

**Grambling High Foundation  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
LPS Multipurpose Building  
August 29, 2022 – 6:30 PM  
Annual Budget Hearing – 6:00 PM**

- A. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Mr. Wiley at 6:30 PM.
- B. Prayer**
- C. Pledge of Allegiance**
- D. Public Budget Hearing**
  - a. Motion to approve the Opening of a Public Hearing for anyone that wishes to offer comments**
  - b. Public comments** – Although the meeting was open to the public, no members of the public were present, and no comments were made.
  - c. Motion to approve the Closing of the Public Hearing** – Mr. Watley moved to close the Public Hearing. This was seconded by Mrs. Lewis and approved without opposition from the Board.
- E. Approval of the General Meeting Agenda** – Mr. Tatum moved to approve the General Meeting Agenda. This was seconded by Mr. Watley. The agenda was approved without opposition from the Board.
- F. Adoption of Previous Minutes** – Mr. Tatum moved to adopt the previous minutes. This was seconded by Mr. Watley the previous minutes were adopted without opposition from the Board.
- G. Roll Call**
  - a. Present Members**
    - i. Robert Wiley
    - ii. Ed Watley
    - iii. Don Tatum
    - iv. Clara Lewis
    - v. Elizabeth Smith
  - b. Absent Members**
    - i. Barbara McIntyre
    - ii. Hollis Downs
    - iii. Pamela Stewart
    - iv. Eddie Robinson, III
- H. Public Comments** – Although the meeting was open to the public, no members of the public were present to comment.
- I. Report of the Executive Director** –
  - a.** 1,018 total applications have been received, which is increased from 665 applications at the same time last year. Some applicants are returning students, and some are new students. 797 applications have been accepted. 722 of the accepted students are in regular placement. 75 students are in alternative placement. 59 of those students are at New Living Word and the remainder are virtual. The program for virtual students is similar to the K-12 program, with specific class times and certified teachers. The grades

are provided to Lincoln Prep. The students in alternative placement have a discipline record that deems them not appropriate for a classroom setting. Some are mandated to counseling and may be able to return to campus in the future, while some are not legally allowed to return to campus. There are currently 82 students on the waiting list and only 15 open seats remaining in the school. The first day for students was 8/15/22. Grade configurations remain the same as the previous school year.

- b. Miscellaneous updates: Bayou Jamb was fun, despite losing the game. The band, dance team, and cheerleaders all participated. Each school was given 300 tickets to sell and kept the proceeds. There was a 1% split of all tickets sold at the gate. Louisiana Tech invited some seniors and members of the Early College Academy to watch the game from the Presidential Suite. Some faculty and staff were also permitted to watch the game from a Suite. The dance, cheer, and football teams are the largest they have ever been. There are currently 31 eligible players on the active roster for the football team. There are 36 members on the cheer team and 23 on the dance team. Lincoln Prep is one of the only schools in Louisiana to have 3 African American certified Special Education teachers. Several paraprofessionals have been promoted into teaching positions. Mr. Ford expressed interest in Lincoln Prep utilizing Learning Pods. Learning Pods were passed by the state this year to try to bring homeschooled students back into public education. Any Type 2 Charter or school district can establish a Pod by working with the students to make them a member of the school in a flexible setting. All Lincoln Prep programs would be available to homeschooled students, including the Early College Academy. Their LEAP scores would be combined with Lincoln Prep's scores. Several schools in southern Louisiana are currently using or establishing Pods. Mr. Wiley inquired about homeschooled students' performance on standardized tests in comparison to public school students. Mr. Ford explained that the one demographic that tracks across the board is socioeconomic background. More affluent students tend to do better on standardized tests and a large portion of homeschooled students tend to have a higher socioeconomic status. More information about Learning Pods is forthcoming. Mr. Tatum inquired about Ms. Colvin's position at Lincoln Prep and was informed that she was moved from Chief Academic Officer to another position. Any further discussion must be conducted in an Executive Session, as it is a personnel matter. Lincoln Prep is working to add Dual Enrollment Chemistry. Dual enrollment Biology will be offered soon. The teacher has been teaching 2 Biology classes through Southern but has been permitted to teach one of them as dual enrollment for Louisiana Tech. 25 of the 56 students are currently in the Early College Academy and are taking dual enrollment in Human Anatomy and Physiology.

