APPROVED

Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy

Minutes

SA Monthly Board Meeting

Date and Time
Monday February 27, 2023 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. Hall, A. Starling, C. Lewis, D. Palmer, E. Womer, M. Pfaff, N. Morrison, S. Dasu, W. Ning

Directors Absent
None

Ex Officio Members Present
A. Pieper

Guests Present

K. Ely (remote), M. Dixon (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 Feb 27, 2023 at 6:33 PM.

C. Read Mission Statement

D. Administrative Meeting Review

E. Approval of Prior Minutes 1/23/2023

A. Starling made a motion to approve the minutes from SA Monthly Board Meeting on 01-23-23.
M. Pfaff seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

F. Adoption of the Agenda

A. Starling made a motion to amend the agenda to remove the closed session.
M. Pfaff seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Director's Report

A. General Items

(7:00)

- Director's Report - this month, the report will include an overview of the gifted conference and an update on the SEL program and Mental Health Plan
    - The library is up and running
    - Boosterthon starts this week.
- Vote on the proposed 2023-24 academic calendar
    - Draft B proposed
    - School bell at 8:05 am instead of 8:10 am
- Gifted Conference
    - Onsite in-person conference with Dr. Matt Zakreski keynote
    - ~50 participated via zoom + a few CMS teachers in person
    - The next conference is on 2/20/24
- SEL Program Overview

- Buddies (1st and 2nd Thursdays)
- Electives for 5 - 8
- Assemblies K-4 (3rd Thursday) and 5-8 (4th Thursday)
- Guest speakers K-4 (4th Thursday) and 5-8 (3rd Thursday)

• Mental Health Plan Update
- State mandate to have on file
- Reviewed initiatives

Director's Report
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1CP4XnZXxFWpJolJoamVrDGbBkjrDaxWVtU_vL-Cf2Vk/edit?usp=sharing
A. Starling made a motion to adopt the proposed 2023-2024 school calendar - Draft B.
M. Pfaff seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

III. Governance Committee

A. Status Review

(34:05)
Committee updates:

• The board newsletter will be released on 2/28/23
• More information coming about the community town hall (April), staff survey, and ED evaluation
- Survey due before spring break
- A third party will compile the survey results

• Introduce board recruitment efforts for next year
- 4 board members' term ends at the end of this school year
- Seeking prospective board members, not required to be a parent

• Discuss the upcoming "Ask the Board" form on the school website
• Exploring NC Association for Public Charter Schools (NCAPCS) membership - new for this year

IV. Expansion Committee

A. Status Review

(54:20)
Scholars Academy will remain in our current facility for the 2023-24 academic school year.

• Focus on up fitting the existing building
• Building assessment to explore expansion in the current building

V. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee Updates

A. Status Review

(59:00)
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement
Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy strives to provide a community for our students and staff that values diversity while providing an equitable and inclusive learning environment.

Committee updates:

- Review the **Religion in Schools** policy; this is the 'second read' for this policy and there will be a vote later this evening.
- Provide an overview of the upcoming Multi-Cultural Experience day (4/7)
- Discuss further implementation of the school's **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan** that was adopted at the end of last school year

DEI_Plan.pdf

VI. Policy Committee Updates

A. Policy Updates

(1:04:50)
Committee updates:

- Policies under review this year: staff teleworking, paid time off, and religious holiday
- Tonight is the "second read" for the **Teleworking** *(revision)* and **Religion in School** ***(new)*** policies. We will discuss the two policies and, barring no questions or concerns, vote on them
- Pending policy updates paid time off and gifting policy
- ASK - Seeking volunteer assistance with document formatting/consolidating multiple documents

4_11-Teleworking-Policy_Revised Draft _1-18-23.pdf
Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Religion - Religion in Schools_Policy - DRAFT - 1-23-23.pdf
A. Starling made a motion to adopt the teleworking policy as presented.
S. Dasu seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.
A. Starling made a motion to adopt the Religion in Schools policy.

S. Dasu seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VII. Educational Excellence Committee Updates

A. Status Review

(1:19:40)
Committee updates:

- The parent survey to gather feedback on the school experience is currently in the field. 3/3/23 deadline. 71 responses so far.

VIII. Foundation

A. Status Review

(1:22:48)
Committee updates:

- Reviewed AGC trends
  - Overall family participation is down 4% YTD
- Overview of the 3-year strategic planning process
- Transportation Program Fund status
  - $74,250 Target based on $450 per rider (165 riders)
    - $27,990 donations received plus $4,725 in pledges and matching gift pledges
    - 121 bus rider families: 67 no pledge or donation;51 families donated with 46 donating at cost and 5 below cost; 3 families pledged.
    - Program at risk if donations do not increase

SAFG Report for February Board meeting.pdf

IX. Whole Child Committee

A. Status Review

(1:36:45)
Committee updates:

- Researching options for upgrading the front playground (grant funded) - target installation over the summer
- Finalizing details for the staff retreats that will take place in March (partially grant-funded) - Chef Alyssa's Kitchen, Top Golf, Spare Time

- Discussing end-of-year SEL awards, an intentional focus on service-learning projects, and developing additional partnerships with the community

X. Finance Committee Update

A. Finance Recommendations

(1:41:15)
Committee update:

- 990 Tax filing for a vote
- Auditor proposal for a vote
- Provided general updates (CD purchase, bus program, upcoming strategic planning/budgeting meeting)

A. Starling made a motion to approve the 990 Tax filing.
A. Farooqi seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.
A. Starling made a motion to approve the auditor's letter to Hire Rebekah Barr.
A. Farooqi seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

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

A. Agenda Item Summary

(1:56:40)
Malik Dixon:

- As we recruit for the board and foundation, the bylaws require that the foundation trustee membership is a majority of the Scholars' board members. Also, the treasurer needs to be the same individual for both the board and the foundation.
- Previous concern about joining the NC Association for Public Charter Schools (NCAPCS) because the lobbying team did not have representation from both political parties. A decision was made not to join the organization.

XII. Closing Items

A. N/A

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
D. Palmer

Documents used during the meeting

None