

TEXAS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

BOARD PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

May 27, 2022

1. Call to order

Brenda Lee called to order the meeting of the TSBVI Board Committee on Programs at 8:02 a.m. on May 8th, 2022, from the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 1100 West 45th Street, Austin, Texas.

Board member Beth Jones was also present. Elaine Robertson joined at 8:18 am.

TSBVI staff members participating in the meeting were: Miles Fain, Comprehensive Programs Principal; Sara Merritt, Short-Term Programs Principal; Kate Borg, Outreach Director; Ria Ferich-Counselor, and Jenny Wells, TSBVI Attorney.

2. Consideration of Approval of Minutes of the April 8th, 2022 Meeting

Beth Jones shared the minutes and suggested minor edits of the April 8th, 2022 meeting be approved. Beth motioned and Brenda Lee seconded the motion to approve the minutes with the edits. The motion passed.

3. Consideration of Approval of Board Policies

Jenny Wells reviewed Policy FFG – Student Welfare: Abuse, Neglect, Exploitation, and Improper Child Care Incidents and explained that TSBVI includes improper care in this policy which is in addition to TASB's policy recommendation. In the future, she may recommend that we separate the reporting and investigation of improper care into a separate policy. This practice is above and beyond what is required by law. The policy was recommended for review only.

Brenda Lee motioned to approve Policy FFG and Ms. Jones seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Report from Comprehensive Programs Principal, Miles Fain

a. School Health Advisory Council's activities and recommendations

Ria Ferich reviewed the TSBVI School Health Advisory Council activities including the four meetings held this year.

b. Comprehensive Programs update

Miles shared updates on open and filled teacher and teacher aide positions.

5. Report from Short-Term Programs Principal, Sara Merritt

a. Short-Term Programs update

Sara Merritt reported that Short-Term Programs enrollment numbers for the 2021-22 school year were 310 students with an unduplicated student count of 119.

b. Update on Summer 2022 programs

Ms. Merritt stated that summer 2022 programs will be held in-person and on campus. There were 264 students invited to attend summer and, so far, 240 students have confirmed attendance.

6. Report from Outreach Director, Kate Borg

a. Outreach Programs update

Kate shared the following information/data about Outreach services for the school year:

- About 7,100 people attended workshops, conferences, study groups, webinars this school year
- 2,350 attended the 38 Coffee Hour sessions
- 3 conferences were hold (SWOMA, Tx Focus, Low Vision) with 844 attendees
- 3 Mentor Centers were held with 69 total participants
- Family events in coordination with the Short-Term Programs included:
 - Discovering the Future
 - In the Driver's Seat
 - Game of Life
 - City Travel
- Consultations
 - Coaching is now being done with district/family teams
 - There were 63 student consultations and 202 visits/sessions over the school year

7. Adjournment

Elaine Robertson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Beth Jones seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.