

**Grambling High Foundation**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**February 25, 2019 - 6:30 PM**

- Call to Order
- Prayer
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approval of the Agenda – Mr. Downs moved to approve the current agenda. This was seconded by Mr. Wiley and approved without opposition.
- Adoption of Previous Minutes - Moved by Tatum, Second by Downs. All in favor.
- Roll Call
  - Present Members
    - Dr. Birdex Copeland
    - Hollis Downs
    - Robert Wiley
    - Don Tatum
    - Eddie Robinson III
  - Absent Members
    - Katrina Boden
- Lincoln Prep "Showcase" - No Showcase.
- Public Comments – Although the meeting is open to the public, no comments were made.
- Report of the Executive Director -
  - Students have recently returned from winter break. The girls' basketball team lost in the playoffs but revenue from the game was good. Last year, we had a 68 cent profit. This year, we had a \$700 profit. The boys' basketball team will play at home for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the Regional finals against Arcadia. This game will be held at the Assembly center to accommodate more people. Doors will open at 5 and the game will start at 7. When asked, Mr. Ford stated that use of the Assembly center is included in the contract with Grambling, so it is free to use from Monday through Friday.
  - Mr. Tatum expressed concern for how coaches of some other teams act during their games and inquired about whether we monitor the coaches' actions. Mr. Ford assured him that everyone is monitored and trained on how to handle any altercation that may arise. In the event of an altercation on the court, the Assistant Coach is to keep anyone not involved off of the court. Main coaches are to deal with the altercation itself. There have been no

altercations this year, but there were some issued last year at the Arcadia/Lincoln Prep game. The students involved in that altercation are not permitted to attend the upcoming game. Typically, 3 officers are present for games but we are hiring 10 for the upcoming Arcadia game, as well as having additional faculty working the doors. When asked how we pay for security, Mr. Ford stated that security costs are taken out of the revenue brought in from that game before the money is split between the teams. Mr. Tatum also commented on how impressed he is with the band. Mr. Ford explained that the school has to pay full admission for band members to attend away games, as well as providing meals, which costs about \$10 per student. A member of the LHSAA approached Mr. Ford at an away game and complimented the band, stating that they were the most organized, well behaved group of kids he had seen, especially considering that most of them are in middle school. Mr. Downs asked if the band costs were included in the budget and was assured that they are. Mr. Ford added that it also helps out the other schools because the home team gets to keep all money brought in from the concession stand.

- 21 students are involved in a CNA certification program and just finished a week of clinicals, which ran from 6AM to 1PM at Princeton Place and Alpine. A bus was sent to pick students up in Farmerville, Homer, Athens, Arcadia, and Grambling. Some students drove themselves. The students have 3 days of clinicals left, which are completed when school is not in session. They should be able to complete these days soon with Professional Development and Spring Break coming up. Once these students have received their certifications, they could have an earning potential of \$10-\$13 per hour, as well as potential for earning benefits. Most students are not planning to stop at their CNA, but simply using it as a bridge to their LPN or RN. These students are eligible for TOPS Tech to help pay for tuition. 3 of the students have received gifts from staff at the nursing homes for outstanding behavior. These staff members stated that they would be willing to give recommendation letters, if needed. Mr. Ford added that, by providing students the opportunity to earn a certification while in High School, they are being set up to work a decent job while in college to avoid financial struggle. Mr. Downs asked about welding certifications and was informed by Mr. Ford that 4 students are currently in this program.
- Lincoln Prep hosted a Robotics competition on February 9<sup>th</sup> and had an impressive turnout. 14 teams from around the region competed and the gym full of spectators. Lincoln Prep had 2 teams complete, the Steel Panthers (Varsity) and the Junior Steel Panthers and won 2 of 3 rounds. We received a grant to help with costs because we have a course at the school. Several people contributed to the team and the competition, as well as supplies. Teams all paid to enter, making the competition profitable for the school. Mr. Ford was especially appreciative of all faculty members who stayed after the game prior to the competition to clean and reconfigure the area to accommodate everything.
- All except 5 students have completed their FAFSA. We are looking to improve the ACT index by working on Work Keys scores. Teachers are working with students on critical areas.

