

NUAMES Board Meeting - Minutes

December 9, 2020

10 am – Meeting via ZOOM

Conducting: Susan Johnson

Attending: Sue Johnson, Linda Carver, Elizabeth Veillon, Dave Ferro, Lynnette Gilbert, Michelle Beus, Laurie Larsen, Kelli Booth, Nate Taggart, Steve Davis, Dawn Winter, Brenda Casper, Mindy Nelson, Vickie Finlinson

Welcome: Susan Johnson

Action Item: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from October 22, 2020

Motion to approve: Laurie Larsen. **Second:** Sue Johnson. **All in favor.**

***As per email sent October 27, 2020, it is noted that an online vote was taken for approval of the TSSA framework plan to meet the deadline for the grant.** This year NUAMES will receive \$187,074.63 in TSSA funds. We plan to allocate TSSA funds this year toward our new teachers who have been hired to accommodate our increase in student enrollment but have written our framework to accommodate flexibility in the use of funds.

Action Item: Final Approval APPEL Policy

The board voted on this via email. Brought to a final vote. The majority of teachers in it now are only teaching a couple of periods.

- Pathway for qualified individuals to become teachers
- Mentoring program
- Educational element
- Most teachers 3-year approval (Special Education 1 year)

Motion to finally approve the APPEL Policy: Sue Johnson. **Second, Laurie Larsen. All in favor.**

Financials: Nate Taggart

See attached

We are 1/3-way through the year and are doing well when it comes to expenses with revenue. We have received above what we were expecting. The new numbers have come in with the October 1st count.

We will receive an increase in funding with our increase in enrollment and with CTE.

Sue Johnson had a question regarding rent. The rent is billed monthly and we pay monthly. It is all paid by the end of the year.

Lottery Update: Brenda Casper and Mindy Nelson

The lottery is going well and applications are rolling in. Those pending means parents still need to submit some of the paper work.

North has more applications coming in.

In addition, the information nights have been fun to do. The turn-out has been really high. Another info night is January 12. We have had lots of communication with parents who would like to attend those. We do information nights thru ZOOM. We will add the military priority as part of our application along with siblings.

Laurie, it was a great suggestion to add, "How did you hear about NUAMES" To our lottery questions. For publicity, we have sent post cards and also ValPac which is a new marketing tool. ValPac goes to 11,000 homes in Weber and Davis Counties.

The question was asked: How many are graduating from Davis? We have 227 seniors. Also, having 106 from North campus is amazing!! We are really proud of our seniors. Our counselors have done such a wonderful job to get them on track.

We have found that we can do more with this new online learning avenue we have. Parents are seeing value to this flexibility and the level of education their children are receiving. Some kids want to go online second semester. They can only do it if they are in line with graduation requirements. We screen to make sure they are a good candidate for online learning. We will also bring in 5-6 new kids at North for second semester.

NUAMES Davis:

- 283 - Completed Applications
- 36 - Pending Applications
- *As of 12/4/2020

NUAMES North:

- 111 - Completed Applications
- 20 - Pending Applications
- *As of 12/4/2020

COVID Update: Nate Taggart

There is a lot going on with COVID in Utah right now. Brenda, Mindy, Jennie, Sherene and myself are taking calls from parents when kids are in and out of quarantine.

Safety:

of positive NUAMES cases

- Davis 5
- North 4

of quarantined NUAMES students

- Davis 10
- North 12

We have appreciated onsite testing. Our students wear masks. Teachers do a great job with seating charts and wearing masks. Student services makes sure they are socially distanced in classrooms. Our teachers have done an amazing job and we are one of a very few high schools in Northern Utah who haven't had to shut down for COVID.

Mindy Nelson reported on North Campus COVID:

Parents have been so good to self-quarantine or call to report. Parents are grateful when we need to call and say, “your student needs to quarantine”. They are successful even through quarantine. Parents have been great to keep kids home. We haven’t had to send a lot of kids home. When they feel sick, they don’t come to school.

We have increased testing – with that increased testing we catch kids that don’t show symptoms.

COVID Testing: Brenda Casper

- WSU has tested over 5,607 asymptomatic - 88 positive = 1.6%
- WSU tested 565 symptomatic 114 positive = 20%

WSU has done such a great job with testing and organizing the testing. We have been the first High School to do onsite testing (with the help of WSU). It has been amazing to see the care WSU has given with these sights. Some of our NUAMES faculty have taken advantage of these tests. NUAMES is represented in this testing and we appreciate our volunteers. NUAMES has also donated test kits We are helping carry that burden of testing.

