



The Anchor School

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

Monthly BOD Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday October 25, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Location

The Anchor School
2460 Wesley Chapel Rd
Decatur, Georgia 30035

Directors Present

D. Grissom, E. Desprez Isbell, J. Burton (remote), J. Whittington (remote), L. Stephens, N. LeBlanc, T. Ramsey (remote), V. Thompson

Directors Absent

D. Gregory, J. Anfield-El

Ex Officio Members Present

J. Pinto Taylor

Non Voting Members Present

J. Pinto Taylor

I. Opening Items

A.

Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

J. Whittington called a meeting of the board of directors of The Anchor School to order on Wednesday Oct 25, 2023 at 7:12 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

V. Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Directors Meeting on 09-13-23.

E. Desprez Isbell seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Public Comment

Parent Jonathan Lee attended the meeting. He praised the school and the recent micro-community meeting, as well as the school's attentiveness to all students.

II. School Opening Updates

A. Enrollment Updates

Still in range of 80–100 students; expecting to stay in this range until end of year.

B. Enrollment Policy Document Updates

Emily discussed **amended language** to our enrollment policy:

- Enrollment lottery will be **weighted**.
- Economically Disadvantaged students [have] a higher weight, **determined annually by the board**.

V. Thompson made a motion to approve amended enrollment policy language.

N. LeBlanc seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Finance

A. CFO Financial Reports

- Revised enrollment policy driving a \$26K decrease in net operating income.
- Cash is projected to be critically low in April '24.
 - Line-of-credit, tracking spending, and finding savings can help.

- Agreement with YMCA for after-school programming.

B. Fundraising

E. Desprez Isbell made a motion to amend agenda to include fundraising topic from Dr. Taylor.

D. Grissom seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

[amended item] Dr. Taylor asked board to approve terms and conditions for additional \$11K grant from GEERII. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the board.

E. Desprez Isbell made a motion to approve terms and conditions for \$11K grant.

D. Grissom seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

- Dr. Taylor is setting a goal to raise \$75K (collectively \$100K) in a capital campaign (Nov - end of June/fiscal year). Will fund new facility spaces.

- Board has \$25K internal fundraising goal.

- Nicole recommended a fundraising working group. Board thinks community members and a parent chair should participate. Nicole will work with Dr. Taylor for next steps.

- **Interested members:** Taylor, Nicole, Derrick (brand message), Laura, Vanecia (marketing and rollout), and Jasmine (grant support)

IV. Facility Updates

A. Facility Update

Currently exploring vendors for Phase 2 facilities work.

B. Facility Working Group

Dr. Taylor proposed the facilities working group to review vendors for Phase 2 facilities work, and bring an approved vendor to a vote in Nov.

L. Stephens made a motion to incorporate Dr. Taylor's proposal.

E. Desprez Isbell seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Academic Updates

A. Diagnostic Assessment Report

- Dr. Taylor thinks the school should double-down on math support (25th percentile of 6th grade students nationally). Currently an additional 30 min. of math support during WIN block.
- We'll have a better understanding of achievement progress in Jan.

B. Staffing Plan

We're starting the staff recruiting cycle in Nov. Current staffing is stable.

Jamaal suggested the board send donuts to staff. Taylor suggested a catered holiday luncheon.

C. Accreditation Update

We can choose between two accreditation bodies. Dr. Taylor is learning more.

VI. Community Engagement

A. Community Events & Activities.

- Co-design team kickoffs last month (next meeting is Nov 29)
- Community of Practice happening in Nov
- Jasmine sending calendar invites for different trainings and opportunities
- FYI: school calendar is public and on FAQ page
- Dr. Gregory and Jasmine planning Jan board retreat

VII. Closing Items

A. Summary of Commitments

- Board voted on the facilities working group to evaluate vendors for Phase 2, and bring approved vendor to a vote in Nov meeting
- Jamaal will work with EdTech for tax filings
- Nicole will work with Dr. Taylor to establish a fundraising working group
- Jasmine/Dr. Gregory will follow up about poll for Jan board retreat
- Emily will make sure there are no changes to current enrollment weight

B.

Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
N. LeBlanc

Documents used during the meeting

- Enrollment Policy - 23_24 - proposed.pdf

The Anchor School is a village of educators, families, and community members that partners with 6th through 12th-grade students who are developing the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to thrive in school and beyond. Through our commitment to excellent instruction, community partnerships, and holistic student development, we cultivate anchors that build a more just and equitable future.

**In August 2022, the SCSC authorized TAS as a GA Charter School with approval to enroll students who will be in the 6th grade in the fall of 2023.*