

Dr. Ben Ploeger *Superintendent of Schools*  
Dawn Rock *HS Principal*



Jessie Coyle *ES Principal*  
Barnaby Payne *MS Principal*

## Board of Directors

January 21, 2020 – 1:30 – 3:00 PM

Kaohsiung American School

No. 889, Cuei-Hua Rd., Zuoying District., Kaohsiung, Taiwan

### KAS MISSION STATEMENT

*KAS challenges students to achieve academic excellence and prepares them to be:*

***Balanced Individuals***

*Academics, arts, athletics*

***Independent Learners***

*Passionate, curious, critical thinkers*

***Global Citizens***

*Aware, ethical, cooperative*

### MINUTES

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ken

Board Chair Ken called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Roll Call was taken at this time, Board Directors Ken Lin, Matt O'Connor, Denny Ko, David Hwang, Monica Yang, Yin-Pin Wang, Eric Chang, Tony Shien were present. Cory Pavicich was present electronically.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Ken

Matt moved, Monica second, the agenda was approved unanimously.

#### 3. MATTERS OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Ken

There were no comments from the public.

## 4. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Ken

- a. Approval of Board of Directors minutes November 19, 2019 (Enclosure)

Eric moved, Tony second, the Board approved the consent agenda items as presented for November 19, 2019.

## 5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Ploeger

Dr. Ploeger reported that we have a total of 784 students. 24 faculty dependent, and 760 paid students. Current waitlist is 104. Applications for 2020-2021 are already over 220 which is the largest number in school's history. We already received 22 PK applications for next year. Dr. Ploeger will travel to Cambridge hiring fair on January 23 then attending the Alumni Association gathering in Los Angeles on Feb 1, 2020, it will be the biggest alumni gathering that we ever have had in the USA. Ms. Rock will be Interim Acting Superintendent during the work travel of Superintendent. As for updates on college decisions, we have some good news so far, but we are still very far from the finish. The IB result, KAS students performs better compared to the world, as well as AP results. Dr. Ploeger reported he met with Da-Yi on January 17. The Bureau of Education requires that the wall between KAS and Da-Yi should be demolished and rebuilt. Dr. Ploeger informed them that we will report this to our Board and Counsel, and have our architect, engineer to evaluate. Will get back to Da-Yi in late February. This is also an important example of why we must continue reserving for unexpected costs. Over the winter break, we had the KAS school signboard repaired. Many wall repainting and some replacements and improvements inside our school, power inspection, and disinfection were also done over the winter break. Credits to our Facilities Department as well as supportive Board Directors.

## 6. PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

HS, MS, and ES Principals

Mr. Coyle shared some photos of our 5th grade field trip to Tainan Anping old fort. Mr. Coyle thinks it is very important for students to have a better connection with what they have learned in class to the real community. The Child Protection and Community Wellness Handbook is created for teachers and staff as a guideline and outline of addressing a problem when it occurs. This is coming up from part of the WASC reports and main goal is to keep our students safe as well as compliance with Taiwanese Law and our internal procedures. Elementary School team are working on the second step which is having a Social Emotional and Child Protection Program.

Mr. Payne reported 88% of MS students are qualified for the fall semester honor roll. Over one-third of students on the Superintendent's Honor roll, which is the highest honors. Mr. Payne reported we have to understand who are the students who didn't earn the award and

what their needs are and the way we know our curriculum are rigor and students are really learning is by high qualified staff, NWEA/MAP scores, university matriculation and instructional rigor using standards based instruction. This is very important for teachers and students to understand the same core curriculum and standard course outline, lining up the curriculum from G6-10. Our MS after school program, we provide 11 activities, 171 participates in season 1. We provided 14 activities in season 2. 163 students participated.