Action Item: NUAMES Financial Audit – Nate Taggart

Squire & Company findings: ‘the Northern Utah Academy for Math, Engineering and Science complied, in all material respects, with the state compliance requirements referred to above for the year ended June 30, 2020’ (page 33)

They asked us to be more mindful regarding SPED funding. This is due to charter schools getting into trouble by throwing SPED funds into a general pot and not being able to account for the money. We have not done this, and are still working on strengthening our accounting regarding SPED funds. Charter schools get audited for SPED every other year. This is a protection we have. Our SPED audit is in January coming up.

We don’t have to have a vote, but it is nice to have it publicly noted that we presented and the board accepted the Audit findings.

So noted by the Board – Sue Johnson

Construction Update: Steve Davis

All internet and wiring have been pulled down to the new area where our building will be. WSU has made the “portable farm” (NUAMES North) very lovely in the middle of their construction. We appreciate them doing that especially as we do tours for NUAMES North. Pictures were shown of the construction progression.

Fall 2022 is the estimated finish time.

Action Item: Community Council Goals – Dawn Winter

Both Campuses have met with Community Council. The CC also serves and a purpose of an advisory committee.

Community Council Goals:

- Improve STEM education
- Improve College Readiness
- Increase support of Engineering programs
- Expand Opportunities for online education

We have had long-standing members and have recently had more parents join our committee. It's a nice balance.

Motion to approve Community Goals as presented. Lynnette Gilbert, Michelle Beus, second. All in favor.

Student Services: Dawn Winter

- **NUAMES food pantry.**

We have been very busy. Our social worker has taken on "food shortage" that is important. We have lunch available for students on both campuses. She has a lunch pantry and hands lunches out discretely. They can slip in the office and get food in the office that is the same food that is for sale downstairs. So, it looks like they bought it in the store. This has been new for us this year. Stephanie Grotzky is doing such a wonderful job. She will provide a food pack for students who want to pick them up before the break. She has collected two grants now at this point.

- **NUAMES Holiday Drive:**

Instead of buying small things for each other here at work, we will purchase items for students in need. At both campuses, we provided a Holiday pack to about 20 students. This year, so far, we are around \$1,500 of donated money from our staff. We will deliver these gifts next week for our students. We start with fee waived students and also take suggestions from teachers and counselors of who they think could use a Christmas surprise.

- **Friday C Days:**

We are collecting data and learning what works and doesn't work for these new C days, and we are making some adjustments. We are watching teachers and students learn how to maximize their Friday C days. Last Friday, we had a student who we are working with in SPED. We met with him and his dad. He had a 6% in his World History class. By the end of the time with his teacher on Friday, he was at 42%. In one day, to make that much progress was significant. There is such value in the Friday C days.

- **First semester ends January 7**

Adding 3 concurrent enrollment courses in partnerships with Weber State. They want to open seats for NUAMES students – these classes will be completely online. We have a WSU professor who promotes the geography classes. She is an advocate for NUAMEDS students.

- Music 1010
- Finance 1010
- Physical Science/Geography GEO class.

With these additions, we have confirmed one student who will complete an Associate Degree solely through concurrent enrollment at NUAMES. Not through Weber State. We have everything it takes for a student to get an Associate Degree here at NUAMES!

School Update:

- **Student Support:**

December is a stressful time in schools for students. We tell our teachers that our most powerful weapon is to help students to mentally and socially connect.

- We encourage our teachers to meet with students
- Look them in eye
- Talk with them individually. Ask students, “How can I help?”
- We are trying to have our teachers and staff connect personally so students know we “notice and care” about them

➤ **NY Times Article:**

Our teacher, Blake Bockholt had a grammar article published in the New York Times. He has been spotlighted and won a scholarship with the New York Times in the positive way.

- <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/03/learning/sentences-that-matter-mentor-and-motivate.html>

- **Classroom Evaluations:**

Our administration has been conducting classroom evaluations. Kelli has never seen better Presentations and things going on in classrooms. COVID has presented us with many obstacles, but our faculty and administration have been a great job. Two new teachers first year out of college. They are the best and the brightest. Learning and growing. They are teachable and have our kids interest at heart. Working so hard at this time 2020. Kelli shared two stories of how NUAMES has helped students with depression and suicide thoughts. They love coming and love the teachers who make a difference to them.

Open and Public Meetings Act: Nate Taggart

Our board is well aware of the open meetings act and have been sent information in packets from Kelli. This act refers to meeting minutes and recordings of meetings. It’s good to be reminded that we are a public service entity.

Graduation Update:

If things continue the way they are, we will look at another drive-through graduation like last year. It was very personal and students and parents LOVED it! We celebrated the family as well as the students.

Next Meeting: March 3, 2020 - 10:00 am via Zoom

Adjourn Meeting:

Motion to adjourn: Lynette Gilbert. Second, Linda. All in favor.