



**YOUNG WOMEN'S  
PREPARATORY NETWORK**

**1882 Governing Board**

**May 13, 2021**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present Via Zoom:**

**1882 Board Members:**

Lynn McBee

Jeanne Whitman

Travis Hutt

Sharonda Pruitt

Betty Burks

Kate Williamson

**1882 Executive Director:** Berta Fogerson

**Principals:** Delia McLerran, Jennifer Seybert, Andrea Pitts

**YWPN Staff:** Jennifer Evans

**Agenda:**

- I. Call Meeting to Order-Dr. Sharonda Pruitt. Governing Board Chairman**  
Dr. Pruitt called the meeting to order at 11:31 am
- II. Mission Moment-Berta Fogerson & Jennifer Seybert**  
Berta Fogerson reviewed the YWPN mission statement and spoke to the purpose and vision of the organization. She noted that it was important to always keep the message at the forefront of all decisions made by the board. Jennifer Seybert indicated she would do her YWLA highlight along with her board report.
- III. Approval of the February 2021 Meeting Minutes**  
Dr. Pruitt made the motion to approve the minutes from the February meeting. Jeanne Whitman provided a second. Motion passed 7-0.
- 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 the organization continues to seek out and sustain strong partnerships and programs.

- The US News Report on school rankings was shared.

School	State Rank	National Rank
Dallas	#2	#15
Houston	#11	#97
Austin	#12	#98
San Antonio	#15	#108
Fort Worth	#17	#117
Lubbock	#26	#165
Grand Prairie	#93	#675

- YWLA Aldine is scheduled to open in August 2021. Support for Principals Jackson continues to be provided as the school gets ready to welcome its first class of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Conversations with Dallas ISD continue regarding the expansion of the school to include high school. YWPN is not in a position to fundraise for infrastructure, but DISD is still interested in making the transition to HS using the existing facility.
- The Educator of Excellence selection process has been completed and the winners will be announced in the following week.
- YWPN will provide seven \$16,000 scholarships to graduating seniors across the Network. The recipients for 2021 have already been named in order to help students in their college selection process.
- YWPN will be celebrating 20 years as the private partner supporting public, all-girls schools in Texas starting in January 2022. Celebratory events will take place throughout the year and schools will be highlighted each month as part of the celebration.

**b. YWPN Update, Berta Fogerson, Chief Academic Officer**

Mrs. Fogerson reported the following information:

- Lone Star Governance will need to be completed in the fall in order to comply with the requirements set forth in the TEA innovation grant that provided support for the YWLA San Antonio Primary School.
- Preliminary budget and staffing meetings have been held with both Midland and San Antonio central office staff members. Budget preparation will take place and presented to the respective budget committees (Midland-Kate Williamson & Travis Hutt; San Antonio-Betty Burks & Jeanne Whitman) in July, and final budgets will be presented to the board in the August board meeting.
- A Summer Principals' Collaborative will be held in Austin on June 22 -25. The purpose of this year's collaborative is twofold: rejuvenate our principals and meld learning around racial equity and SEL with the added bonus of seeing the new Ann Richards School building and learning how the school's design reinforces the pedagogy and practice of their

curriculum. Each principal will present on an effective practice or program that has been implemented successfully at their respective campuses. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training will take place under the leadership of Sarah Stone, consultant.

- Alyssa Pizana, Coordinator of Programs and Partnerships, continues to work with community partners and businesses to create opportunities for the girls to engage in virtual summer learning. Various internships and virtual camps are being made available to students including: GEMS camp, Hammon Engineering Camp, Fit to Lead, GenHeration, and virtual bus tour.
- Programs and Services continue to be provided through the Closeup Foundation, National Society of Black Engineers, Austin Black Physicians, SF Girl's Schools Women in STEM Speaker series, etc.
- Preliminary STAAR data indicates the both Midland and San Antonio will exceed the performance metrics delineated in the partnership agreement with the respective districts. Since students tested on-line this year, data has trickled in much sooner than expected, but official results will not be available until August.

Dr. Pruitt asked for clarification about the work with Balch Springs. Mrs. McBee provided the history of YWPN's role in establishing the school. It is a 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade campus at the present time. DISD has expressed interest in expanding the school to a 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade campus. Space is an issue and while YWPN can help support the model it is not our role to raise funds for infrastructure, and there is work being done to determine how to maximize the space in the existing facility while planning for the future expansion during the 2021-22 school year.

- Berta Fogerson and Dr. Seybert presented the YWLA Midland Compensation Manual to be considered for approval later in the meeting. The document outlined the various forms of compensation stipends designated for extra duties, clubs, and organizations. Berta Fogerson noted that the manual also included the daily rate compensation to be paid to the campus principal for an additional 10 days until such time as the district moves the campus principal contract to that of a high school principal.

## **V. Campus Presentations**

**a. YWLA Primary San Antonio Update** -Assistant Principal Andrea Pitts reported on the following campus events:

- There has been a deliberate focus on self-care and self-regulation; students have engaged in yoga and SEL activities in an effort to reduce stress and promote mindfulness.
- Campus highlights included Crayons to College Walk, cards for Nurses' Appreciation Week, and Family Garden Education in partnership with Gardopia Gardens in San Antonio.
- As part of the intersession calendar for 21-22, summer enrichment at the Primary campus will involve a July jumpstart to address specific focus groups as

determined by the administration and staff. Math and reading will be targeted and instruction will be based on benchmark exams and assessments. There will also be exploratory offerings to engage students in other interests.

**b. YWLA Secondary San Antonio Highlights-**Mrs. McLerran reported the following:

- Two students were the first to receive Auto Cad certification.
- The month of May was dedicated to various teacher appreciation activities, campus beautification efforts, and alumnae celebrations.
- Sixth grade teachers visited students who had not been back to school and encouraged them to come back.
- Mrs. Cozart was named SAISD Teacher of the Year and Mr. Nuñez was named Rising Star Teacher of the Year for the district.
- End of year highlights included various senior events, graduation, New Student Orientation scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup>, the Pink Rose Ceremony for rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders, and the end-of-year Talent Show.
- The secondary campus also has 20 days of intercession built into the 21-22 school calendar. 100% of the students will be involved in jumpstart intersession. Instruction will focus on the highest rate of low performing standards and skills as evidenced on EOY STAAR data.
- Professional development plans for both campuses will focus on how to fill academic gaps and encourage self-care.

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

- Midland's school calendar will include two weeks of intersession October 18-22 and February 7-11. Teachers are scheduled to return July 26<sup>th</sup> and students will start back on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Professional development day for staff will include SEL & Mindfulness, writing across all content areas, AP Summer Institute, Laying the Foundations training, GT updates, and Project Lead the Way for high school.
- Ms. McCalla was named Midland ISD Teacher of the Year and Ms. Ramos was named Innovative Teacher of the Year.
- Eight graders took the PSAT 8/9 this year. There are plans to include the 7<sup>th</sup> graders in PSAT testing next year.
- Campus celebrations include the following: the bikes for the cycling fitness program are up and running; keyboards for the new piano lab have arrived; the student composting project is in place to make YWLA a zero waste campus; YWLA students are serving the community as teen court attorneys and have completed their training; the Robotics Team won first place in the Region and the YWLA team earned the People's Choice Award at the YWPN STEAM Challenge and received a 3-D printer for their work.

Dr. Pruitt noted that Project Lead the Way and Laying the Foundations were both strong and dynamic programs, and she was glad that the YWLA teachers were getting to take part in both. Dr. Seybert stated the YWLA was getting to host the training for Midland and would be able to keep extra materials for their efforts.

**VI. Action Item**

- Dr. Pruitt asked for a motion to approve the Compensation Manual presented by Dr. Seybert
- Jeanne Whitman moved to approve the YWLA Midland Compensation Manual as presented. Betty Burks provided a second to the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Betty Burks thanked the campus leaders for their amazing work and talents.

**VII. Meeting Adjournment**

- Dr. Pruitt adjourned the meeting at 12:27 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

**August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021, in San Antonio  
Young Women's Leadership Academy-Primary Campus  
401 Berkshire Ave.  
San Antonio, Texas**

**Zoom option will be available if in person meetings are not viable.**