

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**February 28, 2022 – 6:30 PM**  
**Via Teleconference**

- A. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 6:34 PM by Robert Wiley.
- B. Prayer**
- C. Pledge of Allegiance**
- D. Approval of the Meeting Agenda** – Mr. Ford requested to approve the agenda with 1 amendment: exchanging items I and J in position. A motion to approve was made by Mr. [Ed Watley](#) and seconded by Barbara McIntyre. It was approved without opposition from the Board.
- E. Adoption of Previous Minutes** – A motion was made by Hollis Downs to adopt the minutes from the previous meeting with the stated correction. This was seconded by Ed Watley and the minutes were adopted without opposition from the Board.
- F. Roll Call**
- a) Present Members**
- Barbara McIntyre
  - Ed Watley
  - Hollis Downs
  - Robert Wiley
  - Don Tatum
  - Clara Lewis
  - Pamela Stewart
- b) Absent Members**
- Elizabeth Smith
  - Eddie Robinson III
- G. Public Comments** – Although the meeting was open to the public, no members of the public were present to comment.
- H. Report of the Executive Director** –
- a)** Enrollment: Enrollment has increased by 12 students since the last meeting. Currently, enrollment is at 654 students, with applications being received daily. The enrollment period remains 3/21/2022 – 4/9/2022 with the lottery held on 5/5/2022.
- b)** 2021 – 2022 School Year: Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes are at New Living [W\\*word](#) and grades 3-12 are at the temporary campus in Grambling. The classrooms at the temporary campus are complete. There are a few small things to be completed in the cafeteria, so meals are being prepared on GSU campus and delivered to the students. There are minor issues with plumbing, electrical, and internet, which should be repaired very quickly.
- c)** Athletics: The boys’ basketball team is currently seeded #4 in Class 1A playoffs and got a first-round bye. The 2<sup>nd</sup> round game against Homer will be played tomorrow at 6:30 PM at Louisiana Tech’s Memorial Gym. If they win, the Quarterfinal game will be played on Friday at Louisiana Tech. The girls’ basketball team also made the playoffs. Baseball,

softball, and track will be starting soon. The first Tae Kwon Do tournament was held in February.

- d)** Additional updates: Retired RFD Chief Tommy Woods is teaching a First Responder Course at the school. Ms. Colvin stated that the class was supposed to start before Covid but was delayed. Previously, an Adobe certification class was held at the end of the day, but the instructor accepted a position elsewhere, so she contacted Tommy Woods, who agreed to teach the class. Through this class, students can become nationally certified in CPR, First Aid, and AED, as well as obtain their First Responder credentials. Ruston Fire Department and Grambling Fire Department have offered to give participating students shadowing opportunities. Lincoln Prep has partnered with Delta Community College to allow students to visit the campus and explore various career opportunities. ACT Work Keys testing and LEAP Connect testing have started. Approximately \$134k in additional Covid funding has been approved. A new student health partnership opportunity is being explored. Primary Health Services Center intended to provide this service but is unable to do so at this time due to staffing problems. Mr. Ford's wife spoke with the CEO of Ochsner LSU, who may be interested in this partnership. More information regarding this will be forthcoming. An additional bus route (Bus 9) has been added. The News Star published an article about the athletics programs at Lincoln Prep. Lincoln Prep partnered with Louisiana Tech for Engineering [Wweek](#). Juniors and seniors participated in hands-on demonstrations involving things such as aviation and electromagnets. They also competed in an Engineering contest held at GSU and some won first place in their divisions. Some seniors are taking a University Intro to Teaching Course in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semesters. They can get field experience by going to elementary classes and working with teachers and paraprofessionals during intervention periods.
- e)** Lincoln Prep will participate in the TAPS program, as discussed during previous meetings. Dr. Mayo and the Social Work Department at GSU will participate, also. Select students will have weekly seminars with various law enforcement agents, mental health professionals, etc., to understand and build better relationships with law enforcement. The students will learn how to navigate encounters with law enforcement without incident. Grambling Police Department is participating and has attended training related to the program. Mr. Ford plans to involve high school seniors first, then possibly juniors. This may continue to become a summer program. Mr. Tatum encouraged the careful use of the term "at-risk" regarding students due to the possibility of a negative response from parents. Mr. Ford stated that anyone could potentially be "at-risk" and do not have to do anything wrong to encounter law enforcement. He added that the program will be held during the school day, 2 days per week. He plans to involve students that have athletics for 8<sup>th</sup> period, as athletic programs will be winding down and the students are normally doing conditioning at that time.
- f)** Mr. Downs inquired of the status of the previous partnership with the Boys' and Girls' Club. Mr. Ford stated that it was stopped due to Covid, but he reached out to restart the partnership in the fall. Barbara McIntyre asked if this will present employment opportunities or if they will bring their own staff. Mr. Ford stated that, in the past, the

Boys' and Girls' Club provided staff members but some Lincoln Prep faculty members worked after hours.

