**NOTICE AND AGENDA OF REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF**

**FLAGSTAFF JUNIOR ACADEMY & CHILDREN’S HOUSE**

**NOTICE**

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the general public that the Governing Board of Flagstaff Junior Academy & Children’s House will convene a meeting open to the public at the time, date and place indicated. Information regarding agenda items may be reviewed in the office of the Executive Director. The Board may vote to convene in Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, to discuss certain matters, as indicated on the agenda. These matters are marked by an asterisk (\*).The Governing Board of the Flagstaff Junior Academy & Children’s House may, by motion, recess into executive session to receive legal advice from the Board’s attorney(s) on any item contained in this agenda, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3), at any time during the meeting. The Governing Board may consider any item below in any order and at any time during the meeting. One or more members of the Governing Board may appear telephonically.

If any disabled person needs any type of accommodation, please notify Lori Langan at 774.6007 ext. 202 at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the time scheduled for the meeting. Copies of the Board packet of information (except for any documents which are to be considered in an executive session) are available by contacting Lori Langan at 774.6007 ext. 202.

Thursday, September 17th, 2020 4:30 PM The public can view/listen to the meeting via Zoom.

The Zoom link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85292616469>

Meeting ID: 852 9261 6469

**Minutes**

**I. Call To Order**

Mr. Naleski Called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

**II. Roll Call of Members**

Mr. Naleski took roll.

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| Mr. Naleski | Present |
| Mrs. Suda | Present |
| Mr. Leest | Present |
| Dr. Hiebert | Present |
| Mr. Paine | Present |
| Mrs. O’Donnell | Absent |

Additionally, Mr. Drumm, Mr. Vest, Mrs. Langan and members of the public were present.

**III. Presentations/Information/Reports**

* + 1. **President’s Report** - The President will provide information to the Board regarding matters pertaining to the FJA Board.

1. N/A
   * 1. **Director’s Report -** The Executive Director will provide information to the Board.
        1. N/A
     2. **Business Manager’s Report -** The Business Manager will give an update regarding any FJA financial matters.
        + 1. N/A

**IV.** **Call To The Public** (Comments regarding matters over which the Board has authority are welcome from the public at this time. A time limit of 3 minutes per person is required due to time constraints. The Board may not discuss or take action on matters raised during the call to the public that are not specifically identified on the agenda. The only action the Board may take as a result of public comment is limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further consideration at a later Board meeting.)

1. N/A

**V.** **Consent Agenda** (All items listed hereunder are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be discussed separately.)

1. Approval of Minutes dated September 2nd, 2020

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| Motion | Mr. Naleski moved to approve the Minutes dated September 2nd, 2020 |
| Second | Dr. Hiebert |
| Mr. Naleski | Aye |
| Mrs. Suda | Aye |
| Mr. Leest | Aye |
| Dr. Hiebert | Aye |
| Mr. Paine | Aye |
| Mrs. O’Donnell | Absent |

**VI. Old Business (**Action items are ready for the Board to take adoptive, approval, or other appropriate action on a matter scheduled for action. Items cannot be placed on the agenda after the public posting or advertisement is made.)

1. Discuss long term building projects – N/A

**VII. New Business (** Action items are ready for the Board to take adoptive, approval, or other appropriate action on a matter scheduled for action. Items cannot be placed on the agenda after the public posting or advertisement is made. No action during Executive Session.)

1. Review and/or Discuss the Staff Survey Results – Mr. Drumm shared that we will only speak about raw numbers. To maintain HIPPA laws, no names will be shared. We had 38 employees complete the survey which is about 95% of staff. The results were 27 “Yes”, 4 “No” and 7 “I don’t know”. Mr. Drumm shared that he did speak with the school’s attorney about whether we needed to discuss this in an executive session. We may need to have a further discussion in Executive session at a future meeting. Mr. Paine asked if admin was surprised with the results. Mr. Drumm shared that he was not surprised by the results based on the unknowns with the pandemic.

