



Public Board Meeting

Sept. 9, 2020

6:30-9:00 p.m.

Online via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98034164199>

Attendees

Board and Administration: Chair Jeff Wilson, Vice-Chair Jenny Hill, Director Sumara Diaz, Director Faruq Suleman, Director Naren Makwana, Director Rizvan Bharmal, Director Jehn Scantlebury, Director Randall Spahl, Director Sam Jin, Superintendent Roger Nippard, Deputy Superintendent Kurtis Leinweber, Secretary Treasurer Reta Morgan, Coordinator of Instruction Justin Kool, Director of Facilities Josh Foat, Coordinator of School Services Preston Lowther, Director of Technology Jeff Cullen, Executive Assistant Meredith Poole

Presenters: Josh Foat

Gallery: Aiden Chang, Alex Men, Andrei Filonov, Andrew Chu, Bharati Singh, Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage, Cliff Sanderson, Crystal Okasha, Franco Civitarese, Heather Hadden, Jamie Dunlop, Jyleen Wong, Krista Lee, Lokesh Shenoy, Maziar Taheri, Michelle Fry, Mythri Shenoy, Paul Bushell, Shawna Drummond, Tanya Borthwick, Twyla Peters, Corey, Layl, Louis, Sally, Teresia, Terry, Tracy W., Zen

AGENDA

6:32 p.m. CALL TO ORDER

1. Review of Meeting Agenda – Remove Item 7.4.4 (Policy 19 Welcoming, Caring, etc.)
2. **20/09/09-1CA** Approval of Consent Agenda
MOVED by Director Makwana and seconded by Vice-Chair Hill that the Consent Agenda for Sept. 9, 2020 be approved as presented.
.....that the minutes of the June 10, 2020 Public Board Meeting be approved as amended.
.....that the minutes of the August 11, 2020 Special Board Meeting be approved as presented.
3. Staff/Campus Reports
 - 3.1. Director of Facilities – Josh reported on a very busy summer.
 - 3.1.1. COVID accommodations: hand sanitizers installed in several locations in all campuses plus 24 portable stations; disinfectant buckets for all campuses; doorbells for all doors (all doors to be kept locked); removal of all soft furniture; 6000 disposable masks + 50 for every bus; plexiglass partitions at front desks + several portable to be used as needed; directional arrows and hallway tape; temperature guns; quarantine room in each campus; process for disinfecting gym equipment; bottle of disinfectant in each classroom; HVAC systems/heating controls checked and maintenance schedule enhanced; bottle filling stations replacing water fountains; touchless taps installed; cleaning frequency increased.
 - 3.1.2. Montgomery Update: 400 students moved to Bethune, rest will move to the south end of Montgomery; Morrison Hershfield assessing that part of the building and will perform weekly site

visits; in between will be a buffer zone with 8' fencing; doors to area have been rekeyed; CBE will give the all clear when shoring is complete, should be by Sept. 15; all reports should be in by end of September.

4. Superintendent's Report – School Re-entry: Complexity of school re-entry has been complicated by the necessity to find and prepare alternative accommodation for almost ½ our HS students; regular meetings with AE and AI over the summer – very cooperative and supportive; fortunate to have 2 engineering firms (CBE's and Morrison Hershfield) working on Montgomery site; official relocation to DNB was Aug. 13 but CBE graciously granted access mid-July to begin retrofit; CTS & robotics need to be relocated at NHS; challenges at this point will relate to programming; have requested additional portables and funding (approved \$1.32m).

New Ministerial Order on Student Learning: focus on foundational learning/competencies and on digital capacity.

COVID Funding: some of federal contribution will be put to online learning (CASS and TAAPCS are working on funding issues as well).

5. Information Items

- 5.1. High School Update – Over the summer, contracts were let to the prime consultant (Gibbs Gage) and geo-technical services (Morrison Hershfield – test holes have been completed); AI managing project, a couple of site meetings have been held; next focus will be on programming to inform design; keys promised for June 2024.
- 5.2. School Re-entry – Re-entry plan on website with Q&A informed by very successful Telephone Town Hall; 713 students have opted for online program, orientation for this on Sept. 18 with commencement Sept. 21; one COVID case reported, not contracted at FFCA, following up with AHS; graciousness and flexibility shown by parents has been outstanding.
- 5.3. Standing Item: Administrative Procedures Update
 - 5.3.1. AP-B-401.1 Being Heard – Update for 2020-21 on website but will need further edits after campus AGMs are held.
- 5.4. Standing Item: Strategic/Education Plan Update
 - 5.4.1. 3-Year Education Plan Update – On hold, no report.
 - 5.4.2. Global Competencies Research – Funding and the timing of standardized assessments have been extended to next year. Macao International School has had to withdraw due to COVID effects on enrolment.
- 5.5. Choice in Education Act Update – Given assent on Sept. 1; removes enrolment cap for charters, paves way for FFCA managed growth; still some questions around access to land (requires changes to Municipalities Act).
- 5.6. Capital Maintenance & Renewal (CMR) Funds Update – The \$2.4m received was primarily allocated to 5 main areas (flooring, lighting, exterior doors, etc.); most projects on schedule and nearing completion.

