

APPROVED



Reach Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees

Minutes

Reach Cyber Charter School

Date and Time

Wednesday April 17, 2024 at 9:00 AM

Location

750 E. Park Drive, Suite 204
Harrisburg, PA 17111

A zoom link will be posted on this page on the day of the board meeting for those attending virtually.

Trustees Present

David Taylor, Marcella Arline (remote), Matthew Ryan (remote), Paul Donecker, Ralph Woodard (remote)

Trustees Absent

Anthony Alexander, Gail Hawkins Bush, Leigh Kraemer-Naser

Guests Present

Alex Lewis (remote), Alicia Swope, Amy Turner (remote), Andy Gribbin, April Kretchman (remote), Brandie Karpew, Devin Meza-Rushanan, Erica Carroll (remote), Gregory McCurdy, JD Smith, Jane Swan, Karen Yeselavage (remote), Katherine Rutkowski, Kelly McConnell, LeeAnn Ritchie, Lisa Blickley (remote), Michael Garman, Michael Hinshaw (remote), Rachel Graver, Sarah Minnick (remote), Scott Shedd, Scott Stuccio, Stephanie Lane

I. Opening Items

A. Roll Call

B. Call the Meeting to Order

II. Consideration of Board Candidate

A. Ralph Woodard

David Taylor, Board President, introduced Ralph Woodard as a potential candidate for the Reach Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees.

Marcella Arline, Trustee, shared that she had worked with Mr. Woodard and that she highly recommends him for the position.

Mr. Woodard shared his appreciation for being nominated.

Marcella Arline made a motion to approve Ralph Woodard for the position of Trustee.

Paul Donecker seconded the motion.

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

III. Public Comment

A. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public at this time.

IV. Routine Business

A. Approval of Agenda

David Taylor, Board President, asked the board to review the agenda distributed prior to the meeting and asked if any changes were needed. There were no changes needed at this time.

Marcella Arline made a motion to approve the agenda.

Matthew Ryan seconded the motion.

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

V. Oral Reports

A. CEO's Report

Jane Swan, CEO, reviewed the current enrollment numbers for the school noting trends in enrollment. Current enrollment stands at 6,475 students.

Mrs. Swan provided an update on the Auditor General's audit of cyber charter schools. The Auditor General has sent seven requests for additional information which the school has provided.

Mrs. Swan additionally shared that the Cognia Accreditation process is going well.

B. Human Resources Update

Michael Garman, Director of Human Resources, reviewed current staffing levels with the Board highlighting the authorized complement of 919 and the 880 current staff members of which 83% are 10-month staff. There have been 126 new hires and 41 departures since the beginning of the school year.

C. Financial Report (to follow)

Karen Yeselavage, Director of Finance, reviewed the school's financial statements with the Board. She reviewed the revenue and expense statements, advising on changes since the previous months' statements. Ms. Yeselavage further reviewed with the Board the school's balance sheet and current forecast.

Matt Ryan asked if we could be expected to continue to see the efficiencies moving forward that we currently see as a result from leaving Pearson. Ms. Yeselavage advised that it was hard to predict future technology costs, but generally speaking the efficiencies should continue.

VI. Consent Items

A. Approval of Consent Items

Mr. Taylor asked if there were any items from the Consent Items that should be moved to Action Items for discussion or tabled. No changes were noted.

- Approval of March 20, 2024, board minutes
- Approval of Staffing Report
- Approval to Renew MOU with Sigma Resources
- Approval to Renew Agreement with Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week
- Approval to Renew MOU with Moore College of Art and Design
- Approval to Continue Agreement with Flexpoint
- Approval to Continue Agreement with Edmentum
- Approval to Continue Agreement with Brainpop
- Approval of Special Education Policies
- Approval of Audit Report

Marcella Arline made a motion to approve the Consent Items and the minutes from Reach Cyber Charter School on 03-20-24.

Matthew Ryan seconded the motion.

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

VII. Action Items

A. Approval of Affiliation Agreement with East Stroudsburg University

Lee Ann Ritchie, Chief Academic Officer, presented an affiliation agreement with Stroudsburg University for the University to send teacher candidates to work at Reach. Paul Donecker made a motion to approve the affiliation agreement with Stroudsburg University.

Marcella Arline seconded the motion.

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

B. Approval of Agreement with Penn State LaunchBox Entrepreneurship Career Mentoring Program

JD Smith, Director of EDIB and Career Readiness, presented a proposal to partner with Penn State LaunchBox for a Career Mentoring Program that promotes entrepreneurial skills for students.

Marcella Arline made a motion to approve the agreement with Penn State LaunchBox.

Ralph Woodard seconded the motion.

This needs to be changed to Ralph Woodard

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

C. Approval of Bayada Supplemental Staffing Agreement - Nurses

Mr. Garman requested approval for an agreement with Bayada Staffing to provide nurses for certain state testing sites.

Ralph Woodard made a motion to approve the agreement with Bayada Staffing.

Marcella Arline seconded the motion.

Needs to be updated to Ralph

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

D. Approval of Compensation System Structure Changes

Mr. Garman requested approval to implement two changes to the salary structures and pay ranges of the current compensation system.

Marcella Arline made a motion to approve the changes to the compensation system structure.

Ralph Woodard seconded the motion.

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

E. Approval of Marketing Campaign for 2024-25 School Year

Scott, Stuccio, Director of Outreach, requested approval of an updated marketing campaign for the 2024-25 school year. The new campaign will feature students and their parents sharing how Reach has made them successful as students as well as Administrators and Educators sharing how Reach has created a curriculum and culture for student success.

Paul Donecker made a motion to approve the Marketing Campaign.
Marcella Arline seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VIII. Information Items

A. Government Affairs Update

Brandie Karpew, Board and Legislative Liaison, provided a government affairs updated specifically highlighting the Governor's proposed budget cut for cyber charter schools. She additionally shared the school's efforts at grassroots advocacy.

B. State Testing Update

Dr. Kelly McConnell shared that state testing for students is scheduled to begin next Monday, April 22, 2024. Reach will be testing at 40 locations across Pennsylvania to ensure that all students have a location within an hour of driving time from their homes.

IX. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

The Board entered into an Executive Session at 9:52 a.m.

The Board entered into an Executive Session upon a motion being made, seconded and confirmed via roll call vote of all Board members present. The Board cited the following for

entering into the Executive Session: Pursuant to 65 Pa. C.S. §§ 708(a) (1) – to discuss any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee and 65 Pa. C.S. §§ 708(a)(5) – To review and discuss agency business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of information or confidentiality protected by law.

Board members present were: David Taylor, Paul Donecker, Marcella Arline, Matt Ryan, and Ralph Woodard. Guests present at the request of the Board were: Jane Swan and Mike Garman. All others left the meeting at this time.

Board Resolution: Salary adjustments and Pay ranges.

Be it resolved that the Reach Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees delegates to the CEO, the authority to analyze and adjust salary ranges, according to market data, with approval by the Board, from this date, April 17, 2024, forward.

Paul Donecker made a motion to approve the resolution.

Marcella Arline seconded the motion.

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

X. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brandie Karpew