Members Present: Ten members of the Board were present: Patrick Smith (Chair), Melissa Aguilar, Tony Battaglia, Jeffrey Becker, Dawn Hamilton, Josh Mark, Lisa Mucci, Traci Myman, Matt Rinnert and Marc Polansky (arrived late). These members constitute a quorum

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Parents/Community: several guests joined the meeting via video conference. Staff: Irina Castillo (ExED), Annie Cox, Caitlin Healy, Kathy Jamison and Erin Studer.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Board Chair/President P. Smith.

II. Public comment

Distance Learning for Students with Disabilities at the Charter School: Hagint Babakhanian asked what Distance Learning and support for students with disabilities will look like next school year.

Parent Participation in LCAP: Erika Luna-Contreras brought up the issue of parent participation in the LCAP.

III. Approval of the Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of the June 23, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting.

M/S/P Motion (M. Rinnert/L. Mucci) to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2020 Board of Directors meeting as presented.

VOTE
No’s: None
Abstentions: Tony Battaglia
MOTION Passes: 8-0-0

IV. Program Reports

1. The Report for the CHIME/CSUN Partnership Committee was given by Dr. Amy Hanreddy, CSUN faculty and CHIE/CSUN Committee liaison. The report included the role of the liaison, accomplishments and goals for next year. The full report is attached to this document.

2. The Report for the Early Education Programs was distributed and reviewed and included the following:

End of Extended School Year: Our Extended School Year (ESY) will end on July 29 and we are holding a “Drive-Through” to distribute books and educational materials, to say good bye to the preschoolers going into kindergarten and a quick hello to those who will be returning in the fall.
Preschool Enrollment: We have worked closely with LAUSD and are finalizing enrollment for the Preschool Program. Because in-person assessments are not currently taking place, the School District is deferring special education eligibility labels but offering students access to placement and services.

Planning for Fall 2020: The Early Education team has planning and meeting regularly and after latest concerns over the COVID-19 and guidance from the Governor, CDE and LAUSD on school closures we are now focusing on developing plans for Distance Learning for the fall semester. We are looking at “lessons learned” from our experience so far and fine tuning a variety of synchronous and asynchronous activities along with planning for distribution of materials to support the learning of these very young children while increasing parent engagement. We are continuing to work closely with the CSUN Child and Family Studies Center (Lab School) to support children and families and have been planning together to address curriculum and instruction virtually. The CSUN campus including the Lab School building will remain closed for the fall semester.

Early Education Committee: We have continued to meet and receive support from CSUN faculty Dr. Haney and Dr. Chai and will next be generating ideas on the best way to leverage the partnership between CHIME and CSUN during distance learning.

Early Start “Re-Entry” Workgroup: We have continued to participate in a workgroup set up by North Los Angeles County Regional Center (NLACRC) to establish guidelines on safe return to providing Home Visits and Center-Based options to infant and toddlers and their families.

Directives from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS): We have been receiving monthly updates and the latest (July 17, 2020) Directives from Department of Developmental Disabilities include “alternative service delivery approaches”, extension of absence payments to 8/31/2020; outlines an Alternative Service Delivery Framework; Technical Assistance and Training supports for Providers and Regional Centers in meeting consumers' needs: https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/DDSDirective_Extensions_07152020.pdf

Our next steps now include additional staff training and a “Self-Certification” for our Infant and Toddler Program.

Other Items: Valley Nonprofit Resources (VNR) Seminars: P. Smith and I have signed up for their Increasing Access to Capital seminar to be held on July 29, 2020.

ACTION ITEM – Approval of Online Instruction to begin the year: Whereas the Governor of the State of California has declared that schools within a county which is on the Governor’s COVID-19 watch list may not operate school in person until they have been removed from the watchlist for 14 consecutive days; AND whereas the current significant increase in the COVID-19 outbreak in LA County renders it unadvisable to seek a waiver to this order

Board members had questions that were answered. In particular, it is worth noting that attendance for the upcoming school year will be “locked” at last year’s level and an outreach plan will be developed after 3 days of attendance. Board members had questions about how learning will be provided for all students and the need for outreach to the approximately 5% of students who have “dropped out” of school during the pandemic. E. Studer added that staff is doing all they can to reach out to those families. In addition, he explained Assembly Bill 77 is in place to address Learning Continuity Plans.
M/S/P Motion (D. Hamilton/J. Mark) to approve plan that CHIME Institute’s Schwarzenegger’s community School shall begin the 2020-21 school year via a distance learning program and shall continue delivering instruction to students via distance learning until such time as determined by the Executive Director with guidance from local and state health official that it become feasible to return students to campus for in person instruction.

VOTE
No’s: None
Abstentions: None
MOTION PASSES: 10-0-0

Budget Update: Staff is awaiting additional information concerning the funding rates for schools are currently being issued by the state via budget trailer bills. A full review of revenues for the 20-21 school year will be presented at the August board meeting along with any revisions that may be necessary at that time. P. Smith asked that the 19/20 Actuals be submitted to the Finance Committee prior to the August meeting.

Preparation for the 20-21 school year: Staff is currently working on a number of issues to prepare for the upcoming school year including technology and software purchases, PPE purchases, cleaning and sanitation purchases and procedures. The purchases will be undertaken to assure school effective operations and programing in both distance learning, hybrid or full in person instruction throughout.

V. Board Committee Reports/Updates

1. Finance and Audit Committee: M. Polansky brought up the Retirement Accounts. He will reach out to Brent Guttman, Partner at FMS Financial Partners, Inc. who is providing advice on the decision-making process on developing an investment plan for the Defined Benefit Plan.

2. Board Development Committee: P. Smith reported discussions and considerations of a number of candidates are taking place as the CHIME Institute Board moves towards a community board.

3. Fundraising and PR Committee: D. Hamilton reported a meeting with the CCA is taking place tomorrow (July 21, 2020) at 1:00 P.M. to discuss fundraising ideas.

VI. Adjournment

M/S/P Motion (P. Smith/J. Mark) to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE
No’s: None
Abstentions: None
MOTION PASSES: 10-0-0