Ms. Rock reported she wants to echo what Dr. Ploeger said that we have to be patient on the university acceptances. It is important for adults to help students manage their anxious, uncertain feelings during this time. Upcoming events in HS are GIN, MUN in Hague, and ACAMIS basketball in Shanghai. Mr. Rock expected seniors to be at school every day all the way till graduation, please help us spread the word. WASC visit is scheduled on March 15-19. Reports are nearly finished, it is going to be due by February 1st. MYP and DP are also sending a team to visit. We will need Board Directors to attend a few meetings, Ms. Rock will have more information out when we have the schedule.

## 7. EXPECTATIONS OF THE BOARD (Policy Ref 4.D) – Superintendent Dr. Ploeger

- a. Dr. Ploeger will present Monitoring Report 3.I – Board Awareness & Support. (Separate Enclosure)

Recommended motion: “Move to accept the Expectations of the Board Report through 3.I – Board Awareness & Support as conveying reasonable interpretation of the executive limitations as presented.”

Eric moved, Matt second, item a. was approved unanimously.

- b. Dr. Ploeger will present Monitoring Report 3.J – Emergency Planning. (Separate Enclosure)

Recommended motion: “Move to accept the Expectations of the Board Report 3.J – Emergency Planning as conveying reasonable interpretation of the executive limitations as presented.”

Matt moved, Ken second, item b. Was approved unanimously.

## 8. GOVERNANCE PROCESS THAT SUPPORT OUR GOALS

Chair Ken

Approval of 2020-2021 Calendar

Monica moved, Matt second, the calendar was approved unanimously.

- a. Board Committees

# KAOHSIUNG AMERICAN SCHOOL

PREPARING BALANCED INDIVIDUALS, INDEPENDENT LEARNERS, AND GLOBAL CITIZENS

## i. Finance Committee – Treasurer Denny / Business Manager Candy

### 1. SY 1920 YTD Income Statement

Ms. Chiu reported there are 54% of the budget remaining.

### 2. Enrollment 2nd semester of SY1920

Up to Jan 14th, we have a total of 781 students. 16 new students, 11 left. 94% paid by the due date.

### 3. Update of Nov. 19 BM Decision

Set 80M contingency fund in En Tai bank for evacuation purposes. Set 35M and 10M in E sun bank for expected issues or unforeseen campus repair. To repay 13M which is 20% of the Net Increase in cash and cash equivalents.

### 4. Aligning resources for student benefit

We focus on Literacy because we know that prepares students for success in some of the world's best universities and beyond. We also improved MYP and DP teaching, we increased alignment between MYP and DP, as well as provided more AP courses. We want to add more budget on science and art. Also will update PE/Athletic equipment for better learning environments and competition, centered on our 3A's. We will add one more teacher due to the strong enrollment.

### 5. Tuition Increase

2.65% - 4 votes (Matt, Monica, David, Cory)

1.6% - 3 votes (Ken, Tony, Bin)

1 abstain - Denny

Eric left earlier so he was not present during this time.

2.65% of tuition increase is approved by majority rule.

Matt motioned, David second, the above items were approved unanimously.

## ii. Resource Committee – Director Tony

-The Resource Committee moves to recommend building an Early Child Education Center as part of the discussions for the KAS 2030 Vision.

-The committee recommends postponing the pursuit of covered basketball courts until the location/design of Early Child Education is finalized.

-The committee recommends reserving adequate resources to enable development of Early Child Education Center.

-The slides reflected the committee's discussion regarding the Da Yi wall.

-The committee recommends developing a fundraising strategy specific to Early

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Child Education Center or possible future expansions.

Matt moved, David second, the recommendations were approved unanimously.

iii. Nominating Committee

No report.

iv. Policy Committee – Dr. Ploeger

b. Board Development

c. Policy Work

d. Executive Session

The Board went into executive session at 3:26 p.m. by unanimous roll call.

## 9. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Chair Ken

March 20, 2020	12:30 PM Work Session 1:30 PM Board Business Meeting
April 22, 2020	7:30 Annual General Meeting
June 8, 2020	12:30 PM Work Session 1:30 PM Board Business Meeting

## 10. BOARD MEETING SELF EVALUATION

Chair Ken

## 11. CLOSING COMMENTS

Chair Ken

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m. unanimously.