#### **J. New Business**

- a. **Approval of Budget Resolution and Annual Operating Budget for RY 2022-23** – There are no proposed changes to the budget. Elizabeth Smith requested clarification on the rule that changes can be made to the budget without a Board vote if it does not exceed a 5% variation. Mr. Ford stated that 5% of the budget is \$500k and that the 5% rule comes from state law. The Budget resolution was passed with 5 yes votes; 4 Board Members were absent from the meeting.

- b. Proposal for September Grambling City Council Meeting** – Mr. Ford explained that a new sewer line must be run for the new school location. It must run from the school to the Police Department and will require a 6-inch forced main. Instead of running two separate 6-inch mains, the engineers are looking to connect the line with the sewer line for the houses next to the school. This will require an 8-inch main, which will cost approximately \$100k less than running two separate lines. To avoid going into any future agreements with an outside party, the city will build the line to a certain point, then the lines for Lincoln Prep and the nearby houses will be added. The cost will be approximately \$229k for the City of Grambling and \$152k for the school. This will save the City of Grambling approximately \$100k and save Lincoln Prep approximately \$120-130k. Mr. Ford plans to meet with the developer to come to an agreement on the split, which should be between 50/50 and 70/30. Their share will be donated to the school and Lincoln Prep will pay the cost of the sewage line. Mr. Ford explained that, even without their involvement, Lincoln Prep would still be required to complete this construction. A written document will be provided before this is completed. Mr. Ford explained that this is the construction standard, as Lincoln Prep chose to use a sewage system instead of a septic tank. Using Lincoln Builders for this is not a requirement and Mr. Ford plans to discuss using the same subcontractor as the City of Grambling so that all the work can be done at once. The City of Grambling will use their engineer to supervise. Mr. Ford plans to obtain formal approval at the next City Council meeting.
- c. Resignation of Board Recorder** – The Board Recorder submitted a resignation letter due to taking on additional duties at another job. After discussion, she has agreed to Mr. Ford recording the meetings and sending them to her instead of her attending in person. She will continue to type the minutes. This was approved without opposition from the Board Members.

#### **K. Reports**

- a. Financial** – No additional report.
- b. Alumni and Community Relations** – No report.
- c. Transportation and Facilities Update** – No report.
- d. Education** – No report.

#### **L. Old Business**

- a. Construction Update** – Completion dates have been pushed back some but everything except the gym is expected to be finished in December. As soon as the building can be occupied, students will be moved into it. Students in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, and middle school are currently in modular buildings on the temporary campus. Mr. Ford wants them out of the modular buildings and into the permanent building as soon as possible. He plans to move as many students as possible to the new campus as soon as possible, even if it must be done in increments. Board members are welcome to attend the meetings to discuss progress. These meetings are held bi-weekly on Thursdays at 2:00 PM at the new campus. The campus is 55% complete due to some material and weather delays. Completion of phase 2 is to be determined. The field should go into production next week. Bonds closed on 7/7/22 and change orders for the field, track, goalposts, and lights were signed on 7/8/22. The cafeteria will have a concrete roof and will serve as a safe room. It has the seating space to hold 400 people for meals but will

hold the full capacity of the school campus as a temporary location for emergency situations. This raised the price of the school by approximately \$250k but is designed to withstand a tornado and has a stand-by generator enclosed in a tornado-rated structure.

- b. Relationship between Grambling High Foundation and Grambling State University –** Changes to the agreement may not be made for 365 days from the date of release from the court order, which will be 3/21/2023. Lincoln Prep must not do anything differently than what was stated in the affidavit. There are currently 3 full-year interns. One of the interns from last year was hired at Lincoln Prep as a certified teacher this year. Dr. Washington is teaching an “Intro to Teaching” class. After having the class last year, 2 students decided to pursue a career in teaching. Those students were able to gain field experience in the elementary classroom. One was in the Early College Academy and graduated with an associate degree. That student is currently working as a paraprofessional at Lincoln Prep and is pursuing a degree in education from GSU.

**M. Future Meetings**

- a. Next Meeting Date –** The next meeting will be on September 26, 2022 at 6:30 PM.
- N. Announcements –** Lincoln Prep has an upcoming game in Tallulah. There will not be a spectator bus because so many students participate in the game. In the past, only a few people signed up to ride the spectator bus due to the number of people participating in the game (players, cheerleaders, dance team, etc.) As the school grows, there may be a need for a spectator bus.
- O. Executive Session (if necessary) –** Elizabeth Smith made a motion to enter an Executive Session. This was seconded by Mr. Watley. The room was cleared of all non-members and the Board entered an Executive Session at 7:27 PM.
- P. Adjournment –** The meeting returned to open session. With nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.