

a. Two Chromebook sets for Eastgate campus

The total amount not to exceed \$15,373

b. Air Conditioning Repairs by Southwest Air Conditioning at Nellis campus

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- The total amount not to exceed \$17,701
- c. Science textbooks for Nellis campus
The total amount not to exceed \$17,820.80
- d. iReady Intervention Curriculum Software for Nellis campus
The total amount not to exceed \$16,500
- e. Oven and Fridge for Eastgate campus
The total amount not to exceed \$13,314.89

Ms. Diggins noted in the September 8, 2018 Board meeting, the Board approved items together, and asked all members and Mr. Gibson on the phone if it is fine to do again and he said yes. Ms. Diggins asked the board if they would like to discuss any of these items a - e individually after reviewing the documentation that was provided to everyone in advance; the answer was no. Mr. Ercan noted that the air conditioning repair charges at our Nellis campus are not new charges and were previously approved, but it was an estimate of about \$14,000 and the repairs ended up being \$17,701.

Ms. Hayman motioned to approve the allocation of money towards items a - e, seconded by Dr. Warren.

ACTION: Motion unanimously carried.

D. Approval of General Contractor for Nellis Campus Construction (Discussion and Possible Action)

Architect Kevin Grant and project manager Ram Janga discussed the Nellis campus construction project. Throughout September, they worked with the two board selected contractors on getting the project bid pricing down by removing some features. The two contractors, DC Building Group and Nevada General Construction, have worked diligently on rebidding the project based on new information and newly required design drawings. It was noted that both companies have good references and generally produce high quality work; competency is not a concern.

Both contractors came back to Mr. Janga and Mr. Grant last Friday with the best numbers they could provide after reviewing the revised specifications with their subcontractors. Nevada General Construction came in at \$17 million and DC Building Group came in at around \$13.8 million. Nevada General Construction said this is their final number and that they could not revise it downwards.

Mr. Grant mentioned that DC Building Group is still waiting on some numbers from certain subcontractors. Mr. Janga assured the board of directors that the number will only go down from here. There are more building modifications (and resulting cost deductions coming), and they hope to bring the cost down to about \$12.5 to \$12.9 million.

Mr. Grant and Mr. Janga also noted that DC Building Group was willing to commit to a 10-month construction schedule, which would permit opening prior to the 2019-20 school year.

Mr. Grant and Mr. Janga recommended DC Building Group as the top choice for the project.

Mr. Ercan and Mr. Janga clarified that the original contractor's contingency was \$100,000. Mr. Janga noted that this amount is now \$260,000, and that we will have a more definite contingency number once the revised drawings are finished.

Ms. Diggins asked if everything is included and Mr. Grant confirmed that this includes everything but furniture.

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The board also asked whether the plans reflect input from the school's teachers, I.T. specialists, and so forth. Will internet be available throughout the school where needed? Has Mr. Deniz reviewed the floor plan? Yes. Mr. Grant and Mr. Janga confirmed this with the board of directors, and added they had long meetings with the school's administrators and teachers (at CASLV and even other schools) to obtain their input for the project.

Mr. Grant and Mr. Janga noted that the bullet proof glass cost is down to \$80,000. A bidder's error and glazing were driving the cost up. They also noted several design elements were removed from the project to reduce the overall cost. Ms. Diggins asked if the conversation had been continued regarding accessing the gym facility located across the street. The answer was that Nellis AFB has previously confirmed that the facility will be available for the students to use.

There was a plan for a soccer field, two outdoor basketball courts, and a stage in the multipurpose room, but those were eliminated so as to reduce construction costs. Ms. Hayman noted the importance of having the stage for school performances. Mr. Grant noted the original plan for the stage was elaborate, with elevation, but that we can most likely do a smaller, less elaborate stage. The board agreed this is important. Mr. Grant will revisit this, as the more elaborate version is the only item that cannot be added later.

Mr. Tandogan asked about financial projections. A presentation was made by Mr. Sarisahin, where he discussed debt service and related figures under \$14 million and \$13 million scenarios (for the Nellis campus construction budget, exclusive of the Tamarus and other bond costs). Under the most expensive scenario (\$14 million), the school's overall spending on facilities (relative to its income), arising out of all three bond issues, would remain under the national average of 15%.

After discussions re. the framing of a motion, the Board considered the following motions:

Dr. Warren submitted a motion: (1) to approve a ranking of the last two bidders with DC Building Group in first place; (2) to adopt a not-to-exceed cap for the construction contract of \$13.8 million (but without prejudice to the Administration's intention to reduce the final number significantly); and (3) to bring the matter back to the board if discussions with DC Building Group break down. Seconded by Ms. Hayman.

ACTION: Motion unanimously carried.

At about 6:20 pm Mr. Gardberg asked the board to vote on reopening this item and secondly to supplement the motion above. Ms. Diggins made a motion to reopen Item D. Approval of General Contractor for Nellis campus, seconded by Dr. Warren.

ACTION: Motion unanimously carried.

Following discussion, Dr. Warren presented a second motion, (4) to add in approval of the owner's contingency in the amount of \$300,000; and (5) to adopt a not-to-exceed cap for the construction contract, inclusive of the owner's contingency, of \$14 million (therefore dropping the cap exclusive of that contingency to \$13.7 million) (but without prejudice to the Administration's intention to reduce the final number significantly). Seconded by Ms. Hayman.

ACTION: Motion unanimously carried.

E. Approval of Increased Kindergarten Size for Eastgate campus (Discussion and Possible Action)

Mr. Ercan informed the board that—as in the past for our Centennial and Nellis campuses—the Administration would like to increase the Kindergarten class size from 21

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to a maximum of 25 students at our Eastgate campus. Per the Department of Education, we need board approval to increase the classroom size. It will be in alignment with Section 32 of Senate Bill 515 (2015).

