

## MINUTES

### PATHWAYS IN EDUCATION-WEST ADA, INC. *An Idaho Nonprofit Corporation*

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

February 19, 2025

**Zoom Dial-in:** 1-699-900-6833  
**Zoom Meeting ID:** 873 5822 9917

**Meeting Location:** Teleconference only

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors (“Board”) of Pathways in Education-West Ada, Inc., an Idaho nonprofit corporation (“PIE-WA” or the “School”), was held via teleconference on February 19, 2025 pursuant to the Notice of meeting forwarded to the Directors in compliance with the corporation’s Bylaws.

#### OPEN SESSION

##### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 P.M. (PT) | 4:00 P.M. (MT) by Jamie Donahue, President of PIE-West Ada, Inc.

##### 2. Welcome and Roll Call

The following Directors, constituting a quorum of the Board, were present:

**Dr. Jesse Buchholz**  
**Dr. Drey Campbell**  
**Dr. Dustin Barrett**  
**Ms. Katie Rhodenbaugh**

The following Directors were absent:

**Dr. Christina Linder**

The following individuals also identified themselves as being present:

**Jamie Donahue**  
**Dr. Kristi Duenas**  
**Leslie Lehnertz**  
**Sue Lux**  
**Connie Li**  
**Melissa Pineda**  
**Janel Lee**

### **3. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

Ms. Donahue stated members of the public may address the Board on non-agenda items that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Speakers may be called in the order that requests are received, or grouped by subject area. Members of the public were asked to limit comments to two (2) minutes with no more than 15 minutes per single topic so that as many people as possible may be heard. By law, the Board is allowed to take action only on items on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, refer a matter to School staff or calendar the issue for future discussion.

There were no comments by members of the public.

### **4. Items for Information and/or Action**

#### **A. Approval of Minute(s)**

A.1 Minutes of October 16, 2024

Ms. Rhodenbaugh moved to approve the Minutes of the October 16, 2024 Board meeting. Dr. Barrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

#### **B. Information Item(s)**

##### **B.1 PIE-WA School Update**

Ms. Lehnertz presented the PIE-WA School Update. Ms. Lehnertz reported the School had an increased enrollment of one hundred fifty one (151) students. She highlighted the success of the first annual Senior Stretch event in West Ada, where all fourteen (14) seniors attended to plan their path to graduation with parents and staff. She also introduced the revamped Schoolwide Activity Team (“SWAT”), which allows students to plan and participate in community service events, such as Rake Up Meridian, earning either course credit or community service hours. Lastly, she shared the success of the annual Friendsgiving event in Nampa, where staff, students, and parents gathered for a shared meal, fostering a strong sense of community. She concluded by emphasizing the School's positive growth and engagement. There were no questions from the Board.

##### **B.2 PIE-WA Service Provider Update**

Ms. Lehnertz presented the PIE-WA Service Provider Update. Ms. Lehnertz reported on the School's service providers, which included Pathways Management Group, Inc. (“PMG”), Alltech Solutions, Inc. (“Alltech”), Pathways in Education, Inc. (“Pathways Travels”), and Skyrocket, Inc. (“Skyrocket”). Ms. Lehnertz acknowledged that PMG was an invaluable partner in problem solving, strategic planning, operations, training, and program implementation. Ms. Lehnertz indicated that PMG's presence, whether on the ground or through email and Google platforms, has been instrumental in guiding PIE-WA through the complexities of opening a new school. Ms. Lehnertz indicated that their collaboration has been both productive and highly beneficial.

Alltech supports Pathways in Education's technological needs and works in partnership to create long-term solutions to any persistent technological issues. Alltech is responsive and supportive of the PIE schools and ensures the instructional components are supported through innovative technology. Alltech has proven to be a knowledgeable and vital partner for PIE-WA. Ms. Lehnertz indicated that Alltech has been an essential support for PIE-WA, playing a key role in setting up the school's infrastructure. This year, their team worked diligently to run wiring and ensure everything was fully operational. They are consistently

responsive, promptly addressing any issues that arise and helping to find effective solutions. Ms. Lehnertz noted that what sets Alltech apart was their commitment to long-term solutions rather than just quick fixes.

Pathways Travels provides students with exceptional travel experiences. PIE-WA is participating in three (3) trips during this 2024-2025 school year. Kicking off the year, students took part in the inauguration trip this January. Students got to explore the nation's capital to deepen their understanding of government and civic engagement. In February 2025, PIE-WA will be joining the rest of the PIE Schools on the highly anticipated trip to Cuba. Students will travel through Cuba to explore Cuban culture, religion, economics, and schooling systems. In May 2025, students will be at Camp Blackbird, a place for students to develop confidence, teamwork, and connectedness. Students will get to explore new experiences, work effectively with a team, and recognize the importance of being connected to others.

Skyrocket provides a full spectrum of support for PIE-WA, including curriculum, English Language ("EL") development, college, and career readiness. Skyrocket provides PIE-WA with all of the curriculum used for our student programs and assists teachers in writing curriculum for Small Group Instruction classrooms. Skyrocket assists the School with writing the EL Master Plan and provides Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol ("SIOP") training to all staff to ensure they are equipped to help all students grow and succeed.

Ms. Rhodenbaugh asked what the criteria for selecting students for Pathways Travels trips were, to which Ms. Lehnertz explained that in Idaho, students interested in Pathways Travels trips apply via a QR code. A panel, usually consisting of chaperones and staff, conducts one-on-one interviews with applicants, assessing their academics, engagement, and interview skills, similar to a job interview. While preference is given to students who are on track academically, some exceptions are made for those who might benefit from the experience as motivation. After the interviews, candidates receive feedback, and the panel selects the best applicants. Ms. Lehnertz indicated that the focus is on choosing students who will gain long-term benefits from the experience.

### **B.3 PIE-WA Tax Exemption 501(c)(3) Status Update**

Dr. Duenas presented the PIE-WA Tax Exemption 501(c)(3) Status Update. Dr. Duenas shared the exciting news that the School had received its determination letter from the Department of Treasury and IRS. Dr. Duenas explained this designation exempts PIE-WA from federal income tax under IRS section 501(c)(3), allowing the School to deduct contributions and enabling donors to make tax-deductible donations. Additionally, PIE-WA is now eligible to receive tax-deductible bequests, transfers, and gifts. She expressed enthusiasm about this milestone and was pleased to share the good news with the Board. There were no questions from the Board.

## **C. Action Item(s)**

### **C.1 PIE-WA Consent Log**

Ms. Donahue presented the PIE-WA Consent Log. Ms. Donahue asked the Board if there were any questions. Ms. Rhodenbaugh asked for clarification on the refund to Department of Education, to which Dr. Duenas explained that this was PIE-WA's first year of operations and that, at the start of the year, the School must estimate expected attendance and enrollment, always aiming high to maximize potential growth. While growth has been strong, there was a slight overestimation in projections. She provided context by comparing PIE-WA's launch to other school openings, acknowledging that while PIE-Nampa had the strongest start among PIE Schools, PIE-WA was also experiencing a very successful first year. She emphasized that the slight overestimation does not negatively impact the School in any significant way.

Ms. Donahue indicated that overestimating actually benefited the School by reducing the need for startup funds, such as loans and other financial support.

Dr. Campbell moved to approve the PIE-WA Consent Log. Ms. Rhodenbaugh seconded. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

## **5. Adjournment**

Dr. Buccholz moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Barrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 P.M. (PT) | 4:16 P.M. (MT).



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John Hall, Jr., Secretary  
Pathways in Education-West Ada, Inc.