1. Review and or Discuss with possible action for approval of the re-opening plan with criteria recommended by Administration. – Mr. Drumm shared that we will be following the Az Department of Health Services safely reopening plans. He shared that it is important to use these guidelines in addition to our own steps. When do we feel safe and equipped to reopen? Should we reopen and the county backslides, how quickly do we move to Distance Learning again? The CDC defines the community spread by Minimal, Moderate and Substantial benchmarks. The CDC notes that rapid increase in cases is still possible. Mr. Drumm shared a slide of Benchmarks from Coconino county. Mr. Vest shared that if you look at the dashboard for schools the green check mark could mean Moderate or Minimal. He also shared things that are required to be done if you open during a time when the County is in the Moderate Benchmark. Mrs. Suda shared that we should not just look at the County since it is one of the largest counties in the nation. She recommends that we narrow down the information that is specific to Flagstaff. Mr. Drumm shared that he and Mr. Vest review data each week to help make these guidelines. They continue to also collaborate with other charters here in town. Mr. Drumm shared 2 options to consider when we talk about our criteria for reopening.

Option 1:

Consider reopening FJA to in-person instruction using the following criteria:

*When Coconino County has achieved minimal (green) status for all 3 benchmarks for at least 4 consecutive weeks.*

Option 2:

Consider reopening FJA to in-person instruction using the following criteria:

*If Coconino County has not achieved minimal (green) status for all 3 benchmarks for at least 4 consecutive weeks, then FJA decides on a quarter by quarter basis whether or not to reopen to in-person instruction or to remain in the distance learning format; this option may reduce the possibility of the “yo-yo” effect of reopening to in-person instruction, and then being forced to close to in-person instruction due to changing thresholds.*

Dr. Hiebert argued that in person learning is the best option. We are certainly losing out on educating the whole student. Mrs. Suda shared that as a parent in her own household there is anxiety and stress with the Distance Learning environment.

Mr. Drumm shared information on a possible Hybrid model. He is not aware of a school here locally that is using a Hybrid model. We realize that the schedules that we have with Zoom FJA is in a pretty good place. However, if we move to a hybrid model, the students will have less face to face time with the teachers. At this time, we do not see that a hybrid model will work for FJA at this time. Mr. Paine shared that the value added is not there and we should discount it entirely. Mr. Vest shared that he has spent a lot of time working on creating a workable Hybrid model. He agreed with what Mr. Paine shared. Mr. Vest shared that it would look different for the Elementary campus compared to the Middle School campus. One issue is, what do we do if 6 staff members call in with symptoms. We have deployed almost all our Chromebooks we would need to count on the students to bring those to school, etc. There are just holes in every Hybrid model that we begin working on. We have studied other hybrid models from other schools as well. Other schools are struggling to find realistic hybrid options. Mr. Paine shared that he feels that we need to scrap the Hybrid model and focus on either we are in person or on-line. Mr. Drumm agreed. Dr. Hiebert shared that one of his students is attending a Hybrid model in the Lakeside/Pinetop school.

Mrs. Suda shared that she hears administration with regards to a Hybrid model and the difficulties but does not feel like we should give up on it. She agrees with Mr. Paine that we could meet every week and still have the same conversation. She would, however, like to continue to pursue a hybrid model.

Mr. Naleski shared that he agrees that we should not dismiss the conversation of a hybrid model.

Mr. Leest asked if it was possible to do both in person and on-line? Mr. Drumm shared that the families that choose to stay home would primarily be in an asynchronous environment. Mr. Leest is a fan of teaching in person as quickly as possible. He feels that if we are looking for a completely safe environment, he does not think that is totally possible. It is about managing risk.

Mr. Paine shared that either option does not speak to our school and how nimble our school could be. There are some real tradeoffs in what is coming up against the gross unknowns of what is coming up.

Mr. Naleski asked if the board was ready to work on the criteria. Mrs. Suda agreed that the board should move forward.

Mrs. Suda reviewed some of the numbers again. Mrs. Suda asked some clarifying questions regarding the admins recommendation for the criteria to follow.

Mr. Paine shared that these numbers should be used as a guide but does not necessarily mean that what is happening in the county is what will happen at the school. Dr. Hiebert asked if FJA had considered doing any testing? Mr. Drumm stated that we had not considered that and have no idea what the cost would be associated with that.

Mrs. Suda shared that she feels that if we are setting up to meet all three criteria then we need to look at on-line school for the entire school year. She does not feel that based on the numbers we would ever meet those three criteria.

Mr. Paine asked about the survey to the parents and how that would impact the re-opening plans. Mr. Drumm shared that that is difficult to answer at this moment.

Mr. Vest shared that other school administrators shared that their family surveys were very helpful in determining their next move.

Mr. Paine shared that Option 1 seems to be more palatable to him. Mrs. Suda agreed with the 4 weeks and we go on the Monday after the Friday of the 4th week with all criteria met. Dr. Hiebert shared that he also agrees if we continue to notify parents weekly.