**I. Reports**

- a) **Financial** – Revenue collected is currently at 53.7% and should be at 58%. The Fund Balance is at approximately \$404k, but the general fund is floating \$382k that is still waiting to be reimbursed. Requests are being submitted monthly, but some are not being reimbursed monthly. Title 1 and 2 and Child Nutrition are normally received within 1 month, but ESSER tends to take longer because it is new. Due to the delay in some of the reimbursements, the Board approved the obtainment of a \$250k line of credit at a recent Board Meeting. This will be used while awaiting reimbursement. Mr. Downs asked if the adjusted MFP would balance out the Fund Balance. Mr. Ford stated that the amount owed for the MFP is calculated and split between 4 payments. Megan stated that moving into the temporary buildings and other campus have resulted in an increased number of invoices. Facility acquisition and construction make up about 15% of the total expenses.
- b) **Alumni and Community Relations** – No report
- c) **Transportation and Facilities Update** – No report
- d) **Education** – No report

- J. New Business - Purchase of former Fred's building** – Mr. Ford discussed the benefit of purchasing the temporary campus now via the bond commission instead of using Sustainability Partners, as previously discussed. The owner of the property, which totals just under 2.5 acres and is valued at \$708k, has agreed to sell for the previous appraisal price of \$675k. After a phone call with the investors involved in the bond, the underwriters used the budget from January to determine the bonding capacity. The updated 5-year projection was provided to current bond holders to compare to the plan initially provided. The comparisons are as follows: Comparison 1 - Projected budget to budget actuals: shows a 4.8% increase in income, due to school food service and federal funds. This comparison also shows a 5.4% increase in spending (nearly all of which was funded by new ESSER funds) and less than a 2% change to the overall cash balance. The 2% variation was due to the bond payment being deducted on 6/30 instead of 7/1, as planned. If deducted on 7/1, the variation would have been 0.5%. Comparison 2 - 2021-22 projected vs actual: Shows a 12.7% increase in revenue due to an increase in additional Federal Funds and a 1.3% increase in Cash Balance. Comparison 3 - Current budget vs mid-year actuals: Indicates that the current budget and mid-year actuals are in line. These comparisons confirm that all budgets, projections, and actuals are reliable. The Capacity Analysis is based on financials and showed a maximum capacity of \$15.7m to remain in covenant compliance. The current analysis is around \$12m. The \$12m project fund will cover the following things: football field (including bleachers, concession stands, restrooms, press box, and scoreboard, turf, track, lights, and goalposts), fieldhouse, baseball/softball package (including field lights and scoreboards), acquisition of the building at 123 RWE Jones St., and \$567,388 for contingency. If the purchase of the temporary building is approved, it would be used for the kindergarten facility and could include Pre-K without incurring any additional debt. Mr. Ford added that this will save money because they will be able to do everything at once and it is cheaper than using Sustainability Partners, as previously discussed. Also, it may be beneficial to do it now due to rising interest rates. Barbara McIntyre made a motion to approve the purchase of the temporary

campus, contingent on financing. Pamela Stewart seconded this, and it was approved without opposition from the Board.

**a) Additional bond sale to finance Athletic Complex and building purchase –**

- A motion was made by Don Tatum to approve Mr. Ford to move forward with the Bond sale and to give Mr. Ford the authority to sign documents related to the sale. This was seconded by Barbara McIntyre and approved without opposition from the Board.

**K. Old Business**

**a) Construction Update –** Concrete slabs are being poured and metal buildings are being delivered. The concrete portion of the gym has not been started, but the underground plumbing is complete. Concrete work for the gym will start after the concrete in the front has been completed. Grambling High School memorabilia will be displayed in multiple places on the new campus (Library, trophy cases at the gym entrance, and the field house). The final completion dates have not changed. Crews have moved things around in the schedule to accommodate for inclement weather. Another construction meeting is scheduled for this week and board members will be notified of any changes. WRLDINVSN is still being strongly considered for naming rights of the Fieldhouse. WRLDINVSN and Lincoln Prep plan to move forward with a partnership for school uniforms, etc.

**b) Desegregation Case Update –** No update at this time.

**c) Relationship between Grambling High Foundation and Grambling State University –** The GSU cafeteria is the only part of the facility being used at this time. Meals are cooked on campus and delivered to Lincoln Prep students while the cafeteria at the temporary campus is still under construction.

**L. Future Meetings**

**a) Next meeting –** The next meeting will be March 28, 2022, at 6:30 PM with committees meeting at 6:00 PM if needed.

**b) Zoom versus in-person meetings –** Virtual meetings were approved due to the public emergency related to Covid. Once that emergency order is lifted, in-person meetings will resume, ensuring compliance with Public Meeting Laws.

**M. Announcement –** No announcements.

**N. Executive Session –** No session.

**O. Adjournment –** A motion to adjourn was made by Don Tatum and seconded by Pamela Stewart. With nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.