

**Grambling High Foundation**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**May 20, 2019 - 6:30 PM**

- A. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Dr. Copeland at 6:33 PM.
- B. Prayer**
- C. Pledge of Allegiance**
- D. Approval of the Agenda** – A motion was made by Mr. Wiley to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Mr. Downs and the agenda was approved without opposition.
- E. Adoption of Previous Minutes** – Mr. Downs moved to adopt the previous minutes with the stated corrections. This was seconded by Mr. Wiley and the minutes were adopted with the stated corrections.
- F. Roll Call**
- Present Members**
- Dr. Birdex Copeland  
Hollis Downs  
Robert Wiley  
Forrest Moegle  
Don Tatum  
Eddie Robinson III  
Rhonda Pruitt
- Absent Members**
- Katrina Boden  
Rachel Johnson
- G. Lincoln Prep "Showcase"** – Tia Hardy, an upcoming senior, spoke about receiving her Adobe photo editing certification. She passed her test with a 780. When asked if this certification helps in her career path, Ms. Hardy stated that if she does not continue with basketball, she does have plans to follow a photography path. Ms. Colvin stated that the Adobe class was taught on campus by one of Lincoln Prep’s teachers who received training. The credentials received are statewide credentials and anyone with their certification may go on to work for newspapers, marketing firms, etc. This class could also be a stepping stone into graphic design.
- H. Public Comments** – Although the meeting is open to the public, no comments were made other than Ms. Hardy’s showcase.
- I. Report of the Executive Director** –
- Current enrollment is at 450 students with approximately 79% being African American students. There are 3 students currently in New Living Word who are not included in this count.
  - 37 diplomas are being issued to this year’s senior class. All graduates have earned a TOPS diploma as well as industry based credential.

- The High School rewards program was held today. Middle school and elementary school will be held tomorrow. During today's program, our SRO, Officer Jones, partnered with Grambling State University Police to perform a safety demonstration for the students. Coaches Hudson and Davidson were "stopped" by the police and gave demonstrations on what to do and what not to do to show respect for police officers. There was a discussion segment based on the demonstration and the students participated and responded well. Another demonstration will be held tomorrow at 9:30 AM.
- The last day for students is May 23. There will also be a Staff Vs. Student basketball game that day. This is being used as a fundraiser organized by the National Honor Society to benefit victims of Ruston's April 25 tornado.
- Author Jada Sparks had a book signing at the school recently and had a great turnout.
- Recruiting events will be held during the first week of June.
- Summer school will be from June 3 to July 26. We have been approved for Jump Start Summer, which will run through August 5. During the Jump Start Summer program, Mr. Ambrose will be able to teach 15 students about the Oil and Gas industry. These students will earn a high school credit, and then take the basic production state certification test in Lafayette on July 2. We have partnered with several companies including Eaton Oil, Patton Oil, and Arcadia Oil, among others, for the students to work at and gain experience. They will earn a stipend of about \$630. Adobe certification courses will be held from July 8 to August 5. We have partnered with the Ruston Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, Ruston Daily Leader, Cleaning Service, and The Gramblinite for our students to work and earn roughly a \$500 stipend, as well as earning a high school credit. Everything is paid for through this program including testing costs, student stipends, and teacher salaries, which total around \$30,000. 167 schools applied for this program but Lincoln Prep was the only one to apply with the oil and gas certification. In order to participate in this program, the student must have completed their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. This program services graduated seniors, as well. 1 graduated student from Lincoln Prep plans to return to obtain her certification for oil and gas through this program. Ms. Colvin explained that funds that are offered to schools but are not exhausted are then put into a bank to be used for extra activities such as the Jump Start Summer program.
- Mr. Downs asked if the recent changes to Dual Enrollment have affected Lincoln Prep. Ms. Colvin stated that it did affect the school this past school year. With the recent changes, students who require remedial courses have to show improvement on their ACT score in order to take Dual Enrollment classes. The state is moving towards requiring a certain ACT score to do Dual Enrollment. Currently, Louisiana Tech will not accept students who require remedial courses, leaving us partnered with Grambling State University and Southern University. Ms. Colvin explained that, on the administrative side of it, more points are accrued with a student in AP classes versus a student in Dual Enrollment. She also explained that AP students have to work harder and actually have more academic work in an effort to improve scores, which is helping the school overall. Mr. Tatum asked if any 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> graders plan to or have taken the

ACT and was informed that the LA Gear Up program provided 28 pre-billed vouchers for those students to take the ACT this summer.

