

**Aspire Trade High School BOD Meeting Minutes**

**Location:** Zoom Call

**Date:** July 28, 2022

**Time:** 6:45 pm – 7:15 pm

# In Attendance

Board Chair – Lauren Nicholson

Vice Board Chair – Jennifer Nichols Secretary – Derek Partee

Treasurer – Jim Secunda

**Absent**

Board Member – Dale Halton

# Agenda Items

1. **Review and Approve June 16, 2022 Minutes**

**Motion:** James Secunda: Motion to approve as written. Lauren Nichols: Seconds the motion.

**Motion Approved:** Voted Yes: Jennifer Nichols, Lauren Nicholson, Derek Partee, and Jim Secunda.

# 2.) Construction Update

# Everything is on track. We are still working on the issues of the tree save in the back acreage and the pipe being installed in the front of the property. We have changed the plans slightly; we are going out 8ft on the second-floor flex labs. We will get some construction dates soon that will help us plan our events like the block signing party and topping out ceremony.

# 3.) Potential Lab Updates

# Whitlock Builders has agreed to do the masonry and tile lab. Swinerton has agreed to do the carpentry lab. Precision Plumbing (Plumbing), Trane (HVAC) and SteelFab (Welding/Fabrication) are all secured. We are hoping to get an automotive lab partner and are reaching out to Joe Gibbs Racing. We have only one lab left to name. We have an experienced (40 years) retired chef coming out to visit us on Monday. He is very interested in teaching, and we will see what we can plan with the culinary lab. We also have lots of people calling us about the school, we think it is from the billboards and the screen fencing around the construction site.

# 4.) Marketing

# Website hits – We don’t have data on this since Karen at LBR was sending us linked data with the Facebook ads which are no longer running.

# Student Interest/Enrollment Forms – Totals to Date

# We received 7 additional enrollment forms and the total list is up to 113.

# Flyer distribution

# Marianna and Luke are connecting with Parks and Rec to get in front of middle school and 9th grade students.

# Billboard Campaign Update

# We feel the billboard campaign is really getting the high school’s name noticed. We have received a lot of calls, moving forward Jennifer and staff will ask how they heard of us to track if it is from the billboards. Heidi has seen the billboards on her drive and said they look great, they are bright and very clear. Cathy will send the billboard campaign and locations to the board.

# Additional:

# Derek will reach out to the Autism in Color group in Charlotte to speak with them about our schools. Rob Dixon will share the billboards on his personal Facebook. Marianna will share the billboards on ATHS social media. Rob Dixon will see if he can get us a volunteer table at an Angels of 97 event he helps organize. It will be on October 15th or 22nd, he will let us know. Jennifer has secured 200 chairs for the Whitlock event. We are ready to host multiple events at our school.

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# 5.) Finance Update

# Truist has secured an investor for us. The investor had more questions for us and will let us know their final decision in the next few weeks. Jennifer spoke with Rob Kettner and we are 96% there – the remaining information needed is from Kettner and Truist. We are expecting a late August loan and we feel our timeline is good. Rae Glover reached out to the Truist Team handling our loan and she said all is well and she is very excited for the project to move forward. She will visit us at the school next week.

# 7.) Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, August 25th at 6:45.**

**8.) Motion:** Motion to adjourn meeting. Lauren Nicholson: Motion to adjourn.

Jennifer Nichols seconds the motion.

**Motion Approved:** Voted Yes: Jennifer Nichols, Derek Partee, Jim Secunda, and Lauren Nicholson.

**10.)** Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.