Mrs. Suda began to review the data again with the Board. She shared that the county has never met the first criteria since the beginning of the pandemic. She suggested that maybe we split the difference. Mr. Drumm shared that he does not feel that we should mess with the criteria and that it was created for a reason. Mr. Paine agreed with Mr. Drumm and Mrs. Suda in that we should not change the criteria, but that it would be okay to be in minimal with the bottom two criteria and moderate in the top criteria.

Mr. Drumm shared that he continues to go back to re-opening too soon and having to back pedal. He feels like there will be some additional data that can be used to make some decisions based on other states and schools returning to in person learning. Mr. Paine also asked if we should consider two different plans for elementary vs. middle school. He also asked Mr. Drumm what information is going to make admin more comfortable. Mr. Drumm shared that that is a good point and that the learning is very different for each campus. He also shared that more information from other states and schools will help him to feel more comfortable with re-opening. He shared that he is very concerned with re-opening and errs on the conservative side.

Mr. Paine shared that he feels that it would be terrible to be on-line through June and fears that it will be more difficult once flu season begins.

Mrs. Suda shared that many of the valley schools are moving to in person schooling soon which will also provide some additional data to review.

Dr. Hiebert asked about the cost risk benefit analysis and shared that we are not going to be able to move forward without taking some type of risk.

Mr. Naleski shared that he would like to come away from this meeting with some form of guidelines. Mr. Paine shared that he feels that we do not have enough data to decide tonight. Mrs. Suda agreed that she is not ready to decide. She also shared that FUSD is meeting on the 22nd and are planning to decide then. She stated that we will not base our decision on what FUSD does but certainly will provide us more data.

Mr. Naleski stated that he feels that the board need to come up with specific guidelines at the October 7th, 2020 Board Meeting.

Took at break at 6:46 p.m.

Returned to the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

Mr. Naleski recommended to table this item until the October 7th, 2020 meeting with information coming from the results of the parent surveys as well as additional data collected from various resources such as Coconino County and data on schools that have move to in person and hybrid model.

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| Mr. Naleski | N/A |
| Mrs. Suda | N/A |
| Mr. Leest | N/A |
| Dr. Hiebert | N/A |
| Mr. Paine | N/A |
| Mrs. O’Donnell | N/A |

1. Review and/or discuss with possible action for approval of the FJA re-opening date. Mr. Naleski recommended that this item be moved to the October 7th, 2020 which would not be a separate item but rather part of item (e)

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| Mr. Naleski | N/A |
| Mrs. Suda | N/A |
| Mr. Leest | N/A |
| Dr. Hiebert | N/A |
| Mr. Paine | N/A |
| Mrs. O’Donnell | N/A |

1. Review and/or discuss with possible action for approval of the parent Survey to go out by September 18th, 2020

Mr. Naleski suggested that an additional question be added regarding if the parents are comfortable with having on-line learning for the remainder of the school year. Mrs. Suda suggested that the survey be sent out based on each campus to ensure that we are gathering data that will indicate the students grade level.

The survey is really to determine if families are comfortable with coming back to school in person. Mrs. Suda shared that it may be valuable to have a comment section for those parents who would like to do so.

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| Motion | Mr. Naleski made a motion to send out the parent survey by tomorrow. |
| Second | Mr. Paine |
| Mr. Naleski | Aye |
| Mrs. Suda | Aye |
| Mr. Leest | Absent – left the meeting early |
| Dr. Hiebert | Aye |
| Mr. Paine | Aye |
| Mrs. O’Donnell | Absent |

1. Review and/or discuss with possible action for approval of the re-opening plan for the Children’s House. Mr. Drumm shared that he had discussed with the Teachers in the children’s house. He read the statement provided by the Lead teacher in the Children’s House. Mr. Paine shared that once we determine the criteria then we will need to look at each grade level and what is best for each grade level. Mr. Naleski agreed that once the criteria is determined then we can revisit this decision and this item will be moved to the next meeting.

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| Mr. Naleski | N/A |
| Mrs. Suda | N/A |
| Mr. Leest | N/A |
| Dr. Hiebert | N/A |
| Mr. Paine | N/A |
| Mrs. O’Donnell | N/A |

**VIII. F.A.I.R. - Future Agenda Item Requests** ( Items requested by the Board Members to be placed on a future Agenda.)

1. Review and/or discuss with possible action for approval of the FY20 AFR.
2. Add item E from above to re-discuss.

**IX.** **Adjournment**

Mr. Naleski adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.