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# APPROVED MINUTES

## CORAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE LAS VEGAS ACADEMIC SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

### Meeting Information

Date: May 13, 2020

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: 8965 S. Eastern Ave, Suite 280 Las Vegas, NV 89123

### **Posting of Agenda:**

This agenda was posted at the following locations:

Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas ("CASLV") website at [www.caslv.org](http://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** Mrs. Hayman called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

**Roll Call** Present: Joined via video and conference call WebEx: Ms. Kazelskis, Ms. Hayman, and Dr. Warren.

Non Board Members in attendance joined via WebEx conference call: Mr. Ercan, Mr. Gunozu, and Ms. Shepard, from the CASLV Central Office

### **Pledge of Allegiances**

#### **A. Public Comment (*Information*)**

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

No public comments.

#### **B. Discussion & Possible Action Items – Academics**

##### **1. Draft Strategic Plan for Future Growth/Development (*For Possible Action*)**

Mr. Ercan explained the need to have this strategic plan and its progress. The board requested at the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting that the subcommittees analyze the draft strategic plan. Mrs. Hayman stated she found a few lines that can be reworded. She also requested permission to edit the document for grammar and sentence structure. Mr. Ercan replied that would be great. The goal of this meeting is to focus on academics within the plan. Mr. Ercan also noted that if other members are not prepared, they can submit feedback at a later date.

Mrs. Hayman asked if anyone has any questions or comments regarding the plan. Dr. Warren questioned campus growth on p. 13. The plan, in her opinion, is a generalized idea of the school's intention, however it does not address the action required to accomplish the growth. Mr. Ercan explained that the information utilized

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in the strategic plan was received from campus principals, campus administrative teams, and lead teachers. The executive team then provided their input after analyzing the information received. Mr. Ercan explained this document is a general strategic plan for the entire organization. Mrs. Hayman suggested in the section titled "Threats" should be reworded to a title such as shortcomings. Mr. Ercan explained that SWOT stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. It is a technique for assessing four aspects of a business. Mrs. Hayman agrees with the use of threats.

Mrs. Kazelskis inquired as to what Kagan Cooperative Learning Program might be. Mr. Gunozu explained that Kagan learning strategies improve student learning engagement through cooperative communication in the classroom. It is a teaching arrangement that encourages students to learn together. Teacher training was scheduled in March of 2020, but unfortunately, was canceled due to the pandemic. We are considering rescheduling them in August. The training promotes collaboration and boosts student confidence as well as motivation.

With regard to the section on Individualized Campus Growth on p. 9, Mrs. Hayman suggested that Windmill campus determine how they would help students to become more motivated and invested in the academic process. Mr. Gunozu stated that the instructional staff intends to give students more autonomy and leadership of their own learning. This clarification will be added to the plan.

The committee reviewed the draft of the strategic plan and will provide their feedback prior to the next board meeting. A summary will also be prepared.

### **2. Distance Learning Update** *(For Possible Action)*

Mr. Gunozu presented the results of the distance learning survey which was administered to all students campus wide. It was discussed that in core subjects (reading, writing, math, and science), students spent 1-2 or more hours per subject. With seven subjects in total, Mrs. Hayman wondered if the amount of workload might be rather excessive. However, nearly 60% of the surveyed students indicated that the amount of workload was just right, with 34% stating it was too much, and approximately 6% indicating it was too little. As a parent, Mrs. Kazelskis indicated that she felt that two of her students were given an appropriate amount of work, with one student being given too little. She added that having all teachers on one platform would be ideal. It could also improve parent involvement. Mr. Ercan noted this is our goal, and we are discussing this with each principal.

Only approximately 23% of the respondents felt that they learned more through distance learning. This response might be reflective of the conscientious and dedicated teachers at CASLV, who created an environment supportive of learning. In addition, nearly 86% of the respondents felt that the interaction between the teacher and students was essential to online learning. Approximately 71% indicated that they required assistance to complete their assignments. These figures indicate that

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although students were working remotely from their homes, students still regarded teacher assistance as essential to work completion, as well as learning.

Mr. Gunozu indicated that grading for report cards would not be punitive. Teachers would consider special situations in which conditions might have prevented a student from work completion (student or family illness, parental work situations, etc.). In such cases, student performance in the previous quarter would be used as the 4th quarter grade. When some students performed poorly on assignments, teachers differentiated in small groups or individually to enhance online learning. Mrs. Kazelskis suggested that students be given more instruction through digital sources, to ensure students better understand the standards being taught.

It was quite remarkable that approximately 77% of respondents felt that they had a remote learning routine, and nearly 70% said that they were able to focus and to get their work done. Mr. Gunozu also indicated that for most weeks, each campus was able to report approximately 99% participation through online learning, with 100% participation in the first week.

Ms. Hayman asked the subcommittee if there was any further discussion and there were no comments.

### **C. Public Comments** (*Information*)

Please see the procedures and rules referenced in item A above. No public comments.

### **D. Adjournment** (*Action*)

Dr. Warren made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Hayman.

**ACTION:** Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:49 p.m.