APPROVED

Academy of Collaborative Education

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday October 23, 2024 at 3:30 PM

Location
Academy of Collaborative Education
505 Glenmar Avenue
Monroe, LA 71201

Pursuant to Louisiana Open Meetings Law - La. R.S. 42:19, notice is hereby given to the members of the Board of Directors of Academy of Collaborative Education and to the general public that the Board will hold a regular, special, or re-scheduled meeting, open to the public as specified below. To ensure compliance with the Open Meeting Law, recipients of this message should not forward it to other Board members, and Board members should not reply to this message.

Directors Present
Amy Marcus, Carmen Parks, Joellen Freeman, Latner McDonald, Richard Cannon

Directors Absent
Holly Allen, Kara Maggiore

Ex Officio Members Present
Karen Roberson

Guests Present

Diamond Melton (remote), Madison Bachhofer, Mike Dunn (remote), Rob Turner

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I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance/Establish Quorum

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Amy Marcus called a meeting of the board of directors of Academy of Collaborative Education to order on Wednesday Oct 23, 2024 at 3:30 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

Carmen Parks made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 09-18-24.
Latner McDonald seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Governance

A. Open Meeting Law (Sunshine Law)

Since Holly could not attend, this item is moved to the next board meeting.

B. Set Schedule for Committee Meetings

Amy Marcus made a motion to The Academic Excellence Committee meeting will be held monthly on the 3rd Wednesday at 4:30.
Carmen Parks seconded the motion.
Members are Carmen Parks (Chair), Joellen Freeman, Karen Roberson, and Amy Marcus
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.
The Finance Committee will meet monthly on the 2nd Wednesday at 3:30. Members are Joellen Freeman, Mike Dunn, and Latner McDonald.

C. Amendment of By-Laws Regarding Term Limits

After discussing it, the board moved this item to the next meeting. Richard will discuss this item further with Melissa Grand and gain clarification before Nov. 20.

D. Creation of a Legacy Seat on the Board

After discussing it, the board moved this item to the next meeting. Richard will discuss this item further with Melissa Grand and gain clarification before Nov. 20.

E. Charter Amendment

Latner McDonald made a motion to amend ACE's charter to include 6th, 7th, and 8th grades.

Carmen Parks seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
Richard Cannon made a motion to amend ACE's charter to include 6-8th grades.
Carmen Parks seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Academic Excellence

A. Staff Attendance and Satisfaction

Carmen Parks made the board aware of recent Academic Excellence Initiatives: staff surveys given at the end of the first 9-weeks and the staff attendance contest

IV. Fundraising

A. ACE Masters "Fore" Autism and River Rat Paddle Challenge

Madison Bachhofer (Fundraising Chair) gave an update on ACE's first Masters "Fore" Autism held at Frenchman's Bend on Oct. 11.

V. Finance

A. Financial Report

Mike Dunn and Joellen Freeman discussed the first-quarter deficit, the effects of late approval of the CSP grant, the recasting of the budget, and Medicaid recoupment.

VI. Staff and Students Report

A. Hiring Status and Student Numbers

Karen Roberson spoke about two new teacher hires and a recent new student.

VII. Facility

A. Updates

Rob Turner and Joellen Freeman updated us on the possible splitting of some of ACE's larger classrooms and a gym buildout to accommodate the middle school's additionr.

Organically, within this update, the subject of a Development Committee arose, and the committee was formed.

VIII. Other Business

A. Rural Community Funding Summit

Latner McDonald discussed connections made and possible future funding discovered upon attending The Rural Community Funding Summit on ACE's behalf.
Joellen Freeman informed the board of Rachel Lindsey's work to create a smoother "pathway" for ACE students from our school to St. Francis Hospital. We will expand this work to the other hospitals in our area.

B. Creation of Advisory Board

Richard Cannon discussed the creation of an Advisory Board. Many names were introduced. Latner proposed that the Advisory Board members come from five different "buckets:" education, facilities, financial, government, and someone adept at finding and writing grants.

IX. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Carmen Parks made a motion to to adjourn the meeting.
Latner McDonald seconded the motion.
The board **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 5:09 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Marcus