APPROVED

Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy

Minutes

SA Monthly Board Meeting

Date and Time
Monday February 26, 2024 at 6:30 PM

Location
You are invited to a Zoom webinar.
Topic: Scholars Academy Monthly Board Meetings
Register in advance for this webinar:
Scholars Academy Monthly Board Meeting - Zoom Webinar Registration

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 Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy - Charlotte - YouTube

Directors Present
A. Farooqi, A. Hall (remote), A. Starling, D. Palmer, E. Alvarez, E. Womer, L. Lopez (remote), M. Dixon (remote), W. Ning

Directors Absent
None

Ex Officio Members Present
A. Pieper

Guests Present

Jaclyn D'Andrea (remote), Julie Doll (remote), K. Ely (remote), N. Zagorski (remote), T. Hemming (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

E. Womer called a meeting of the board of directors of Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy to order on Monday Feb 26, 2024 at 6:36 PM.

C. Read Mission Statement

D. Administrative Meeting Review

E. Approval of Minutes of January Board Meeting - 1/22/24

W. Ning made a motion to approve the minutes from SA Monthly Board Meeting on 01-22-24.
A. Farooqi seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Approval of Minutes of Special Board Meeting - 2/21/24

D. Palmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting - Virtual Meeting on 02-21-24.
A. Farooqi seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

G. Adoption of the Agenda

W. Ning made a motion to approve the agenda.
E. Alvarez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Director's Report

A. General Items

MM 5:40

- Gifted Conference
  - Keynote Speaker Lisa Van Gemert - The Gifted Guru
  - 80 people in attendance - 50 non-Scholars teachers/staff (7-10 at prior conferences)

        - Largest attendance
        - Topics covered:
            - Creativity
            - Critical thinking
            - Depth and complexity
            - Differentiation
- SEL Overview
- Mental Health Plan
    - New 3-year plan to be developed over the summer

III. Governance Committee

A. Executive Director Search Update

MM 18:05
Executive Director Search Update:

- Job opening is posted on the Scholars website, Office of Charter Schools, NC Association for Public Charter Schools, NAGC
- We have shared the opportunity with our community (consultants and local leaders)
- Several candidates have expressed interest
- The Governance Committee is reviewing the applications over the next couple of weeks
    - Members of the community may be asked to participate in panel interviews
    - The committee meets every two weeks to discuss the ED Search and transition plan
    - Additionally, a representative from the Governance Committee participates in the staff meeting once a month.

B. Other Priorities

- Townhall - Proposed date April 17th at 6:30 pm
- Board members needed for next year

IV. Policy Committee

A. Update

MM 26:20

- **REVIEWED RECOMMENDED POLICY - FIRST READ**

Policy content evaluation:
• Identify the problem/conduct/actionable goal or change that the policy targets or influences.
• What are the core components and implementation requirements of the policy?
• Does the policy articulate the mechanism for monitoring implementation?
• Does the policy identify indicators for assessing program success/problem resolution?
• How is the content of the policy similar to or different from that of other policies?
Improving policy implementation and future policy development:
• What is the context of the policy's development and passage?
• Is there a basis of evidence in support of the policy's strategy?
• Is there an unexpected impact of the policy?

- **Policy Update**:

A. Recommended Edits to the 2024-2025 Parent/Student Handbook:
• Excused Absences
• Excessive Absences

B. Parents' Bill of Rights:
• The statute requires that a Parent's Guide to Student Achievement is provided to parents, students, and school personnel no later than the first day of school after January 1, 2024. Based on school calendars across the state, the first day of school is in August for traditional calendars and July for year-round calendars.
• Additionally, the law stipulates (115C-76.30): *"The State Board of Education shall develop minimum requirements for public school units for a parent's guide to student achievement to provide what parents need to know about their child's educational progress and how they can help their child to succeed in school.*" March or April projected Review.

V. Educational Excellence Committee

A. Update

MM 41:30
Reviewed process for Charter Renewal Visit on 2/27/24

VI. Foundation

A. Update

MM 56:30

- 80.5% overall participation (last month 76%)
- Positive results from the outreach campaign last month
  - $431,000 ($420,000 last month); $221,000 received.

- Bus fund $26,000 ($23,000 last month)

VII. FAST Committee

A. Update

MM 59:09

- Security Assessment Update & Next Steps
  - Requested proposals
  - Focused on establishing our spending priorities

VIII. Finance Committee

A. Budget Amendments

MM: 1:01:55

- Taxes for activity buses due
- Unexpected expenses - Bus repairs and bus repair
- State funding for workshop expenses
- Expenses related to the Walkie Talkie Grant

B. Financial Deep Dive

Discussed the following:

- ED Compensation Study underway
- Teacher pay analysis
- ESSER Audit - Passed

A. Farooqi made a motion to approve the budget amendments as presented by the finance committee.
E. Alvarez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IX. Closed Session

A. Discuss confidential contract matter

D. Palmer made a motion to go to closed to discuss a confidential matter.
E. Alvarez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously 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 8:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
D. Palmer