APPROVED

Alma del Mar

Minutes

Board of Trustees

Date and Time
Friday August 28, 2020 at 9:00 AM

Location
Remotely via Zoom

Trustees Present
B. Cunningham (remote), C. Arnold (remote), C. Bator (remote), G. Fortes (remote), J. Baptist (remote), L. Hicks (remote), M. Kay (remote), M. Rosario (remote)

Trustees Absent
V. Brown

Guests Present
B. Kurie (remote), E. Darrow (remote), New Bedford Cable Access (remote), W. Gardner (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

J. Baptist called a meeting of the board of trustees of Alma del Mar to order on Friday Aug 28, 2020 at 9:05 AM.

C.

Approve Minutes 8/14/2020

L. Hicks made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Meeting: Approval of Terms of New Facility Financing on 08-14-20.
M. Kay seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Baptist	Aye
L. Hicks	Aye
M. Rosario	Absent
G. Fortes	Aye
M. Kay	Aye
V. Brown	Absent
B. Cunningham	Absent
C. Bator	Aye
C. Arnold	Aye

D. Approve Minutes 8/7/2020

L. Hicks made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 08-07-20.
B. Cunningham seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Kay	Aye
M. Rosario	Absent
G. Fortes	Aye
V. Brown	Absent
C. Bator	Aye
B. Cunningham	Aye
C. Arnold	Aye
L. Hicks	Aye
J. Baptist	Aye

E. Approve Minutes 7/24/2020

L. Hicks made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 07-24-20.
G. Fortes seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Hicks	Aye
M. Rosario	Aye
J. Baptist	Aye
C. Arnold	Aye
G. Fortes	Aye
M. Kay	Aye
C. Bator	Aye

Roll Call

V. Brown	Absent
B. Cunningham	Aye

F. Approve Minutes 6/26/2020

L. Hicks made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 06-26-20.
B. Cunningham seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Baptist	Aye
V. Brown	Absent
G. Fortes	Aye
M. Kay	Aye
B. Cunningham	Aye
C. Arnold	Aye
L. Hicks	Aye
C. Bator	Aye
M. Rosario	Aye

G. Approve Minutes 6/5/2020

The Board approved these minutes. We then realized these minutes had already been approved.

II. Academic Excellence

A. School Reopening

The Board viewed a video showing scholars saying what they are excited for in the new remote school year.
W. Gardner shared school reopening updates.
W. Gardner reviewed the timeline of training for all staff.
W Gardner explained to the Board which scholars qualify to return to school in person as a part of "Group A".
W. Gardner described the school's approach to allowing teachers to teacher remotely from their homes instead of from classrooms.
C. Arnold asked about the updated ventilation system in the Ottiwell building.
W. Gardner reported that all students in Massachusetts are required to receive a flu shot by December 31.The school is looking to schedule flu shot clinics for staff and scholars.
W. Gardner reviewed the statewide metrics for determining opening model based on the presence of COVID-19 in the New Bedford community.
W. Gardner reviewed Alma's current enrollment.

B. Draft 20-21 Goals

W. Gardner shared Alma's priorities for Reopening with the Board.

B. Cunningham stated that the Board needs to have access to this document.
E. Darrow will share the priorities with the Board.
Related to our priority of promoting equity, C. Arnold asked about how the school is currently doing in terms of promoting equity.
W. Gardner responded that Alma is naming this more explicitly as a priority.
C. Arnold asked about instructional walks. W. Gardner explained how these would be used to monitor the remote learning program.
M. Kay discussed the challenge that teachers are working through in order to teach remotely this year. The Board discussed finding a way for the Board to view remote classes to gain an understanding of the scholar and teacher experience.

C. 20-21 School Year Calendar

C. Bator made a motion to approve the calendar as drafted.
G. Fortes seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
M. Kay	Aye
B. Cunningham	Aye
L. Hicks	Aye
J. Baptist	Aye
G. Fortes	Aye
V. Brown	Absent
C. Bator	Aye
C. Arnold	Aye
M. Rosario	Aye

III. Alma Real Estate

A. Douglass Construction Update

The Douglass building construction is on track for completion during the 2021-2022 school year.
A key item is the delivery of the pre-fabricated building structure.

IV. Development

A. Development Update

C. Arnold reports that we have welcomed Becca Kurie back
The Board is planning a groundbreaking event for September for the new building.
The Board discussed a fundraising dashboard.
B. Kurie stated that she will meet with our Director of Finance to confirm fundraising and then will share the info out with the Board.
J. Baptist asked about the vision and agenda for the groundbreaking ceremony.

B. Kurie stated that she is working on that now and will share more information with the Board soon.
B. Kurie described COVID-19 precautions that will be taken at the event.
The Board discussed ways to honor Mr. Haddad who has worked so hard on the planning for the new building.
B. Cunningham asked who would be invited to the groundbreaking event. W. Gardner will connect B. Cunningham with B. Kurie to discuss and to ensure that the invite list is inclusive of all relevant stakeholders.

V. Finance

A. FY20 Year End Financials

B. Cunningham reports that we have a new addition to the Finance Committee.
B. Cunningham described the budget surplus from last year.
C. Arnold asked how we have managed budget surpluses in the past.
G. Fortes made a motion to have the BOT approve contributing a $300k of the FY20 operating surplus to the Foundation.
B. Cunningham seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Kay	Aye
C. Arnold	Aye
L. Hicks	Aye
M. Rosario	Aye
B. Cunningham	Aye
C. Bator	Aye
V. Brown	Absent
J. Baptist	Aye
G. Fortes	Aye

G. Fortes made a motion to have the BOT approve a $300k "Bridge Loan" between the School and Foundation which will be repaid using incoming pledge payments in FY21.
B. Cunningham seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. Fortes	Aye
M. Kay	Aye
B. Cunningham	Aye
L. Hicks	Aye
M. Rosario	Aye
V. Brown	Absent
C. Arnold	Aye
J. Baptist	Aye
C. Bator	Aye

L. Hicks departed the meeting.

B. EFF Closing and Funding Gap

VI. Governance

A. Governance Update

G. Fortes discussed the goal setting process for all committees.
G. Fortes discussed ongoing Anti-Bias and Anti-Racist trainings for the Board of Trustees.
Each committee has been asked to set goals that reference and include Alma's dedication to becoming an anti-racist organization.
G. Fortes reports that the Governance Committee is focused on planning for the Annual Meeting and Board Retreat.
M. Rosario asked for more information about the staff training and board training to promote equity.
G. Fortes stated that the Governance Committee is reviewing the slate and also is considering new trustees and reviewing the bylaws.

B. Trustee Nomination

B. Cunningham made a motion to approve Alicia Cortez as a new member of Alma del Mar's Board of Trustees.
M. Rosario seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
G. Fortes	Aye
C. Arnold	Aye
B. Cunningham	Aye
V. Brown	Absent
M. Rosario	Aye
M. Kay	Aye
L. Hicks	Absent
C. Bator	Aye
J. Baptist	Aye

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:39 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
E. Darrow