



THINC. CCA BOARD AGENDA

February 23, 2021

ZOOM MEETING

12:00 P.M.

In attendance: Gerald Wyatt, Bill Stump, Ted Arnold, Lauren Edgar, Connie Hensler, Penny Johnson, Stephen Will, Chris Williams, Megan Duke, Carrie Tomlin, Keith Patrick, Brian Shumate

MINUTES

- Mr. Bill Stump, THINC Board Chair, welcomed everyone.
- Mr. Stump stated there were no minutes to approve due to the last meeting being strategic planning.
- Financials – Gerald Wyatt, THINC CEO

Mr. Wyatt reviewed all expenses and income. Some of the expenses include the monthly accounting fee, purchase of 4 championship rings for 4 CHS students that attend THINC. The Callaway Foundation has agreed to pay (\$30,00.00) for all the rings. The purchase was approved 1-2 weeks ago so THINC should be receiving a refund on the rings. There was a consultant fee for the strategic planning session. Bigger expenditures will be coming next month and the future. Income: There was no income in January. February, Kia employees made a donation of \$668. Mando will contribute \$20,000 for the next 5 years with the first payment to be received this month or next. \$550 was received with no letter or reason. The Randy Jackson fund remains the same and will be utilized for the International Business trip to Italy in the spring of 2022. Mr. Stump asked for questions or comments about the financial report. Dr. Shumate motioned to approve. Connie Hensler seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- CEO Report – Gerald Wyatt
 - Strategic Planning Session

Last month an off site strategic planning session was held at Great Wolf Lodge. THINC's current strategic plan had expired. The THINC Leadership team has been meeting to work on brand recognition, sustaining stakeholder support and engagement, and developing a culture of operational excellence. To develop brand awareness an elevator speech is being created. Once it is finalized stakeholders will add input. An internal video is in development to tell the story of THINC. Posters, emails, and social media will be used to enhance THINC in the community.

Mr. Stump expressed his disappointment of participation at the strategic planning meeting and the large room was not beneficial. Mr. Stump asked THINC to send an invite to board members to attend THINC Leadership meetings.

- Needs Assessment

The early bird breakfast's theme this month was education. At the end of the meeting Dale Jackson announced the needs assessment. Dr. Shumate and Mr. Wyatt recorded a video to be sent out to masses and posted on websites. Yolanda Stephens will have it available on the TCSS website. The voice of all stakeholders is needed to help share the strategic plan. It needs to stay relevant, timely, and current with everything taught at THINC. Mr. Stump suggested having it sent out to all members again.

- WBL Brochure

Mr. Wyatt discussed Work Based Learning at the TCSS board meeting. The WBL brochure highlights LEAP, WBL and Expeditions. Expeditions is part of WBL. In this program students learn employability skills. THINC Expeditions is looking to grow positions available through the pathways at THINC to meet industry needs. Employers want a larger pipeline open to all students in TCSS. Only four students out of 147 WBL students are THINC students. THINC needs to increase the number of students going into the workforce and to generate an interest in manufacturing jobs. There is also a need to set up a way to track students once they leave THINC. Healthcare is very interested in adding jobs for the Expeditions program which is open to all rising juniors and seniors. THINC needs to improve the Expeditions program and get more jobs for THINC students. Mr. Stump offered to help Ms. Tomlin in this endeavor.

- Community Awareness Letter

Letters are being sent out to all Troup county community businesses today by snail mail. They will be mailed as soon as labels are printed.

- Board Engagement

THINC needs more board members engaged by coming into the classrooms. Board members are a valuable resource. Instructors have not been seeing businesses in the building. There has been talk about inviting companies in for tours.

- Student Tours

8th grades tours from all three middle schools were done safely and socially distanced.

Mr. Stump said we are coming out of COVID and need to get back on track and fully engaged.

- Troup County School System Update – Dr. Brian Shumate / Dr. Penny Johnson

Dr. Shumate said the hardest months of the year are January, February and March since it is planning for the next school year. The budget will be presented to the board in April and be approved in May. TCSS took a seven and a half million dollar hit. The deficit was made up with four and a half million dollars of CARES money. Food service is two million in the hole due to the decrease of meal service. The school system bought 3000 more chromebooks, staffing was added, among other expenses. TCSS had a rainy day fund so no new cuts will have to be made this spring. The system is wanting to offer a six week summer program in which summer school teachers will be needed. There is another push to get students back in school for the start of the last nine weeks on March 16 to prepare students for fall. Students who are virtual are not

learning as much due to lack of motivation and the absence of parental support. As of today, there are 15 total COVID cases.

A staff vaccination discussion was held with the department of health about doing 2-3 separate Fridays in order to get 70% of employees vaccinated. The school system will have their 18 full time nurses trained to administer vaccines. A seven day notice of supply of the vaccine will be given.

Mr. Stump asked if enrollment for the system has decreased. It is actually up 262 students from last year at this time. He also requested an update on the upcoming March 16 special election for SPLOST funding which will run out in June 2022. Some of the items these funds will pay for are bus technology safety and security, new buildings and renovations, new technology, and at least 10 new busses a year.

- **Dashboard Information – Dr. Chris Williams**

Our biggest priority is getting kids in school. THINC currently has the lowest number of students in quarantine since August. THINC students are made up of 21% of the high school population. Only 5 % of THINC students have discipline issues. Attendance from the first quarter was 96%. Stephen Will will be attending a county wide CTAE board meeting.

Other

An executive committee meeting will be next week. Mr. Wyatt was requested to do a self assessment and then meet with Mr. Stump at the bank next Wednesday, March 3.

The March board meeting will have the option to join in-person or virtually. A link will be provided.

The goal is to increase the level of engagement for all board members at THINC.