[](http://forrestbirdcharterschool.org/)

Board Special Meeting

Forrest M. Bird Charter High School

615 S. Madison,

Sandpoint, ID 83864

**Date: Feb 2, 2021**

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|  | Board Meeting Minutes |
| Minutes taken by | Jennifer Greve |
| Board members Present | Stacey Mueller, Kate McAlister (via GoToMeeting), Chris Warren, Jacob Iverson (via GoToMeeting) |
| Staff present | Jennifer Greve, Mary Jensen |
| Guests | Guests attended via Zoom: Lucy Lang, Greta Warren, Misty Rains, Jessyca Kimball, Hillary DeCechhis, Kenda Russell, Bill Krutz, Becky Campbell, Laura Maas, Lyndsay Holland, Amy O’hara, Holly Bronis, Aprill VanAusdal, |
| Call to Order | **Meeting called to order at 4:37 pm Chris Warren**  Pledge of Allegiance |
| Minutes | **Meeting Minutes Chris Warren**  ***Action Item:*** Approval of Meeting Minutes for the meeting Dec 12, 2020  **Date:**  May 5th, 2020   * **Motioned – Kate Mc** * **2nd – Stacey M**   **Approved Unanimously** |

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| Public Comment | Mary Jensen read letters from Aprill Van Ausdel (science teacher at FBCS & parent) and Misty Rains (science teacher at FBCS & parent). |
| Financials | **No Financials for Review** |

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| Open Business | **Discussion: New Board Applicant Jacob Iverson Chris Warren**  Kate McAlister began by sharing her knowledge of Jacob Iverson and his participation with the FBCS. She highly recommends Jacob based on her experience with him through the Leadership work at the Chamber. Stacey Mueller highlighted Jacob’s experience on other boards and with the State of Idaho would be a positive asset to the board. Chris Warren appreciates how prepared Jacob is for each meeting, his asset to the school with his roles within the State of Idaho.  Jacob shared that he hopes to bring open listening, engaged participation and other professional skill sets.  ***Action item:*** *Approval of new board member* **Chris Warren**  **Approval of Jacob Iverson as a new FBCS board member**   * **Motioned – Kate Mc** * **2nd – Stacey M**   Unanimously Approved  Board Chair Chris Warren lead Jacob Iverson in the oath of FBCS board.  **Discussion: Update on COVID-19 Guidelines Mary Jensen**  o Staff Vaccination Timelines: All teachers/staff who wanted the vaccine have received their first dose. Second dose happening now. Three staff had to wait for their vaccinations to mid-February. 2/3 chose to get vaccinated. 1/3 chose not to receive the vaccine. FBCS is ahead of other areas in Idaho with receiving their vaccines. Mary Jensen publicly thanked Panhandle Health for opening up vaccines to teachers in one of the first lines.  o Contact Tracing and Quarantine Guidance Update: Changes have occurred via CDC. If there is a positive student in the building, tracing happens as normal. If another student is found to be in contact with that positive case, they do not have to leave the building unless they are showing symptoms. This is due to the mask mandate at FBCS. Parents of FBCS have been very vigilant about keeping their students home if showing signs of illness or contact.  o Students full-time in the building Discussion: Chris Warren shared that the larger part of this discussion is whether or not to bring students (all students) back in the building. Mary started with President Biden’s recommendations for opening school. 1) strong ventilations systems. FBCS has new, good ventilation. 2) keep masks in building. FBCS is keeping the mask mandate. Mary Jensen shared survey results regarding family and faculty/staff thoughts on returning. It was noted that students had access to the survey so there are students within the family results. Results in the board packet. Dates for possible opening with all students March 1, April, May 3, and next fall. Results in both surveys are very similar.  Stacey Mueller asked if the schedule would change if students came back: move from 6 period day to the 4 period block schedule. The schedule would have to stay the same (the 6 period day) for the remainder of the year. Mary shared some students concerns around continuing to be able to work on their ‘off days’, others about continuing their study days, and that counselors in the community have many appointments scheduled on off days. Jennifer Greve shared that counselors and parents are wanting to know so they can rearrange not only appointments but also family arrangements.  There is a spring break concern regarding families traveling and then coming back possibly exposed. It was noted that if FBCS chooses the April date, students would be coming in right from vacation.  Soft opening in March is an idea where parents/families can decide whether they are in the building four days or stay with their two days. FBCS could do this until trimester 3. At trimester 3, all students would be back in the building.  Busing is a came up as a concern because of the ventilation. The May date allows for all students in the bus with the windows open for the needed air flow.  Stacey asked if a study lab would be added within the 6 period schedule to help students. Mary indicated this would not be able to happen. It was also shared that faculty are thinking about best ways to help students when they return: idea of lessons one day, study lab the next for one on one help.  Chris Warren likes the idea of some consistency for the families. He is concerned about students choosing four days versus two days could create problems. Students could pick and choose if they came to school or not. It was noted that this is occurring already but that parent communication could alleviate this concern.  Parent question read regarding how lunches would work. With the Governor opening Idaho to stage 3, lunches in larger groups and outside an option. Specifically, in the high school, many students leave campus for lunch all others eat in classrooms. In the middle school, students stay in their classrooms unless the teacher takes them out for a walk.  Jennifer’s preference was to begin March 1st. She felt there would little issues with switching gears for families and bussing. She felt it was important to return students to school due to mental health concerns.  Stacey Mueller stated that she feels the timing might be off in bringing the students back in March. She shared positive ideas around preparing for busing, scheduling, changing gears right away.  Chris Warren shared his concerns around students struggling with the online options. He shared thoughts around how a soft opening could allow for those students who really need to be in the building every day can be, and those that don’t need it don’t have to be.  Kate McAlister shared worried about viability of the school. She asked if FBCS would lose more students if we don’t start on March1. Mary Jensen stated that she does not feel FBCS would lose students. Kate then shared her worries about kids being isolated and their mental health.  Jacob Iverson shared that in his personal roles as a coach he is seeing what kids need. He stated the need for connection with friends, teachers and their community. He stated worries around retention for students because they are not getting the academic support they need.  Board in agreement that they all want kids in the building this year. Chris Warren walked through the options again: soft opening, all March, April, May.  Jennifer shared teacher concerns around planning for soft opening. ……. Stacey asked how other teachers feeling about this. Mary shared ideas from teachers from last meeting: teaching to the kids who are “new” to the lesson, others use it as study lab.  Chris Warren asked each board member their initial thoughts on a date.  Stacey Mueller wanted it on record that if teachers are utilizing the option for study lab for those students who were there the day before she appreciates that concern and idea for what is best for students. It was noted that teachers were concerned about making sure they do not pile extra work on students because they are back in the building and instead working with them on missed/lost skills  ***Action item:*** *Bringing students back into the buildings* **Chris Warren**  **Approval of March 1 opening to all students. Families who want can keep the two day a week plan. All students (with exception of IDLA students and any student with medical issues).**   * **Motioned – Kate Mc** * **2nd – Jacob I**   Unanimously Approved |
| Policy | **No Policy to review** |
| Executive Session | **No Executive Session** |

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| Operations/ School Reports | **Building Reports** |
| Adjournment | **Meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm Chris Warren**   * **Motion to adjourn – Stacey M** * **2nd – Jacob I**   Unanimously Approved |
| Next Board Meeting | **February 23, 2021 4:30 pm** |

**Respectfully Submitted: Jennifer Greve**