



1882 Governing Board

February 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Present Via Zoom:

1882 Board Members:

Lynn McBee	Sharonda Pruitt
Jeanne Whitman	Sonia Rodriguez
Travis Hutt	Kate Williamson
Betty Burks	Koshi Dhingra

1882 Executive Director: Berta Fogerson

Principals: Delia McLerran, Jennifer Seybert, Andrea Pitts

YWPN Staff: Jennifer Evans

MISD Office of Innovation: Melissa Ware

Agenda:

- I. Call Meeting to Order-Dr. Sharonda Pruitt. Governing Board Chairman**
 - Dr. Pruitt called the meeting to order at 11:33am
 - Lynn McBee introduced Travis Hutt as a new member of the board. He replaced Dave Joyner resigned his seat after his spouse was elected to the Midland Board of Trustees. Travis shared that he has dedicated his career to working in the oil and gas business, and he has been a Midland resident since 2016.

- II. Mission Moment-Delia McLerran & Andrea Pitts YWLA Primary**
 - The YWLA Primary girls were showcased in a video as they responded to their future goals and aspirations as well as their reactions to the inauguration of the first female vice-president.

- III. Approval of the November 2020 Meeting Minutes**
 - Dr. Pruitt made the motion to approve the November meeting minutes. At 11:40, Sonia Rodriguez seconded the motion for approval. At 11:42 all voted to approve the minutes.

- IV. Information and Discussion Items**
 - a. YWPN Partner Update-Lynn McBee, YWPN Chief Executive Officer**

Mrs. McBee provided the following updates pertaining to the work in which YWPN is currently engaged. She reported the following:

- The Network is financially strong and will be celebrating its 20th anniversary as a public-private partner supporting all-girl, public school education in Texas in the coming year.
- The 10th YWPN school will open in Aldine in the fall of 2021.
- The school in Ysleta will be celebrating its first graduating class in May of 2022.
- YWPN has acquired the services of Jennifer Long, former Director of the Ann Richards School Foundation, to work with the development of strong advisory councils in several YWPN schools. The current focus has been in creating a council to provide sustainability for the school in Houston and then Ysleta and Midland will follow.
- The annual YWPN STEAM challenge was delayed from February 27th to a date TBD in March. The severe weather conditions caused a loss of utilities and academic time in schools for teams to adequately prepare, and it was determined that the competition should be delayed.
- All the schools are working on their College Signing Day events. The purpose is to recognize graduating seniors on their acceptance to college and celebrate their scholarship packages. This is part of all YWPN school traditions.
- YWPN is recognizing outstanding educators for contributions in single-gender education. Applications for the Educator of Excellence Award are in the process of being submitted. Jeanne Goka, former Ann Richards School Principal, is leading this initiative. Winning teachers will be recognized with a monetary award and a plaque for their classroom.
- Efforts to expand YWPN's reach in Texas continue. Dallas ISD has reinitiated the conversation pertaining to the expansion of the Balch Springs campus to include high school. The projected date for this endeavor is 2022-23 school year. In addition, there is interest in a future school opening in South Texas.

b. YWPN Update, Berta Fogerson, Chief Academic Officer

Mrs. Fogerson reported the following information pertaining to board training, performance data, and school services and programming.

- The Lone Star Governance training that the board must complete has been postponed until such time as it is safe to travel and bring the board together for in-person training as required. The board will submit a letter of intent indicating to the Texas Education Agency that the training will be completed in the future and that the requirements of the grant that is funding start up expenses for the YWLA San Antonio Primary campus will be met.
- Middle of year student performance data indicated that the three campuses are on target to meet the Year 2 Goals as set forth in the Partnership Agreements. The following data points were shared:

YWLA Primary Progress Data-Spring 2021

Performance Measure 1: Campus Overall Rating

School Year	2020-21 Target	Current Data
Overall I Rating		NA

Performance Measure 2: Student Achievement (Proficiency)