Mr. Ercan mentioned that we have very large classrooms at this campus which can accommodate 25 students, and we will not go above 25 students. Ms. Hayman noted a cap of 25 students is academically reasonable. Ms. Kazelskis asked what school year this is for and Mr. Ercan said this is for the 2018-19 school year, indefinitely.

Ms. Diggins motioned to approve increase the Kindergarten size to 25 students at our Eastgate campus, seconded by Ms. Hayman.

ACTION: Motion unanimously carried.

F. Approval of Renewal Application (Discussion and Possible Action)

Mr. Ercan reviewed the application with the board and noted that the only change from what was previously provided as part of the supporting documents is regarding the enrollment numbers on page 3, as the SPCSA wanted us to add the enrollment numbers as of October 1st. The school is in good standing in its financial performance and organizational performance over the last 5 years.

Mr. Ercan explained why we had low “cohort” graduation rates in 2012/2013 due to 9th graders that withdrew from the school over time and were difficult to track down at their transferred schools during school’s first years of high school operation. Mr. Ercan showed the board that the next year, the rates increased by 50%, and are up to 95% & 96% in recent years. Ms. Hayman noted this is impressive.

Mr. Ercan noted the State’s recently released star ratings for the school in 2017-2018 are as follows:

<i>Campus</i>	<i>Ranking</i>
Tamarus (Elementary)	N/A (there was no state SBAC testing grade level at Tamarus last year; starting this year, Tamarus will have 3 rd graders and they will get a star rating)
Windmill (Elementary)	5 stars
Sandy Ridge (Middle)	5 stars
Sandy Ridge (High)	5 stars
Centennial (Elementary)	4 stars (narrowly missed 5 stars)
Nellis AFB (Elementary)	4 stars

Windmill was one of only two elementary schools in Nevada to have a perfect index score.

Ms. Diggins noted that this charter renewal application is very straightforward and asked if there were any questions or comments.

After Q and A, Ms. Hayman motioned to accept this application for Nevada State Public Charter Authority, seconded by Dr. Warren.

ACTION: Motion unanimously carried.

G. Executive Director’s Update (Information)

Mr. Ercan gave an overview of a recent visit to our Sandy Ridge campus by Holly Ham, Executive Director, and Debra Suarez, Senior Adviser, of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI), on September 10th.

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Mr. Ercan also played a message from Governor Sandoval that was presented at this year's CSAN dinner, announcing Ms. Diggins as this year's Nevada Charter School Education Champion. Mr. Ercan showed images from the two-day event, noting that Coral Academy had much recognition and visibility throughout the conference.

Mr. Ercan reviewed again the NSPF star ratings discussed under Item F above.

Mr. Ercan described a small problem encountered by the school in relation to its student-testing reporting. The NDOE issued a "low participation warning" to our Centennial campus, because in 1 of approximately 22 subgroups—here, the Multi Race subgroup—the school did not meet the required participation rate of 95%. Out of 30 students in that subgroup, 2 students did not take the SBAC test (one of the student's parent opted out and another student withdrew the previous year). A clerical error regarding that withdrawal brought Centennial's rate down to 93.3%.

Mr. Ercan reviewed a chart listing the top 10 ACT composite Average Scores in Nevada. Our Sandy Ridge high school campus is number 5 on the list, with an average composite score of 23.20. Mr. Ercan noted that other schools on this list are all special or magnet high schools, and the two Coral Academies were the only Charters. Ms. Hayman said this is very impressive.

An update of our Sandy Ridge gym construction was given. Mr. Ercan noted that the project completion date is October 15.

Mr. Ercan also informed the board of directors that our debate team placed 5th in large-school sweeps at the September 29th debate and speech tournament.

Mr. Ercan informed the board saying that his administrative team believes staying with the current grade level allocations (among the Henderson campuses) for one more school year (2019-2020) will lead to a healthier transition, for sustaining both the academic quality and strong financials at those Henderson campuses. The recommendation—i.e., Tamarus K-3, Windmill 4-6, Sandy Ridge 7-12—is for one more school year. Then, starting the 2020-2021 school year, the Administration anticipates the following: Tamarus K-4, Windmill 5-7 and Sandy Ridge 8-12.

Ms. Diggins clarified that we are just extending what is happening now, for one additional year. (Mr. Gardberg confirmed that we can keep this item as an "information" item.) Ms. Diggins noted she thinks it is great to keep the board informed but that they do not want to micromanage which grade levels are at which campus.

Mr. Ercan ended his report with a review of the 2018 bond timeline.

H. Closed Session pursuant to NRS 241.015(3)(b)(2), re, certain Legal matters (Information, Deliberation)

The closed session took place from approximately 6:44 pm. – 7:10 pm.

I. Discussion/Possible Action Items

Potential Action(s) re. legal matters heard during the Closed Session (Item H):

There were no actions proposed.

J. Information/Discussion Items

The academic subcommittee members would like to address the issue of excessive standardized testing of CASLV students. Ms. Hayman recommended that the committee schedule a meeting to discuss that with Mr. Gunozu and obtain a brief rationale for the current testing regime. Mr. Ercan noted that ACT Aspire, which is required by SPCSA, is

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being discussed at their Board and hopefully will be removed soon. The board agrees there is just too much testing, especially for the lower grade levels. Ms. Hayman mentioned she thinks it will be great for the board to have an understanding of the current testing schedule. Mr. Ercan will work with Mr. Gunozu on scheduling this meeting.

K. Public Comments (*Information*)

[Please see the procedures and rules referenced in item A above.]

There were no public comments made at this time.

L. Adjournment (*Action*)

Ms. Diggins made a motion to adjourn, Seconded by Ms. Hayman.

Action: Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.