APPROVED

Cirrus Education Group

Minutes

CEG - Academic Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday August 7, 2025 at 10:00 AM

Location
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86073091126?pwd=q0SvajFBfwXEMDnFrWn8jUsDTSbnyN.1

Committee Members Present
L. Taylor (remote), R. Finley (remote), S. Kelly (remote)

Committee Members Absent
L. Golphin, T. Olagunju

Guests Present
Arleen Samuels (remote), Brenda Edwards (remote), C. Blake (remote), Diane Freeman (remote), Nisah Brinson (remote), Sonja Riley (remote), Wendy Grimes (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

R. Finley called a meeting of the Academic Committee of Cirrus Education Group to order on Thursday Aug 7, 2025 at 10:10 AM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Approve Minutes

L. Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes from CEG - Academic Committee Meeting on 07-17-25.
S. Kelly seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Academic

A. Data

Diane Freeam reported enrollment at 480 students out of the 533-student goal, with some attrition due to families relocating. Georgia Milestones results showed strengths in 8th grade math, where 88% scored at developing or above (projected to reach 98–99% after retests), and weaknesses in 3rd grade ELA, where 76% scored at the beginning level. Freeman reported that all five retested 8th grade students passed, while only 7 of 37 retested 3rd graders in ELA passed.

Nisah Brinson outlined plans to address ELA challenges through curriculum adjustments, scripted lessons, and use of MAP test data for targeted interventions. Additionally, adding that teacher questioning techniques and requiring verbal and written responses would be key to improving comprehension.

B. Curriculum Update

Nisah Brinson presented the curriculum update, highlighting the instructional vision to empower educators, foster a love of literacy, and integrate a STEM mindset across all subjects. Professional development feedback has been positive, and the open house saw strong participation with 152 students attending. Instructional systems are being strengthened with Deans conducting 2–3 classroom observations weekly. Ms. Freeman is training teachers on MAP testing procedures in preparation for next week’s assessments, and data will be shared with parents at the August 21 open house.

C. Culture

Brenda Edwards outlined plans to strengthen school culture and climate, including forming a State-required culture team, amending the attendance policy, and implementing a three-tier chronic absence plan. Only three students were chronically absent last year. The discipline approach emphasizes consistency and restorative practices, with only one referral so far. Safety measures include PBIS programming, increased leadership visibility, staff supervision during arrival and dismissal, and new bathroom monitoring procedures. The sensory room project is on hold due to funding cuts, but counselors and staff continue providing emotional support. Shirlynn asked whether transportation support for homeless students could be extended to others with attendance challenges; follow-up is pending.

D. Pitsco and STEAM Update

Nisah Brinson provided a brief update on the Pitsco pilot, noting that quotes for piloting and travel to observe the program are being prepared, with more details expected later in August.

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

L. Taylor made a motion to Adjourn Meeting.
S. Kelly seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** 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 11:44 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
C. Blake