6. Discussion Items

6.1. **20/09/09-1RA** – Staffing

MOVED by Director Diaz and seconded by Director Makwana that, as per the FFCA Staffing Formula,

and in response to supplemental funding from the provincial and federal governments, the Board approve up to 2.15 FTE of additional certificated staff and up to .6 FTE of additional support staff to maximize programming opportunities at the North and South High School Campuses, and up to 8.5 FTE of additional certificated staff and 0.75 FTE of additional support staff to facilitate online programming. CARRIED.

6.2. 20/09/09-2RA – Q4 Estimate

MOVED by Director Makwana and seconded by Vice-Chair Hill that the Board receive for information the FFCA Fourth Quarter Financial Estimate as presented. CARRIED.

6.3. 20/09/09-3RA – 2020-2023 Capital Plan

MOVED by Vice-Chair Hill and seconded by Director Bharmal that the 2021-2024 FFCA Capital Plan be updated to specify that FFCA's first priority for new construction is a South High School Campus. CARRIED.

6.4. 20/09/09-4RA – FFCA Online Campus

MOVED by Director Diaz and seconded by Director Spahl that the Board approve the establishment of the "FFCA Online Campus" to meet COVID-19 programming requirements. CARRIED.

7. Committees

7.1. Executive Committee – Has meet 3 times since the last public meeting re Working Session agendas, emergent issues and the High School calendar.

7.2. Communications & Community Relations Committee – did not meet over the summer but did communicate re Board support for BLM, high school updates (incl. ceiling collapse), and the Telephone Town Hall; FFCA was mentioned in a couple of news articles; anyone wanting more information on charter advised to look up www.taapcs.ca.

7.3. Policy & Performance Review Committee

7.3.1. 20/09/09-5RA – Policy 12 Role of the Superintendent

MOVED by Director Bharmal and seconded by Director Makwana that the Board approve Policy 12 Role of the Superintendent as presented. The amended policy will be circulated to Administrators, School Councils and Society members for information purposes only, and replaced on the FFCA website. CARRIED.

7.3.2. 20/09/09-6RA – Policy 14 Uniforms

MOVED by Director Bharmal and seconded by Vice-Chair Hill that the Board approve Policy 14 Uniforms for First Reading as presented. CARRIED.

7.3.3. 20/09/09-7RA – Policy 16 Recruitment and Selection of Personnel

MOVED by Director Bharmal and seconded by Director Suleman that the Board approve Policy 16 Recruitment and Selection of Personnel as presented. The amended policy will be circulated to Administrators, School Councils and Society members for information purposes only, and replaced on the FFCA website. CARRIED.

7.3.4 20/09/09-8RA – Chief Returning Officer

MOVED by Director Bharmal and seconded by Director Makwana that the Board appoint Superintendent Nippard as Chief Returning Officer (CRO). The CRO may delegate duties to

another FFCA employee and that employee in turn will appoint two Deputy Returning Officers.
CARRIED.

7.4. Audit Committee – Will meet on Tuesday Sept. 15.

7.5. TAAPCS Board Rep Report – Delegates met with the Education Minister over the summer; two new charter applications are in the works. See www.taapcs.ca for some good information.

8. Director Highlights – Vice-Chair Hill: Telephone Town Hall; Director Suleman: response to online school; Director Makwana: positivity in dealing with a difficult situation that will be a life-long memory for our students; Director Diaz: work of FFCA administration; Director Scantlebury: work of entire FFCA community in dealing with challenges; Director Jin: students following the rules (e.g., masks); Chair Wilson: dropping son off for school, positivity of staff and administration; Justin Kool: the opportunity to watch the NHS and SHS soft starts and connect with some former staff/students; Preston Lowther: the opportunity to engage with former teaching and administrative partners in his new capacity.
9. Open to Gallery - Questions/comments/concerns revolved around masks for K-3, wash stations for portables, permanency of SHS, implications of delayed start for learning, duration of online campus, possibility of orange shirt day, more physical spacing in classrooms and libraries, planning for Term 2, photos for online students.
10. Chairperson's Remarks – This year has been one of challenges that have not only been unprecedented but beyond what anyone could have imagined, complicated by events at the High School and the intricacies of having to provide a program designed for face-to-face direct instruction in an online format. Kudos to the administration and staff for the way they have overcome these adversities since March – it is amazing to be a part of and watch.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:37 p.m.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING: Nov. 18, 2020 @ TBD

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: