



**YOUNG WOMEN'S  
PREPARATORY NETWORK**

**1882 Governing Board**

**August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present Via Zoom:**

**1882 Board Members:**

Sonia Rodriguez  
Jeanne Whitman  
Travis Hutt

Koshi Dhingra  
Betty Burks  
Kate Williamson

**1882 Executive Director:** Berta Fogerson

**Principals:** Delia McLerran, Laura Doughty, Jennifer Elwood, JR Napoles

**YWPN Staff:** Jennifer Evans

**Agenda:**

- I. **Call Meeting to Order**-Berta Fogerson called the meeting to order at 11:31 am. She explained that both Sharonda Pruitt, 1882 Board Chair, and Lynn McBee, YWPN CEO had conflicts and could not attend.
- II. **Mission Moment-Berta Fogerson & Delia McLerran**  
Delia McLerran brought the mission moment to the board on behalf of YWLA Primary. She shared a video of the kindergarten students participating in a STEM lab wherein they were learning and applying the Scientific Method and the Engineering Process. They used their AVID skills and worked collaboratively throughout the lab. Berta Fogerson displayed the YWPN mission statement and spoke to the purpose and vision of the organization.
- III. **Approval of the May 2021 Meeting Minutes**  
Dr. Dhingra made the motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting. Sonia Rodriguez provided a second. Motion passed 6-0.
- IV. **Information and Discussion Items**
  - a. **YWPN Partner Update-Berta Fogerson, YWPN Chief Academic Officer**  
Berta Fogerson provided the following YWPN updates:

- The Network is currently working on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities that will be launched starting in January 2022.
- The YWPN Development Team will be leading the work to highlight the accomplishments of the Network during the last two decades.
- The audit is underway and will be ready for submission to SAIS and MISD. This is a requirement specified in the Partnership Agreement in order to affirm that YWPN is a financially sound non-profit organization as required of all 1882 Partners.
- Services continue to be provided to our schools including onboarding, resources, partnerships, and professional development opportunities. Sisterhood opportunities are expected to resume as soon as students are allowed to travel. In the meantime, virtual options to connect are being made available.

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

Mrs. Fogerson reported the following information:

- Lone Star Governance training is scheduled to take place on November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> in Dallas. Board members were reminded to RSVP for rooms so these could be booked.
- A Summer Principals' Collaborative was held in Austin on June 22 -25. Mrs. McLerran and Mrs. Doughty provided feedback noting the value of working collaboratively with like-minded leaders. Both shared that they had left the collaborative feeling supported and rejuvenated. Mrs. Fogerson shared the feedback that was received with specific emphasis on the value of sharing best practices and the Social Emotional Learning and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion workshops.
- Onboarding for New Campus Leaders is scheduled for September 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. The training consists of six modules that address: YWPN History & Legacies of Single Gender Schools, YWPN Pillars, Single Gender Research, Leadership Development, College Success Initiative, Programs and Partnerships. Jennifer Elwood & JR Napoles were introduced as new assistant principals at YWLA Primary San Antonio and YWLA Midland respectively. Both provided professional histories to the board.
- The Partnership renewal process for Midland is completed. The renewal paperwork will go to the MISD Board of Trustees in the fall and notification of approval should be received before the year is over. The San Antonio renewal process will begin in January; meetings have been taking place to prepare all partners for the requirements to come.
- STAAR and BOY MAP data was made available. **YWLA Midland** STAAR scores were 90% or higher in all subjects and grades except for 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math wherein the performance was at 75%. This score is reflective of a very small group of students who were not ready to accelerate to Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. These students struggled throughout the year in mathematics and having to engage in a virtual learning setting for most of

the year was not adequate preparation for them in order to excel on the exam. Mrs. Doughty noted that the MISD standard for an academically sound campus was for 90% of the students to be at approaches level, 60% to be at meets standard level, and 30% to perform at masters level.

Fogerson pointed out that the majority of the meets and masters scores for YWLA Midland were well above the MISD standard.

- STAAR performance at **YWLA San Antonio** mirrored that of Midland's with 90% or above in all content areas. Mrs. Fogerson shared the district STAAR Report for the campus and showed the performance scores for approaches, meet, and masters levels in each of the content areas. She pointed out that approaches standard performance is an expectation for the YWPN girls and that greater emphasis is placed on meets and masters performance since these standards are a truer indicator of college readiness. She also reviewed the **YWLA Primary** MAP scores indicating that the students at this campus surpassed all schools in the district. It was also mentioned that the EOY MAP scores were most reflective of student levels of competency in Reading and Math since these were administered without parental influence and support.

Mrs. McLerran pointed out that the state's comparison of school data between campuses of similar demographics provided a more realistic picture of campus performance for YWPN schools because it allowed each school to compare to the other YWPN campuses providing a better perspective of strengths and challenges.

Dr. Dhingra asked if there was a broader context for assessing skills and college readiness besides STAAR scores. She expressed specific concern for students who are being holistically evaluated as part of the college acceptance process.

Berta Fogerson spoke about innovative pedagogy, interactive and engaging learning experiences, and standards-based grading practices. She also noted that beyond STAAR scores, YWPN schools look to PSAT, SAT, ACT, MAP, SEL, and STEAM proficiencies to determine if college readiness is being achieved.

Sonia Rodriguez added that the community service component that was embedded as part of the programming at each school provides for the growth and development of well-rounded young women.

Mrs. McLerran shared that passion is stimulated and developed via independent learning experiences, STEAM, self-discovery, outside partnerships and internships making our students competitive candidates in the college recruiting process.

Kate Williamson shared that she has observed that the high-impact practices that are deemed most effective by universities appear to already be in place at the YWPN elementary and secondary school levels.

Dr. Dhingra noted she would like to define a way to share YWPN experiences and stories of innovative practices and leaders so that this model could have a greater impact. STAAR score reports were emailed to the board members. Mrs. McLerran said she would also share a cohort report in the future to show how students are experiencing growth. Ms. Doughty stated she would like to be able to share MAP data with Mrs. McLerran to learn how to best interpret and use the MAP data to impact student performance. Mrs. McLerran also wanted to collaborate.

## **V. Campus Presentations**

### **a. YWLA San Antonio Campus Updates -**

**YWLA San Antonio Primary Highlights** Jennifer Elwood the new Associate Principal reported on the following campus events:

- The Leadership Team at YWLA Primary has a new Associate Principal, Jennifer Elwood and her team consists of Elaine Kondratick, Assistant Principal, Dr. Leo Contreras, Core Instructional Coach and Jennifer Boone, STEAM Instructional Coach.
- YWLAP's Mission: Our mission is to empower young girls to find their voices and passions and to achieve extraordinary outcomes by providing them with a powerful single-gender experience.
- YWLAP was named Gardopia Garden's School Garden of the Year and celebrated at a Gala honoring YWLAP.
- At the beginning of the school year YWLAP partnered with the United Way and allowed them a space in their school so that the United Way could distribute over 5000 bags to SAISD teachers. A special guest, the Spurs Coyote came to YWLAP to help distribute bags to YWLAP teachers.
- The beginning of the year brought STEAM and SEL learning between the staff and teachers. The teachers worked on building their own towers before bringing this project to class for the students.
- Campus demographics for the school year are made up of 54 Kindergarten students with 3 teachers, first grade consists of 98 students and 5 teachers, second grade has 108 students with 5 teachers and third grade consists of 60 students and three teachers. This makes a grand total of 320 students.
- YWLAP has a weekly Teacher newsletter and a monthly Parent newsletter, and they have added this year a bi-weekly Parent Podcast. YWLAP believes communication is the key to success.
- Map data test scores are in for YWLAP, and students are performing well on the MAP Science assessment. The MAP Reading data shows students exhibit foundational skills for reading success. The data for MAP Math shows there needs to be more focus on math instruction during intervention and remediation.

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

- YWLA's Leadership Team consists of Mrs. McLerran as Head of School, Regina Arzamendi, Associate Principal, Sarah Moran as the new Assistant Principal, former 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Nikki Springer is back at the school as a Core Instructional Coach.
- The students are happy to be back at school to be with their teachers and classmates. In-school learning provides students a sense of community and a place to belong.
- The students are enjoying Math Life and their new dry erase board desks.
- Athletics is back and in full swing and YWLA is in UIL competition this year. The students are fully vaccinated and are tested at least once week for Covid, the school is doing everything to keep the students safe.
- A group of students formed a design team for the YWLA's new building and met with the architects to discuss what they would like to have in the new school. YWLA got this idea from their sister school, the Ann Richards school of Young Women Leaders.
- The YWLA Campus Demographics for the secondary school are 6<sup>th</sup> grade -120 students, 7<sup>th</sup> grade- 125 students, 8<sup>th</sup> grade – 111 students 9<sup>th</sup> grade- 88 students, 10<sup>th</sup> grade-67 students, 11<sup>th</sup> grade -53 students and 12<sup>th</sup> grade 61 students making the total for the secondary campus 625.
- Campus Demographics Ethnicity on campus is American Indian- 1 - 16%, Asian- 12 – 1.9%, Pacific- 1-.16%, Black 17- .2.72% Hispanic 549 -87.8%, White 35- 5.6%, Two or More 10-1.6%.
- The numbers reported for Economic Disadvantage were at 50% but they were taken from 2019 and the at-Risk number reported 11% of the student body but these numbers were predicted to rise to 23 % because the 6<sup>th</sup> grade had not been added.
- The Performance Objectives for 2022 were set by the district and they disregarded the 2021 numbers and based the goals on data from 2019, so for example 2019 math was 92 and the 2021 numbers were 43 but the district set the goal for 95. The same goal setting process was used to set attendance targets.

**b. Young Women's Leadership Academy Midland-** Principal Laura Doughty provided the following update:

- YWLA/MISD school year 2021-2022 started with teachers returning on July 26<sup>th</sup> and students returning on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The school year will have two intersessions, the first one will be Oct.18-22 and the second one will be held Feb.7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. The last day of school will be May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Enrollment for YWLA is 341 students with the breakdown consisting of 108 6<sup>th</sup> graders, 109 -7<sup>th</sup> graders, 102- 8<sup>th</sup> graders and, 49- 9<sup>th</sup> graders. This will include 20 full time teachers, 1 TA, and a College Success Advisor.
- The demographics for YWLA are as follows, 42% Hispanic/Latino, 44% White, 6% Black, 4% Asian and 4% other students. Out of 341 students 45 are labeled Economically Disadvantaged.

- Shwetha J. was recognized by the Midland ISD Board in their meeting held in August. Shwetha J. made it to the quarter-finals of the National Spelling Bee.
- YWLA will have its first AP course this year: Human Geography.
- Back to School highlights include a new Piano Lab and Cycle Lab that are in full swing, and a Beginning Guitar Lab has been added for the school year. STUCO elections for the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade classes and 9<sup>th</sup> grade Class Reps are taking place on campus.
- YWLA will be partnering with the local Rotary Club Chapter for Interact.

Mrs. Fogerson asked for questions or comments about campus performance. There were none.

- c. Campus Budget Presentations-**Berta Fogerson noted that the budget committees for the three schools had met to review the proposed budgets. The budgets to be approved included 1882 funds, district dollars, and federal funds. A significant amount of each budget was dedicated to salaries and services that had to be purchased from the district, the remaining budget was to cover programming, travel, professional development, supplies, resources, and student services. The committees had reviewed and would be making recommendations during the Action Item portion of the meeting.

## **VI. Action Items**

- a. YWLA San Antonio Primary Budget Approval-** Berta Fogerson asked for a motion to approve the budget. Sonia Rodriguez moved that the SA YWLA Primary Budget be approved as presented. Travis Hutt provided the second. The motion passed 6-0.
- b. YWLA San Antonio Budget Approval-** Berta Fogerson asked for a motion to approve the budget. Travis Hutt moved that the YWLA San Antonio Budget be approved as presented. Sonia Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.
- c. YWLA Midland Budget Approval-** Berta Fogerson asked for a motion to approve the budget. Travis Hutt moved that YWLA Midland Budget be approved as presented. Kate Williamson provided the second. The motion passed 6-0.

## **VII. Meeting Adjournment**

- Mrs. Fogerson adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

## **Next Meeting:**

**November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021, in Midland**

**Young Women's Leadership Academy  
126 Thornridge Dr.  
Midland, Texas**

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