APPROVED

Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy

Minutes

SPECIAL Board Meeting

Date and Time
Monday August 10, 2020 at 6:30 PM

Location

When: Aug 10, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Scholars Academy Monthly Board Meetings
Register in advance for this webinar:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bkKK2mXRT5agnEWCoxKhpg

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about attending the Board Meeting.

Directors Present
A. Starling (remote), A. Young (remote), C. Lewis (remote), M. Dixon (remote), M. Ramasamy (remote), S. Dasu (remote), S. Korrapati (remote), S. Liner (remote), S. Schroeck (remote)

Directors Absent
A. Farooqi

Ex Officio Members Present
A. Pieper (remote)

Guests Present

Anne Mitchell, B Hinshaw, Jennifer Fauser, Kerbie Neal, Noelle Zagorski, Sandra Logan, Stacey Henderson, abhishek Sharma

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I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

M. Dixon called a meeting of the board of directors of Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy to order on Monday Aug 10, 2020 at 6:35 PM.

C. Read Mission Statement

Catherine Lewis read the Mission Statement.

D. Approval of Prior Minutes [July 9, 2020]

S. Schroeck made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 07-09-20.
S. Dasu seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Approval of Prior Minutes [July 16, 2020]

S. Schroeck made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 07-16-20.
S. Korrapati seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Adoption of the Agenda

S. Korrapati made a motion to adopt the agenda for the August 10, 2020 meeting.
S. Schroeck seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

G. Administrative Meeting Rules

M. Dixon went over the administrative meeting rules. Beginning August 10, 2020, meetings will be recorded meeting via Zoom webinar platform. Pre-registration is required. No participation will be allowed without registration prior to the meeting. No anonymous comments will be permitted. Public comments may be submitted up to 48 hours after the meeting. Minutes and meeting recordings will be posted to the Board on Track portal on the Scholars Academy website. Future meetings may be streamed live on YouTube.

II. Community Comments (First Opportunity) - subject to guidelines

A. Community Comments - guidelines

There were no members of the community who wished to make a comment.

III. Director's Report

A. School Reopening

A. Pieper gave the Director's Report

Teachers and Staff:
There will be new hires discussed in closed session. A Health and Wellness Coordinator contract will also be discussed in closed session.

Educational Excellence and Student Information:
Ms. Pieper shared the hybrid/virtual percentages. There are varying percentages in each grade. The highest percentage of hybrid students is in grade 7 (47.83% will attend a hybrid schedule). The lowest percentage is in grades 4 and 8 (20.45% will attend a hybrid schedule). This will give teachers flexibility to give attention to virtual students as there will be unused classroom spaces that teachers can utilize for online teaching.

There will be staff training starting 8/11/2020. There will be additional training in using gifted strategies online, safety training, and student mental health assistance training.

August 17 starts orientation week. Virtual students will pick up materials this Friday the 14th. Hybrid students will have an in-school orientation in the mornings during the first week. Exact schedules for orientation will be sent out this week by teachers. All students will attend virtual sessions during the first week and attendance will be taken. Start time for instruction for all students is 8:30AM every day. Full day schedules will be provided at orientation.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Governance Committee

S. Liner gave the Governance Committee update.
Governance Committee met last week on Thursday. They started to work on the Strategic Plan that was discussed in the Board Retreat.

The Governance Committee will give guidance to other committees regarding the task of determining subgoals for the Strategic Plan.

B. Expansion Committee

The Expansion Committee has not yet met this month, but will meet later this month.

Committee leadership has been in contact with lenders to track market changes. The building is still on the market and a press release will soon be published in the Charlotte Business Journal.

C. Diversity & Inclusion

S. Dasu gave the diversity and inclusion update.
A survey was given to parents and staff. there were 118 responses including parents and staff. Responses were anonymous. 20 responded that they had experienced or may have experienced racial bias at Scholars Academy. A few respondents said that they did not feel that they were free to express their racial/cultural identity. The majority of these experiences were parent against parent bias. Majority of responses showed that respondees believe that racial bias is important to try to eliminate.
The focus for the Committee will be fostering intentional training to staff and students to try to tackle the problem of racial bias.

V. Community Comments (Second Opportunity) - Subject to Guidelines

A. Agenda Item Summary

There were no members of the community who wished to make a comment.

VI. Closed Session (if necessary)

A. Closed Session

S. Dasu made a motion to convene in closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11: to discuss contract negotiations; and to discuss personnel matters involving an individual.
S. Korrapati seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VII. Closing Items

A. Vote on any items from Closed Sessions

S. Schroeck made a motion to approve the personnel contracts as proposed in closed session.
S. Dasu seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Dixon	Aye
S. Schroeck	Aye
S. Dasu	Aye
A. Starling	Aye
A. Young	Aye
S. Liner	Abstain
C. Lewis	Aye

Roll Call

S. Korrapati Aye
A. Farooqi Absent
M. Ramasamy Aye

B. Adjourn Meeting

S. Dasu made a motion to adjourn.
S. Korrapati 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 7:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
S. Schroeck