School Year	2020-21 Target	Current Data
Student Achievement Domain Rating from State Accountability		NA
Spring MAP Reading (>41 st Percentile)	45%	77%
Spring MAP Math (>41 st Percentile)	40%	76%
Spring MAP Reading (>61 st Percentile)	28%	62%
Spring MAP Math (>61 st Percentile)	23%	53%
STAAR/EOC Performance (Average of Approaches/ Meets/Masters)		NA

Performance Measure 3: Student Progress

School Year	2020-21 Target	Current Data
Progress Rating from State Accountability		NA
MAP Reading (Met Growth)	40%	Pending
MAP Math (Met Growth)	37%	Pending

YWLA Secondary-Spring 2021

Performance Measure 1: Campus Overall Rating

School Year	2020-21 Target	Current Data
Overall Rating	Met Standard (A)	Met Standard (A)

Performance Measure 2: Student Achievement Domain

School Year	2020-21 Target	Current Data
Domain Rating	Met Standar d (A)	Met Standard (A)
STAAR/EOC Performance	94%	Pending
Graduation Rate	98%	100%
CCMR	100%	100%
Dual Credit Earned	76%	Pending
Met CR on SAT - ELA	98%	100%
Met CR on SAT - Math	91%	91%
AP/IB Met Criterion	70%	Pending

Performance Measure 3: Progress Domain

School Year	2020-21 Target	Current Data
Domain Rating	Met Standard (A)	Pending
STAAR/EOC Growth	91%	Pending
Average of STAAR/EOC Performance and CCMR	97%	100%

Performance Measure 4: Closing the Gap Domain

School Year	2020-21 Target	Current Data
Domain Rating	Met Standard (A)	Pending

Achievement, Fed Graduation Rate, and School Quality (Indicators Met)	100%	100%
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YWLA Midland Data-Spring 2021

Performance Goal	2021 Performance Target	Current Data
Students Meet or Exceed Progress in Reading	60%	67%
Students Meet or Exceed Progress in Math	60%	67%
Eco Dis Population Meet or Exceed Progress in Reading and Math	50%	65%
Student Reading Proficiency on Grade Level	80%	95%
Performance gap between all sub groups	Less than 20% gap	10%

- **YWPN** continues to provide **services** to the schools in the way of programming, enhancement opportunities, social emotional learning support, professional development, and access to resources as requested.
- Monthly **Network Principal Collaboratives** continue to take place. These have replaced the annual fall and spring learning institutes. These sessions last two hours and address campus issues ranging from virtual recruiting practices to managing various aspects of diversity, equity, and inclusion challenges as they arise. The most recent collaborative took place on February 2nd.
- The **YWPN Campus Council** is being spearheaded by Jeanne Goka and was put in place in November to help schools address social emotional systems of support and to provide a platform for research and strategies for addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion on YWPN campuses.
- YWPN has provided **professional development** support to cover the cost of registration for designated teachers to attend AP Institutes. In addition, the members of the YWPN Campus Council attended the NCGS' Conference: *Building Inclusive, Anti-Racist School Communities, Part II* on February 2nd- 4th, and YWPN covered the registration fees for all members to attend. YWLA San Antonio was selected to present about the tools and strategies they use in talking to students about race. Jen Evers from NCGS sent a very complimentary email praising them for an exceptional presentation.
- In collaboration with Educational Results Partnership (ERP), the Institute for Productivity in Education presents the **Texas Honor Roll**. Honor Roll recognizes public schools for demonstrating consistently higher levels of student academic achievement, improvement over time, and reduction in achievement gaps among ethnic minority and socioeconomically disadvantaged students. Honor Roll is the only school recognition program in the state using only student achievement outcomes as the criteria. For high schools, Honor Roll recognition also includes college and career readiness measures. The Honor Roll also recognizes higher-performing, higher-poverty school districts and charter management organizations. The following YWPN schools have been recognized for outstanding achievement: **Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Lubbock, San Antonio, and Ysleta.**
- Initiated by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) in 1982, the **National Blue Ribbon Schools** program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools that have high student achievement and/or highlights where exemplary progress has been made in closing achievement gaps among student subpopulations. Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Education Agency have announced the nomination of 26 Texas public schools as 2021 National Blue-Ribbon Schools, and the **Young Women's Leadership Academy in San Antonio** is on the list. This is the schools second nomination with the first Blue Ribbon distinction earned in 2015.
- Through a continued partnership with the **Close-Up Foundation**, YWPN currently has 10 HS students participating in the Empowering Female Voices: President's First 100 Days and 6 MS students participating in the Civic Ambassadors Program; these students are from across the Network.

