APPROVED

Liberty STEAM Charter

Minutes

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE FOUNDING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Date and Time
Thursday December 3, 2020 at 6:00 PM

Location
CCTC Advanced Manufacturing Training Center
853 Broad Street
Sumter, SC 29150

Google Map of Meeting Location

This meeting is held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. A copy of the agenda has been made available to the local media & general public.

Directors Present
Ben Griffith, Jr., Bronwyn McElveen, Cameron Chandler, Dexter WJ Davis (remote), Greg Thompson, Kimberly Rauschenbach, Marion Newton, Rodney Thompson, Steve Creech

Directors Absent
None

Guests Present
Khalil Graham, Latasha Carter, Trevor Ivey

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Greg Thompson called a meeting of the board of directors of Liberty STEAM Charter to order on Thursday Dec 3, 2020 at 6:00 PM.

B. Invocation

Rev. Dr. Marion Newton provided an invocation.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Ben Griffith led the board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Chairman's Opening Remarks

Greg Thompson acknowledged the momentous nature of the occasion of tonight's event and thanked directors & staff members for their continued effort in supporting the work of Liberty STEAM Charter.

II. Reading of the Mission & Vision Statement

A. LSC Mission Statement

Steve Creech read aloud the mission statement for Liberty STEAM Charter.

B. LSC Vision Statement

Bronwyn McElveen read aloud the vision statement for Liberty STEAM Charter.

III. Approval of Today's Meeting Agenda

A. Approval of the Special Called Board Meeting Agenda

Ben Griffith, Jr. made a motion to approve the agenda as presented for today's special-called meeting of the board.
Cameron Chandler seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Fall Enrollment Lottery

A. Remarks from the Board Chairman

Greg Thompson expressed to the board and those members of the public gathered for this meeting that he was honored to lead the local planning and launch effort Liberty STEAM Charter. He credited his fellow board members and the staff for joining him in leading & executing the project. Mr. Thompson stated that while we have a lot of great work ahead of us, it is important to stop and celebrate these milestones we are reaching.

Tonight's milestone, Mr. Thompson stated, is one that will provide a foundation of scholars in the two founding grade levels LSC will serve next year. He also acknowledged that this is one of his most gratifying experiences he has ever been a part of and concluded his opening remarks by staying, "Liberty STEAM will impact Sumter for generations, and we are going to give children hope that they never knew they had."

B. Overview of the Lottery Procedures

Trevor Ivey reminded the board that the sole purpose of today's special called meeting of the Founding Board of Directors is to conduct the fall enrollment lottery to select the founding kindergarten and first-grade classes for the 2021-22 school year at Liberty STEAM Charter. He informed the board that LSC has received a total of 208 applications for its 2021-22 founding kindergarten (116) & first-grade (92) classes. Pursuant to the SC Charter Schools Act of 1996 (59-40-10), a public lottery is required in order to determine the selected students for both founding grade levels. Dr. Ivey also acknowledged that representatives from the local media, city government, county government, and the legislative delegation were invited and are in attendance to observe the lottery proceedings in person. Dr. Ivey also informed the board that, as with all other board meetings, this one was being live-streamed via the school's official Facebook page to provide an opportunity for parents whose scholar (s) is enrolled in the lottery to observe. At the time, it was noted that 207 viewers were watching the proceedings via Facebook live. Dr. Ivey informed the board of the general procedures that will be followed to conduct the initial enrollment lottery emphasizing that it is a random selection of scholars via the online *Lotterease* platform, outlining the three priority preference groups and dates of both the enrollment period & lottery administration included in the board-adopted scholar enrollment policy. A breakdown of enrollment data was provided to the board including both recruitment efforts (77 events held) and lottery applications (208 received over a 60 day open enrollment period). Dr. Ivey concluded this portion of the agenda by displaying the *Lotterease* platform online and showing the public anonymous list of current applicants for all to see.

C. Administration of the Lottery

Greg Thompson administered the lottery online via the *Lotterease* platform while Trevor Ivey provided commentary on the actions being taken by the system. The lottery was administered in a matter of minutes and produced a list of all scholar applicants noting those who were "selected" and those who were "watilisted" in both kindergarten and first grade. Dr. Ivey concluded this portion of the agenda by displaying the public anonymous list of all applicants reminding parents that it is a live document, meaning it can be checked anytime to see seats as they are confirmed and any movement on the waitlist as positions change.

D. Next Steps

During this time, Dr. Ivey explained the difference between "selected" and "waitlisted" and informed parents of selected scholars that they would receive both an email and text

message notification once the verification process has concluded. For scholars who were waitlisted, parents should only expect to receive an email notification. Dr. Ivey reminded parents of the board-adopted scholar enrollment policy that requires parents of selected scholars to confirm or decline the seat within five days. Once a seat is confirmed, parents will obtain access via Lotterease to the Enrollease platform to complete the enrollment process within 10 days. Parents of selected scholars are invited to participate in LSC's "Cookies & Cocoa with Santa" event scheduled in 15-minute sessions over a four day period, December 12-15, and is designed as a way for scholars/parents to meet school leaders and also for parents to complete any part of the enrollment process in person. Dr. Ivey then provided the rationale behind the verification process that will occur immediately following the conclusion of the board meeting and last no longer than 30 minutes. Finally, all were reminded of the board's amendment request to the SCPCSD to serve an additional 24 scholars in each grade level but that it would not impact the current waitlist until a decision is made.

V. Closing Items

A. Good of the Order

Greg Thompson reminded directors of the regularly-scheduled board meeting for the month scheduled for December 14 from 11:30 am -1:00 pm at the CCTC Advanced Manufacturing Training Center. No other announcements were made by directors or school leaders during this time.

B. Adjourn Meeting

Greg Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Steve Creech seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Trevor Ivey

Documents used during the meeting

- SC Lottery Procedures Charter School.pdf
- LSC 1st Grade Fall Lottery Master Tracker.pdf
- 12.1 LSC Enrollment Progress to Goals Tracker.pdf