- Lincoln Prep has also been approved for the Perkins Grant which has helped bring technology in to the school, as well as paying for programs not covered by CDF funds. For instance, the CNA program can use CDF funds but do not bring in any additional CDF funds. Each student enrolled in the Adobe program brings \$243 into the school.
- Ms. Colvin stated that former students who are successful in their career paths have returned to the school to give inspirational speeches and encourage the current students. This has been great for the student body.
- The Teacher Leader Summit will be held on June 26 - 28.
- Ms. Colvin serves as the onsite coordinator for both La Gear Up and LOSFA programs. She submitted Edward Ford and Jayden Page to be National Representatives and they were selected. They, along with 2 other students from Louisiana, will go to San Francisco to represent our state.
- 2 students have completed CLEP. One of those has tested out of English Literature and the other, a freshman, out of Sociology.
- AP scores are not back yet, but we have received EOC and LEAP scores for the high school. 14 students scored Mastery in ELA – English 1. Scores are up 21% from last year. In English 3, 1 student scored “excellent”, 14 scored “good”, and 10 scored “fair”.
- Meetings have been held regarding upcoming plans for graduation. By the 2023 graduation, Lincoln Prep plans to have the students graduate high school with their Associate’s Degree. This would mean that their basic classes, such as sociology, psychology, and fine arts, are already completed before starting college. This will save the graduates and their families’ money on college.
- Testing monitors visited the school during Teacher Appreciation Week and commended everyone on a job well done.
- Mr. Downs expressed concern regarding the school not being featured enough in the local newspapers. Ms. Colvin stated that, in the past, a set time was given where the newspaper would accept and print the school’s news. Now, they ask that we just send the news in and they will post it if they have slow news days. She plans to request having the set time again. Hopefully the new partnership with the Ruston Daily Leader will improve this. A lot of information is posted to the school’s Facebook page, which has a large following. From there, it is posted on the school website.
- Dr. Pruitt discussed the Aspire to Inspire program in which mentors are sent to the school to spend time with students and help set goals, especially for students who have truancy issues. Students in this program were invited to a luncheon in Baton Rouge on May 4<sup>th</sup> to be recognized. One student was selected as Mentee of the Year but was not present to receive his award. True Care Dental supports this program and provided monetary scholarships of \$500 to 1 junior high and 1 high school student, as well as providing other nominees with a monetary scholarship of \$125.
- 7 students went to the Leadership conference at LSU – Alexandria on May 10<sup>th</sup>, where

they saw presentations for the engineering, nursing, and graphic design programs. We try to do things like this in middle school so the students have a career path in mind by high school. Ms. Colvin stated that these activities are discussed at the recruiting events. Items like this are very important because it helps students excel academically. Students who don't do well academically are pushed to obtain a Jump Start diploma, which puts the student on a skill based track, allowing for only 2 year college.

- The CNA program has changed and a state test is now required to become certified. It is being re-evaluated through the state but currently, Lincoln Prep is paying for the students' testing. The total cost for the program is about \$1100 per student. Some of this is reimbursable due to buying scrubs and the Perkins Grant did cover some of the price, as well.

**J. Committee Structure and Meeting Schedules** – No discussion.

**K. New Business** – The newest Board Member, Attorney Forrest Moegle, was introduced.

**L. Reports** –

- **Financial** – The revised MFP has been received. The school is within 2% of the original budget, which was \$5million. More funding from federal grants has been received but these grants are cost reimbursement, meaning we have to spend it to get it. Total revenue is at 83%. We have requested federal grants for quarters 1, 2, and 3. We will request quarter 4 in July and that will zero those balances out. The food service is currently netting about \$6k per month and is self sustaining. Overall budgeted expenses are at about 83% currently. We are at 78% on total expenses and 76% on salaries. Originally, we budgeted to end the year with 5% of the fund balance (\$267,000) and are on track for that. Mr. Moegle was briefed on how the MFP works and informed that at the beginning of the year, the MFP is based on the October 1 enrollment count of the prior year. Once the February 1 count is finalized in March, funds are reallocated based on the enrollment numbers. Mr. Wiley asked if money would have to be paid back if our enrollment numbers were to drop and was informed that we would, but our enrollment has been increasing. Per recent discussions, budgeting will now be done based on current enrollment numbers. The line of credit was used in March for 6 days but should not be needed for the rest of the year. The cash balance increased by \$250,000, ending April with \$465,000. A concession stand has been set up and is being utilized during the school day, which helps to fund small school projects.
- **Alumni and Community Relations** – No Report.
- **Transportation** – No Report.
- **Education** – No Report.

**M. Old Business** -

- **MOU between Grambling High Foundation and Grambling State University** - No discussion.

**N. Next Meeting Date** – The next meeting will be on June 24, 2019 at 6:30 pm with committees meeting at 6:00 pm, if needed.

**O. Announcements** – Ms. Colvin encouraged Board Members to attend some of the recruiting

events. She will provide a schedule in the coming days. She also stated that a Kindergarten recruiting event was held in Arcadia on April 23 and the school gained 7 students from it.

**P. Executive Session** – A motion was made by Mr. Wiley to enter into an Executive Session. This was seconded by Mr. Downs. The room was cleared of all non-board members.

**Q. Adjournment** – A motion was made by Mr. Wiley to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Downs. With nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.