APPROVED

Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy

Minutes

SA Monthly Board Meeting

Date and Time
Monday August 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:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QnF5XYNnTLmdSvALkzNuPQ

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. Hall, A. Starling, D. Palmer, D. Tijerina, E. Alvarez, E. Womer, J. Doll, L. Lopez, M. Dixon

Directors Absent
None

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened

D. Tijerina

Ex Officio Members Present
A. Pieper (remote), C. Carper, T. Hemming (remote)

Guests Present
Jackie Dandrea (remote), Mel Ahlers (remote), N. Zagorski (remote), S. Dasu

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I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

D. Palmer called a meeting of the board of directors of Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy to order on Monday Aug 26, 2024 at 6:43 PM.

C. Read Mission Statement

M. Dixon read the mission statement.

D. Administrative Meeting Review

D. Palmer read Zoom meeting protocols.

E. Approval of Minutes of Board Meeting - 8/16/24

E. Alvarez made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 08-16-24.
M. Dixon seconded the motion.
Erica Womer and Adam Starling were absent from the Special Board Meeting and therefore abstained from voting.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

F. Adoption of the Agenda

E. Alvarez made a motion to Adopt the Agenda for tonight's meeting.
E. Womer seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

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

A. Community Comments - guidelines

Sridhar Dasu - President of the Foundation welcomes the new Executive Director and the Board of Directors.

III. Director's Report

A. General Report

- Beautification Day was a tremendous success with about 35 volunteers.
- Discussed the Scholars Academy Open House - Successful fundraising for the PTO and 8th grade. Mr. Carper was able to meet a lot of parents and students.
- First week with the Teachers and Staff. The following items were discussed during the week:
    - Expectations and Procedures
    - Increased Safety and Security measures
    - Health and wellness procedures
    - Infinite Campus training
    - Technology Training
    - School Improvement Team / Teacher Leadership Team - adding a staff Sunshine Committee for celebrations and morale-boosting.
- Traffic Plan
    - Main entrance to the school and lower parking lot will be open from 7:30 - 8:30 AM and 2:30 - 3:30 PM only. During other daytime hours, these entrances will be closed for construction for the foreseeable future.
    - The Board of Directors will follow up with the construction crews to continue to get updates on the construction schedule.
- Title II Funding
    - Document must be signed by Mr. Carper to receive the grant.
    - The funds will be used for professional development for teachers to include the gifted conference and attendance at the NC Association for Gifted Children annual conference.
    - The total grant amount is approximately $13,600.
    - Started receiving this funding about 5 years ago. The school receives an allotment each year. Each year, the allotment increases slightly.
- The Bell schedule was discussed.
    - The school doors will close at 8:05 AM.
    - During the first week of school, the dismissal procedure will begin by 2:50 PM and children will be ready for dismissal by 3:05 PM.

D. Tijerina arrived at 6:52 PM.

IV. Governance Committee

A. Charter Renewal Status

- We are now in Year 2 of the Renewal Process.
- Key milestones:
    - February 2025 - The final vote will likely occur in February 2025.

- April 2025—The Office of Charter Schools (OCS) will send schools their new Charter Agreements, which must be signed by the Board Chair, notarized and mailed back to OCS.
- May 2025 —The State Superintendent will sign the Charter Agreement.
- June 2025 — Schools will receive a digital copy of the Final Charter Agreement via email. Final Hard Copy Agreements will be filed in the OCS.
- July 1, 2025 — New Charter Agreements begin!

B. Plan Amendments

Ari Pieper discussed the amendments to the Education Plan and the Curriculum Plan for the Charter Renewal. The original charter was written in 1999. At that time, the template for what was required was slightly different than what exists today. Specific references to outdated curriculum and testing have been removed and more generalized language has been added to the current charter plans. These amended documents will need to be approved by the Board of Directors.
M. Dixon made a motion to Approve the Charter Amendment proposed changes as presented to the Board and submit a cover letter signed by the Board Chair and Executive Director along with a version of the submitted proposed amendments that note the changes to the original charter.
E. Alvarez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C. 2024-2025 Handbooks

The Board has received, reviewed, and shared the 2024/2025 Staff Handbook and Parent Student Handbook.

V. Policy Committee

A. Update PGSA

- The parent's guide to student achievement, as voted on last year, has been added to the Parent Student Handbook.
- A website was created per the statute and published for parents to be able to click on and review the Parent Student Handbook and access the parent guide to student achievement information.
- The information has been submitted to NCDPI.

VI. Foundation

A. Update

- September 20th - first Foundation meeting of the school year.
- Early Eagle pledge form and a fundraising chart were available to families at the Open House. 224 families walked away with the envelope of forms.

- Liliana mentioned that the fundraising sheet was very helpful and recommended that the form be shared at other fundraising events.

VII. Finance Committee

A. Approve 2024-25 budget

- The 2024-25 budget has already been approved by the Board and will not require a vote tonight. There is no committee update at this time.
- The finance committee is looking for volunteers to join the committee. You do not have to be on the Board of Directors to join.

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

A. Community Comments

No comments.

IX. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

M. Dixon made a motion to Adjourn.
E. Alvarez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** 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 7:22 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. Doll