APPROVED

Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy

Minutes

SA Monthly Board Meeting

Date and Time
Monday August 29, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Location
You are invited to a Zoom webinar.
Topic: Scholars Academy Monthly Board Meetings
Register in advance for this webinar:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tVP7q8nNR9O4LaIS1aV99g

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

You may also watch the meeting live via YouTube stream, at rtmp://a.rtmp.youtube.com/live2

Directors Present
A. Farooqi, A. Starling, C. Lewis, D. Palmer, E. Womer, M. Pfaff, S. Dasu, W. Ning

Directors Absent
N. Morrison

Ex Officio Members Present
A. Pieper

Guests Present
K. Ely (remote), M. Dixon, N. Zagorski (remote), Sheetal Puri (remote), Valerie Yates (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

C. Lewis called a meeting of the board of directors of Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy to order on Monday Aug 29, 2022 at 6:36 PM.

C. Read Mission Statement

D. Administrative Meeting Review

E. Approval of Prior Minutes 8/16/22

A. Farooqi made a motion to approve the minutes from SA Special Board Meeting - 8/16/22 on 08-16-22.
S. Dasu seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Adoption of the Agenda

A. Starling made a motion to approve agenda.
A. Farooqi seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Director's Report

A. General Items

- Reviewed the Executive Director Report Outline which will serve as the calendar of topics to be covered at each board meeting.
- Handbook updates:
  - Minor tweaks to the dismissal procedures are captured in the 2022-2023 Staff Handbook and 2022-2023 Parent Student Handbook.
- Staff Updates: New benefits introduced to staff for this plan year - company-paid short-term disability and Flexible Spending Accounts.
- School Safety Updates:
  - COVID protocols:
    - No longer required to vote monthly on mask usage. Maintaining mask optional policy.
    - **Reminders**: COVID-positive students are required to quarantine for 5 days, then wear a mask for 5 days. Students with confirmed COVID exposure are required to wear a mask for 10 days and get tested on day 5.

        - On-site COVID testing is still available. Awaiting take-home tests from the state.
    - Confirmed the days the nurse's office is staffed - Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday by Nurse Thompson, Wednesday pm and Friday pm with a Teaching Assistant (with prior nursing experience).
    - Volunteer background checks must be completed every other school year. Contact Ms. Pantuso with questions.

III. Governance Committee

A. Status Review

- Committee update: Second half of the board retreat is to be scheduled.
- Reminder: It is important for all students to attend school on the first day for funding purposes.
- The Board is no longer required to vote monthly on mask usage.
- Board recruitment:1 board member has resigned and the recruitment campaign is reopened to fill the vacant position. Anyone interested should submit an application. Additional information will be in the newsletter.
- Several staff contracts will be discussed in closed session.
- Committee Meetings: Schedule established. Roadmap to be provided.

IV. Expansion Committee

A. Status Review

Additional contract-related discussion during the closed session.

V. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee Updates

A. Status Review

The first meeting is scheduled for September 23rd at 8:15.

Meetings are open to the public on the fourth Friday of the month at 8:15 am. Participation can be in person or virtual.

VI. Educational Excellence Committee Updates

A. Status Review

The first meeting is scheduled for September 9th at 8:15.

Meetings are open to the public on the second Friday of the month at 8:15 am. Participation can be in person or virtual.

VII. Foundation

A. Status Review

2021 - 2022 Annual Giving Campaign $527,000 collected (Goal: $495,000)

- 100% of trustees, board, and staff
- 81% of new families
- 85% of existing families

2022-2023 Annual Giving Campaign (Goal: $495,000)

- $19,000 committed YTD, $11,000 collected (Early pledges)
- Official pledge drive campaign kick-off in October

Goals and Strategic Objectives:

1. Maintain a qualified board of trustees.
2. Focus on the foundation's branding and marketing for fundraising.
3. Raise $495,000 towards Scholar's Academy's operating expenses.
4. Increase support from corporations and non-governmental foundations.

VIII. Finance Committee Update

A. Finance Recommendations

- No amendments to the school budget.
- Employment contracts to be discussed in closed session

Items for vote

- Resolution to adopt Section 125 Plan (must be done annually)
- Health insurance contract - Change medical carrier due to a high increase from Aetna (49%) to BCBSNC.

M. Pfaff made a motion to adopt Section 125 plan.
W. Ning seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
W. Ning made a motion to approve the contract for health insurance from BCBSNC.
E. Womer seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IX. Closed Session

A. Closed Session

W. Ning made a motion to review expansion contract and employment contract.
A. Farooqi seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

X. Closing Items

A. Vote on any items from Closed Session

S. Dasu made a motion to approve the vendor contract for nursing services.
A. Starling seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
A. Farooqi made a motion to approve teaching employment contracts presented in closed session.
W. Ning 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 9:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
D. Palmer

Documents used during the meeting

- Executive Director Report Outline.docx
- Staff Handbook 2022-2023.docx.pdf
- 2022-2023 Parent Student Handbook.pdf