

**THE METROLINA REGIONAL SCHOLARS' ACADEMY, INC.**

Open and Closed Session

**Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Conference Room, Metrolina Regional Scholars' Academy

Tuesday, August 26, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

**Voting Members Present**

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**David Saye, Chair**

**Shila Fisher**

**Lee Keel**

**Jennifer McClave**

**Eileen Woodward**

**Renee Alsop**

**Rebecca Greiner**

**Michael Matthews**

**Noelle Sproul**

Call to Order and Announcements. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m by David Saye.

Agenda. The agenda was presented to the Board.

Action: A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Michael Matthews, seconded by Noelle Sproul, and approved by the Board. (Attachment 1).

Approval of the Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2014.

Action: A motion to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2014 meeting (Attachment 2) was made by Renee Alsop, seconded by Shila Fisher, and approved by the Board.

Board Training. Presentation by Jim Kelley, Association of Professional Fundraisers

Director's Report. Mr. Yodice presented the Director's report to the Board.

A Costco membership and American Express Card will be purchased for school use.

Michael Clay Thompson, a language arts expert, provided staff development to teachers. A 3rd-8th grade grammar and vocabulary curriculum has been adopted. Dr. Thompson will be returning for a full day of staff development focusing on grammar instruction.

Mr. Yodice will discuss the termination terms of the cleaning company with Mr. Marino and report to the board.

The Confidentiality Agreement was signed by all present board members. This document will also be signed by all staff, teachers and substitute teachers.

The site visit for the Charter Renewal will occur on September 3, 2014. The Office of Charter Schools representatives will be visiting with staff, parents and board members throughout the day.

Flex spending accounts from United Healthcare are of interest to some teachers. This will be considered for next year.

Mr. Yodice reported that 359 students were in attendance on the first day of school, and an additional 4 existing students had excused absences. He reported 7 open spots in eighth grade, 2 open spots in seventh grade (about which 2 people on the waitlist had been contacted), and 1 open spot in sixth grade. Mr. Yodice agreed to provide additional updates at the September meeting, including with regards to "20<sup>th</sup> day" enrollment.

Mr. Yodice also reported that [30] students had withdrawn from Scholars Academy. He reported that he or Ms. Cuneo had been in communication with most families who had withdrawn from the program and understood the reasons for withdrawal, which included dissatisfaction with the program, student fit and families moving. He also reported that an official withdrawal form had been added to the website in which parents are asked to express in writing reasons for

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withdrawal. The board discussed whether further action needed to be taken in order to understand why students are being withdrawn from Scholars Academy.

#### Governance Committees and Recruitment.

Noelle Sproul reviewed current and potential changes to the MRSA committee structure. She asked that other board members confirm the committees on which they sit and she encouraged all board members to consider recruiting one or more new parent members to sit on committees. Mr. Yodice stated that all staff members will be required to sit on a school committee this year and promised to provide staff names for the board committees. Additional changes will be discussed in September, with the goal to approving in September.

#### Review of Legislation Affecting Charter Schools.

The changes in legislation for charter schools were reviewed and discussed by the board. Discussion included the pros and cons of the optional changes in the lottery, how to increase minority and disadvantaged student enrollment, the availability of Epi pens at the school, STD information for parents and posting of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade proficiency standards . Changes in the lottery procedure will not be made at this time. See attachment 3

#### Extended Care Update

Noelle Sproul reported that a Director for the Extended Care Program has been hired, as well as three employees. The program has received 54 registrants thus far.

#### Review and Adoption by Board of Code of Ethics and Conflicts of Interest, Whistleblower and Document Retention Policies.

The board reviewed and approved the Code of Ethics and Conflicts of Interest, Whistleblower and Document Retention Policies.

#### Development Update.

Erica Ellis, Development Director, reported that the capital campaign has started. All board members were asked to make a donation to the capital campaign. The Donor Wall is finished; a few repairs will be made to the names. School informational emails will try to be limited to once a week. Board was presented with Development Plan.

#### PTO Update.

Melody Perrotta reported that the PTO has started the Go, Play, Save fundraiser with a goal of \$10,000. Funds raised will be used to purchase a new cart of Chrome books. A major goal of the PTO this year is to increase the community aspect of the school.

#### Financial Reports and Budget Amendments.

The financial reports will be presented at the September meeting. BB&T refinancing needs to be completed before the December maturity date.

#### Community Comments.

Maura O'Sullivan supports information presented by Jim Kelley regarding the importance of maintaining focus on the mission statement.

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Motion to Convene in Closed Session: A motion to convene in closed session pursuant to the following statutes was made by Jennifer McClave, seconded by Shila Fisher, and approved by the Board:

- a. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(1), to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes, such privilege or confidentiality arising under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. §1232g) or N.C.G.S. Ch. 126, Art. 7, and
- b. to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 (a)(6).

CLOSED SESSION

*The closed session minutes are filed in the office of the Executive Director of the Metrolina Regional Scholars' Academy, Inc.*

OPEN SESSION

New Business. No new business

Personnel Appointments

Action: A motion to approve the contracts of new teachers and staff, as discussed in closed session, was made by Jennifer McClave, seconded by Renee Alsop and approved by the board.

Action: A motion to approve the contract for the executive director, as discussed by the board, was made by Lee Keel, seconded by Shila Fisher and approved by the board.

Motion to Adjourn. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.