- Several students have qualified for the State Science Fair, which will be held in the middle of March. The Speech and Debate team will have a tournament on March 15-16<sup>th</sup>.
- Our application to do Jump Start Summer was recently turned it and we should know the outcome by April. With this program, students have the opportunity to earn a stipend of approximately \$500-\$600, a Carnegie Unit, and complete an internship in either Oil and Gas, which will start in June, or Adobe Photoshop, which will start in July. The teachers are paid, as well. This will be at no cost to the school if we are approved for the grant. Mr. Ford added that state funding is available with considerable surplus in that area.
- Recently, we were able to obtain 90 Chrome Books for the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students, as well as additional computers and calculators for the Math department via LOFSA and other grants.
- Mr. Smith was recently certified at GSU to teach Algebra, so all seniors who had not completed this class are now enrolled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.
- In May, we will hold the state's first ever Rubik's Cube competition with the Gifted and Talented students. Currently, the Gifted and Talented students are working on a mosaic with the cubes that were obtained on a loan to use for 6 weeks. This is tied into the Arts Integration program. There are several students who have been able to solve the Rubik's cube in under a minute, with the fastest being 45 seconds. 16 students have been targeted for Talented Art and the teachers are working on those packets. We are hoping that at least half qualify.
- Several students were recently identified as having intellectual disabilities, as well as some on the Autism Spectrum. It was discovered that Nicholl's university offers a college program specifically for these students and the parents are thrilled about it. These are 2 year programs that do not have a cutoff age limit. We are trying to add this school to our contact list for freshman students to be able to visit as part of their college visits.
- Committee Structure and Meeting Schedules – No discussion regarding meeting schedules.
- New Business
  - Potential Board member, Attorney Forrest L. Moegle was introduced to the Board. All Board members have received a copy of his resume and was asked to look over it and discuss. Mr. Downs was the only Board member to voice a nomination, Mr. Moegle. Nominations were closed by Mr. Wiley. The Board voted and Mr. Moegle was inducted by a vote of 5-0.
- Reports
  - Financial – Revenue is at 54% received so far. We have received \$2.6million in MFU funding, which is about 52%. We should have the new adjustment around the end of March. We have received Federal grant reimbursements and have requested the next of LOSFA and

Gear Up. The food service has been consolidated and the net income year-to-date is about \$36,000. It will exceed the original projection, as it is already at 86% of that amount. Expenses are still under where they should be, but are close. Salaries are at 53% and benefits are at 55%, which is all where it should be. The line of credit was used for \$50,000 for 13 days in January and repaid when MFP was received. The net change in cash balances is positive \$40,000. Mr. Downs asked what we would like to grow that number to and what is a healthy amount. Mrs. Kenley stated that we are expected to be between 7.5% and 10%. We are currently at 5%, which is where the state expects us to be for this year. Mrs. Kenley stated that it is best to let this number continue to grow once we've reached the expected amount, to keep debt from occurring. A breakdown of Athletic revenue and expenses was provided. All other activities (Homecoming, 4H, STEM, etc.) are basically paying for themselves right now. Mr. Ford elaborated on the structural costs for football season, which includes \$1350 per game to work the scoreboard. He met with the Vice President of Grambling to see about potentially piggybacking off of some advertisements that Grambling already has in place. A motion was made by Mr. Wiley to adopt the financial report. This was seconded by Mr. Downs and adopted without opposition of the Board.

- Alumni and Community Relations - No report at this time.
- Transportation - No report at this time.
- Education - No report at this time.
- Old Business
  - MOU between Grambling High Foundation and Grambling State University - Grambling sent an invoice for utilities but we asked for corrected to be made before we pay. We also received an invoice for custodial work which was correct and will be paid.
- Next Meeting Date – The next meeting will be March 25<sup>th</sup>, with committees meeting at 6:00 pm, if needed and the Board meeting following at 6:30 pm.
- Announcements – Mr. Ford asked everyone to bring a friend to the upcoming game and show off our band.
- Executive Session – A motion was made by Mr. Downs to move into an executive session. This was seconded by Mr. Wiley and the room was cleared of all non-Board members.
- Adjournment – With nothing further to discuss, Mr. Downs moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wiley seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.