APPROVED

Kestrel Heights Public Charter School

Minutes

July Board Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday July 12, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Directors Present
A. Davis (remote), B. Paris (remote), D. Powe (remote), D. Wimberly (remote), R. Clement (remote), S. McGarrah (remote)

Directors Absent
S. Goram

Ex Officio Members Present
J. Price (remote), T. Jackson (remote)

Guests Present
A. Touchette (remote), Dale Edmonds (remote), Elise Pritchett (remote), Jerod Cohen (remote), Justin Matthews (remote), M. Gordon (remote), S. Vargas (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

A. Davis called a meeting of the board of directors of Kestrel Heights Public Charter School to order on Tuesday Jul 12, 2022 at 6:32 PM.

B. Public Comment Submission

Ms. Davis noted that participants can put public comments in the chat.

C. Record Attendance and Guests

D. Approve June 2022 Special Meeting Minutes

R. Clement made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Session Board Meeting on 06-28-22.
D. Wimberly seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Approve June Meeting Minutes

B. Paris made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 06-14-22.
R. Clement seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

II. Key Agenda Items & Presentations

A. Benefits Renewal Presentation

Jared Cohen shared the benefits renewal presentation from eBen. Blue Cross originally proposed a 14% increase, but after negotiations came back with a 2% increase. Guardian offered a 9% increase for dental coverage after negotiations.
S. McGarrah made a motion to proceed with the benefits package as presented by eBen for health, dental, vision, life insurance and disability.
D. Wimberly seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

B. Paris	Aye
S. McGarrah	Aye
R. Clement	Aye
S. Goram	Absent
A. Davis	Abstain
D. Powe	Aye
D. Wimberly	Aye

B. Marketing and Enrollment Update

Ms. Vargas presented on marketing and enrollment. Social media advertising has resumed with new 25th anniversary logo! There have been family and parent engagement sessions as well. Social media analytics showed increases in outreach as ads restarted. Enrollment for 2022-23 is 499 scholars with 17 pending, which is an

increase over the previous year. New families are already in Class Dojo to help them get connected.

C. Facilities Sub Committee

Justin Matthews gave an update on facilities. The footprint of the building is complete, and the wall panels will be poured and raised next. Mr. Matthews mentioned the process for the change orders as well.

III. Curriculum & Assessment

A. Year in Review - Elementary & Middle School

Mr. Touchette provided a year in review for the elementary and middle schools. He talked about small group instruction, stations in classrooms, overview of iReady results, performances, leadership activities, end of year field trips, electives, and implementing the KHS strategic plan.

IV. Operational Reports

A. Executive Director Report

Ms. Jackson gave the Executive Director's report. She provided an EpiCenter report update. She noted that she talks with the staff about how they are all responsible for recruiting and retaining teachers and families. There is a lot of grant-writing for federal programs that is happening at Kestrel right now, including for the consolidated grant. This process includes analyzing data and evaluating needs of students and the school. She also shared staff recognition.

B. Monthly Budget Report

Mrs. Jackson shared that the school is still in process of switching over the budget information and access to Ms. Gordon, so the June reconciliations have not been completed. Going forward, the Board's finance committee will have regular meetings to review detailed information prior to the Board meetings.

The Governor signed the new budget last night, which includes raises for staff.

C. Gaggle

Ms. Jackson shared that Gaggle is a new tool that DPI is using and paying for to manage and improve school safety and provide mental health support to students. Kestrel will be adding this program as well as other schools in the state.

D. Elementary Update [4900 Prospectus]

Ms. Gordon provided an update on the elementary school. The school has completed all of the required maintenance per the lease agreement for the landlord. The school has

moved about 60% of the items out of the building, and much of the work will be finished by July 25.

V. Committee Reports

A. Academic Sub-Committee

Mr. Powe and Mr. Price provided an update on the materials coming in for 5th through 9th grade scholars (graduating 8th graders), who will be participating in the STEM and financial literacy camps at Camp Kestrel.

B. Governance Sub-Committee

The Board discussed the nominations from last month. They are as follows:

President - Adrienne Davis
Vice President - Dalia Wimberly
Treasurer - Brandon Paris
Secretary - Stephanie McGarrah

Members emailed their votes in writing to Ms. McGarrah, and she read them out (see vote tallies above).

Ms. Davis and Ms. Jackson shared that the committee drafted a parental leave policy and is now working through the costs. The draft plan is shared in the folder, and the committee will continue to work through the costs of the proposal for the Board to vote next month.

C. Update about the Strong Schools Toolkit

Ms. Gordon provided an update on the Strong Schools Toolkit. The program is sunsetting, and Kestrel Heights administration is recommending that the school adopts some of the protocols for the management of COVID symptoms.

If a student has 2 symptoms, they will take a COVID test.

Diagnosed with no symptoms - come to school, but wear a mask
Diagnosed with symptoms - stay at home for 5 days

Cleaning protocols are also outlined in the recommendation (e.g. nightly disinfectant, more frequent disinfecting for high-touch surfaces, etc).

D. Kestrel Heights Mask Policy

S. McGarrah made a motion to maintain our current mask policy.
D. Powe seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VI. Closed Session

A. Enter Closed Session

D. Wimberly made a motion to enter closed session per NCSL § 143-318.11 as follows: 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. (3) To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged. General policy matters may not be discussed in a closed session and nothing herein shall be construed to permit a public body to close a meeting that otherwise would be open merely because an attorney employed or retained by the public body is a participant. The public body may consider and give instructions to an attorney concerning the handling or settlement of a claim, judicial action, mediation, arbitration, or administrative procedure. If the public body has approved or considered a settlement, other than a malpractice settlement by or on behalf of a hospital, in closed session, the terms of that settlement shall be reported to the public body and entered into its minutes as soon as possible within a reasonable time after the settlement is concluded. (6) 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; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. General personnel policy issues may not be considered in a closed session. A public body may not consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, appointment, or removal of a member of the public body or another body and may not consider or fill a vacancy among its own membership except in an open meeting. Final action making an appointment or discharge or removal by a public body having final authority for the appointment or discharge or removal shall be taken in an open meeting.
B. Paris seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Staffing Recommendations

C. Personnel Matter

VII. Closing Items

A. Report out from Closed Session

Ms. McGarrah noted that the Board discussed
S. McGarrah made a motion to approve elementary science teacher and art teacher candidates as recommended by Ms. Jackson.
R. Clement seconded the motion.

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

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
S. McGarrah