# MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PARNASSUS PREPARATORY SCHOOL

#### Held September 14, 2021

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Parnassus Preparatory School, a Minnesota non-profit corporation (the "Company" or the "School"), held on September 14, 2021, at Parnassus Preparatory School, 11201 96<sup>th</sup> Street, Maple Grove, Minnesota.

Present at the meeting were directors, Greg Friess, Ravi Shanbhag, Ben Ark, Ken Zigrino and Barb Rose. Also present from the School was Ms. Ford, Executive Director.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Friess at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Friess noted the presence of a quorum. All directors present waived notice of the meeting.

# **MISSION STATEMENT**

The first order of business was to recite the mission statement of the School, which was done by Mr. Friess.

# **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The next order of business was to approve the Agenda for the meeting included in the Board's packet circulated prior to the meeting (the "Board Packet"). Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the Agenda as presented in the Board Packet.

# **CONSENT AGENDA**

The next order of business was to approve the Consent Agenda for the meeting included in the Board Packet. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the items in the Consent Agenda as presented in the Board Packet.

## DISCUSSION OF ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The next order of business was to discuss certain administrative items. Ms. Ford noted that (i) extracurricular activities were growing steadily; (ii) enrollment was looking strong, and she expects it to be at or above targets; (iii) open enrollment begins in October; (iv) 22 new staff members had been hired, including 13 teachers, 4 new and 13 replacement, as well as 5 paraprofessionals; (v) the School has all the bus drivers needed; and (vi) the School is applying or ESSER funds for academic intervention. She also discussed the School's Covid protocols, stating among other things that there had been 37 confirmed positive Covid cases, resulting in 153 quarantines or isolations. She stated that most of these were due to "close contact" quarantine requirements and stated that if mandatory masking was in place this number would be significantly reduced, as per a graph presented in the Board Packet. Mr. Zigrino then asked where this provision was to be found as, after a search of the MDE website he was unable to find

it. Ms. Ford agreed to forward him this provision. Finally, she discussed a one-semester approval of a School application for limited online learning for quarantined scholars. No formal action was taken.

# **COMMITTEE ITEMS**

The next order of business was to discuss certain Committee items. The first item discussed was from the Finance Committee. Mr. Fries discussed, and the Board reviewed the June 2021 Preliminary Financial Report. No formal action was taken.

## **APPROVAL OF POLICY 503 AMENDMENTS**

The next order of business was to approve the proposed Policy 503, Attendance Policy, contained in the Board Packet. The proposed Policy 503 added Section XVII, Student Leave of Absence, which allowed certain leaves of absence in limited situations – e.g., where students were away on a foreign exchange program or due to parents being temporarily transferred, etc. It was noted that the MDE had recommended this addition. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved Policy 503 as presented in the Board Packet.

## **REVIEW OF POLICY 808 ON FACE COVERINGS**

The next order of business was to review the proposed Policy 808, Face Coverings, contained in the Board Packet. The proposed Policy 808 would reverse the Board's determination in August to make masks voluntary, and would replace that policy with mandatory masking throughout the School, thus allowing the School to quarantine many fewer students due to the new MDH recommendations Ms. Ford had mentioned. The Board members engaged in a lengthy and wide-ranging discussion on the pros and cons of mandatory masking. Mr. Friess stated that a special meeting to vote on this Policy was scheduled for September 17, 2021. No formal action was taken.

#### **COMMUNITY COMMENT**

The next order of business was to hear comments from Community Members in attendance. Six Community Members submitted comments to Mr. Zigrino, and five spoke to the Board, on both sides of the issue of mandatory masking. In accordance with long-standing Board policy, they were thanked for their input, but no response was given by the Board. No formal action was taken.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The next order of business was to discuss the adjournment of the meeting. On motion made and duly seconded, the Board of Directors unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth D. Zigrino, Secretary