- Our annual **STEAM Challenge** will be taking place virtually on March 27th. It had to be rescheduled from the original date in February due to the weather. Teams will present their project to a panel of judges virtually using Zoom the morning of the 27th. After deliberation, the winners will be announced via Zoom webinar which will be broadcast live on our Facebook page.
- **UTD** has invited middle school students from across the Network to participate in the **Innovate(her) Virtual Conference** in March. This is a day-long conference that equips middle school girls with science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) skills for higher education and future careers.
- The **Women in STEM Speaker Series** in partnership with the San Francisco Girls School will present two additional panels for Network students. Past speakers have included professionals from Google, Roku, Door Dash. We will continue to co-host these through April with speakers from science and technology backgrounds.
- **UT Southwestern Science Panels** have focused on medical school, health and nutrition careers, careers in engineering and mental health professions. These panels will run monthly through March and include panels focused on medical professions, health professions, bio tech and entrepreneurship.

Dr. Pruitt asked for clarification about the Dual Credit performance goal. Berta Fogerson and Delia McLerran responded that the goal for this metric pertained to the percentage of graduating seniors who had earned credit via a dual credit/dual enrollment course.

Dr. Dhingra asked about mentoring opportunities for current students and alumni. Berta Fogerson spoke to the challenges that have been posed as a result of the pandemic. Partners and mentors have resorted to work from home status and opportunities for connectivity are limited. However, virtual mentoring programs are being conducted in the Houston, Dallas, and San Antonio schools.

Travis Hutt asked for an in-depth opportunity to review the performance data presented. Berta Fogerson agreed to schedule a time to meet with him to address the 1882 Performance Agreements.

V. Campus Presentations

- YWLA San Antonio Update**-Mrs. McLerran shared that the projected enrollment for both the YWLA Secondary and Primary campuses would be critical considerations as the 2021-22 budgetary needs were being considered. She shared that recruiting efforts and application reviews were taking place and that additional recruiting would occur to target underrepresented populations of girls in the San Antonio area. She also noted that Phase III of the Primary Campus renovation was underway to accommodate the addition of third grade next year.
- San Antonio School Highlights**-Mrs. McLerran reported the following:
 - Two seniors received **Quest Bridge** matches to Notre Dame and Brown University. These students went through a very selective and rigorous process that included essay evaluations, financial need, and overall academic performance.
 - YWLA Secondary earned the **Region 20 Spelling Bee Championship**.
 - Numerous students competed in the **Science Fair**. YWLA Secondary placed multiple students in various categories with a significant amount of Grand Prize Level Winners

who will advance to the next level of competition in areas such as Behavioral Science, Botany, Chemistry, etc.

- YWLA Primary continues to focus on **science and literacy stations**. These include participation in the outdoor garden, hands on activities, math, and technology, and listening to guest speakers. High levels of student engagement are evident throughout these learning stations and students are enhancing their reading and writing skills while engaging in **STEM** experiences.
- **Health and Wellness** initiatives continue to be a focus on both campuses. Students have been involved in social emotional health activities including a PTSA hosted virtual coronation event, Big Sister/Little Sister programs through Girls, Inc. partnership, daily SEL best practices, American Heart Association care package assembly for families in need, athletic events, and most recently dance activities at the primary as a result of the completed renovation of the dance studio.
- In the area of **Leadership Development**, Mrs. McLerran showed a video of the YWLA primary students reacting to Kamala Harris inauguration as the first female of color vice-president of the United States. She also noted that the YWLA secondary students continued to participate in the Women in STEM Speaker Series, and she acknowledged the participation of YWLA Advisory Council members for engaging in the mentoring program with the seniors.

