

MINUTES

Of the Board of Directors of Grow Public Schools

(A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation)

I. PRELIMINARY

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors of this corporation, held their Special meeting at the time, on the day, and at the place set forth as follows:

Time: 4:02pm

Date: July 27, 2022

Location: 5080 California Avenue Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93309

2. DIRECTORS PRESENT

The following directors, constituting a quorum of the Board, were present at the meeting:

Present: Tom Mestmaker, President; Manuel Pantoja, Secretary and Arvin Community Representative; Matt Look, Star Parents of Grow Academy (SPGA) and Parent Representative

Absent: Dr. Jean Fuller, Grimm Family Education Foundation Representative and Ernie Unruh, Kern County Superintendent of Schools Representative, joined via teleconference

Grow Public Schools Staff Present; Dr. Ric Esquivel, Chief of Schools; Doc Ervin, Interim CEO; Michelle Lumis, Executive Assistant; Mike Romero, Chief Operating Officer; Adam Alvidrez; Rick Phillips, Operations Manager; Director of School Operations; Elizabeth Ramos, Interpreter, via teleconference; Zulema Ela, Assistant Principal of Academics, Grow Academy Arvin; Melody Castillo, Accounting Manager; Dr. Monica Jara Guerra, Director of Community Initiatives

Grimm Family Education Foundation Staff Present: RJ Valentino, President; Barbara Grimm Marshall, Founder

Other attendees: Zelinda Cisneros, via teleconference

3. FLAG SALUTE

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT - None

II. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the June 24, 2022, LCAP Public Hearing Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of Purchase Orders and Warrants and Credit Card Registers for June 2022
3. Approval of 2022-23 Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS) Nursing Services Agreement for Grow Academy Arvin and Grow Academy Shafter
4. Approval of 2022-23 Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS) SELPA Agreement for Grow Academy Arvin
5. Approval of 2022-23 Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS) SELPA Agreement for Grow Academy Shafter

On a motion made duly by Matt Look seconded by Manuel Pantoja, and carried, the Board approved the Consent Agenda.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh			X	
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller			X	

III. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION

1. Approval of Board Resolution of Sufficiency of Approved Instructional Materials was tabled for a future meeting.
2. The Directors were presented with the approval of the 2022-23 Grow Public Schools Bell Schedule that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja and carried, the Board approved the 2022-23 Grow Public Schools Bell Schedule.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh			X	
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller			X	

3. The Directors were presented with the approval of the 2022-23 Grow Public Schools Instructional Minutes that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja and carried, the Board approved the 2022-23 Grow Public Schools Instructional Minutes.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh			X	
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller			X	

4. The Directors were presented with the approval of the GA Arvin Contract with Colombo Construction for Tenant Improvements, Retractive to July 8, 2022, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja and carried, the Board approved the GA Arvin Contract with Colombo Construction for Tenant Improvements, Retractive to July 8, 2022.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh			X	
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller			X	

5. The Directors were presented with the approval of the GA Shafter Contract with Colombo Construction for Tenant Improvements, Retroactive to July 5, 2022, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Manuel Pantoja, seconded by Matt Look and carried, the Board approved the GA Shafter Contract with Colombo Construction for Tenant Improvements, Retroactive to July 5, 2022.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh			X	
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller			X	

6. The Directors were presented with the approval of Resolution for Change in Bank Signors for Grow Public Schools, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja and carried, the Board approved the Resolution for Change in Bank Signors for Grow Public Schools.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh			X	
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller			X	

IV. CLOSED SESSION

The board went into closed session at 4:06 pm to discuss the compensation of the Interim Chief Executive Officer.

V. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION – ACTION ITEMS

The board reconvened to open session at 4:11 pm and reported the compensation of the Interim Chief Executive Officer had been discussed in closed session. There was no action taken in the closed session.

7. The Directors were presented with the approval of Ratification of Compensation Comparability Study for Interim Chief Executive Officer, that were considered and discussed. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja and carried, the Board approved the Ratification of Compensation Comparability Study for Interim Chief Executive Officer.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh			X	
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller			X	

On behalf of the Board President, Michelle Lumis, Executive Assistant, read the Required Oral Report Regarding Interim Chief Executive Officer Contract.

The next item regarding the Interim Chief Executive Officer Contract the agreement provides the following: Interim Chief Executive Officer from July 15, 2022 to June 20, 2023; work schedule of 233 days annually; salary of \$300,000; sick leave in the amount of 5 days annually; paid vacation time in the amount of 96 hours annually; health benefits as are applicable for all employees in participation is approved as applicable, subject to program and eligibility requirements. The annual salary is in the compensation comparability study that the Board has received.

8. The Directors were presented with the Ratification of Interim Chief Executive Office Contract. Reference V-A.8. On a motion duly made by Matt Look, seconded by Manuel Pantoja and carried, the Board approved the Ratification of Interim Chief Executive Office Contract.

Board Member	Yay	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Tom Mestmaker	X			
Manuel Pantoja	X			
Ernie Unruh			X	
Matt Look	X			
Jean Fuller			X	

The Board President asked if there were any questions. Matt Look shared that he recently saw an article, from January until now there have been 200 arrests involving educators for sexual crimes in schools. Is there something that we are doing to prevent this happening in our schools?

Mike Romero, Chief Operating Officer answered Matt Look's question. Grow Public Schools has mandated reporter trainings happening later in the week, July 28th and 29th. Professional Boundaries trainings will also be occurring on Friday, July 29th. Each school site will work with Dr. Ric Esquivel, Chief of Schools to ensure there are quarterly trainings where employees must complete the trainings and webinars to get certified to


continue working for Grow Public Schools. The trainings are also required by our authorizers.

VI. ADJORNMENT

On a motion the board adjourned at 4:17 pm.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I certify that I am the duly elected Secretary of the Grow Public Schools, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation; that these minutes, consisting of five (5) pages are the minutes of the Special board meeting of the Board of Directors held on July 27, 2022.


Secretary