c. **Young Women's Leadership Academy Midland**-Dr. Seybert provided the following update:

- More than 90% of the students are back on campus for **live instruction**. Those who are not in attendance are taking part in virtual synchronous instruction.
- More than 65% of the students attending YWLA Midland come from D and F rated elementary campuses, so the staff is diligently focusing on providing support and intervention opportunities to **close any achievement gaps**. This is particularly important for 8th graders who will be transitioning to high school next year and will be taking their first AP class.
- Students continue to participate in **academic activities** including: chess, debate, science labs, oral presentations, and robotics. Seven teams competed in Destination Imagination and all seven have advanced to the state competition.
- **Leadership** opportunities have been difficult to organize due to the pandemic; however, the YWLA girls continue to engage in the reading program where they read to younger students at elementary campus that is next door to the school. There have been opportunities for students to work with the local animal shelter, and student ambassadors continue support the Midland community as need arises. Dr. Seybert noted that the girls willingly step up to clean, cook, pick up trash, and serve the Midland community in any way they can.
- A robust menu of **health initiatives** is in place to support the SEL wellness of the students at YWLA Midland. Some of these activities include: intramural and competitive athletics, yoga, mindfulness morning announcements, training with Amanda Mohammed on Social Emotional Awareness, therapy dogs, heart rate monitors in the health and wellness class, cup stacking, and running club.
- The campus has adopted an extra pillar on which to focus. This is the **pillar of opportunity**. Initiatives in this area are designed to bring unique and advantageous

experiences to enhance the level of learning for girls at YWLA Midland. Thirty-three students are involved in competitive robotics—20 of which are identified as “at-risk” students. Each student is provided their own robotics kit, which is not typical. In traditional programs, students have to share. Several of these girls are advancing to regional competition. Students are also taking part in rocket launching, chess, and black light math. Seven Destination Imagination Teams are in place and all have advanced. Students are participating in the YWPN STEAM Challenge, which in the future will allow for students to travel to Dallas on a plane. This is a new experience for most students. The school has also acquired a Book Vending Machine as part of a partnership allowing girls to earn tokens that they can use to buy books to read. All these enhancements are in place to advance the level of learning and opportunity in order to affect the college going trajectory for the girls being served at the school.

Questions and Comments:

Jeanne Whitman asked what was being done to meet the social emotional needs of the 20 YWLA Midland girls who were taking part in virtual instruction. Dr. Seybert responded that an elective virtual course was developed so that these students could meet with the campus counselor to discuss their needs and concerns. She also noted that the girls could still engage in any SEL activity that was taking place during their synchronous instructional time.

Kate Williamson asked what reading curriculum was being used at YWLA Midland and would the school be affected by the changes that MISD will be making to their reading program? Dr. Seybert replied that the school uses Springboard for their curriculum and because of the autonomies granted through the 1882 partnership, the campus would not be affected.

Mrs. McLerran applauded the creation of the Opportunity Pillar to compliment the College Readiness, Leadership, and Health and Wellness Pillars on which the YWPN Model is based.

Dr. Pruitt asked about the AP course the ninth graders would take next year. Dr. Seybert indicated that the girls would take AP Human Geography to align with the rest of the YWPN schools.

Jeanne Whitman noted that the work on the campuses was inspiring and extended her appreciation to the campus leaders for their dedication.

Dr. Pruitt acknowledged the teachers for their commitment to providing a strong synchronous and asynchronous learning experience for the girls.

VI. Meeting Adjournment

- Dr. Pruitt adjourned the meeting at 12:48 p.m.
- **Next Meeting:**
May 3, 2021

