



APPROVED 9/21/2016

South Carolina Connections Academy (SCCA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, August 17, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

Held at the following location and via teleconference:
220 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 403
Columbia, SC 29210

I. Call to Order

In the absence of a quorum of Board members, Mr. Prince indicated the Board's intent to hear Oral Reports until additional members of the Board could join the meeting.

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Gary Prince (in person); Beth Purcell and Mike Campbell (via phone);

Board Members Joined During Meeting: Meka Childs (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Frank Thomas, Peter Moyi and Melanie Murphy;

Guests Present: Amanda Ebel, School Leader (in person); Kyle Michel, Kyle Michel Law Firm; Rachel Graver, Shon Hocker, Karen Duquette, Tanya Lee and Laura Coleman, Connections staff (all via phone).

III. Public Comment

There were no comments at this time.

Oral Reports

a. School Leader's Report

At the request of the Board, this item was moved up on the agenda.

i. Back to School Activities, Staffing and Training Update

Ms. Ebel discussed with the Board recent back to school activities, including successful orientations with students, families and teachers. She also updated the Board on staffing and training efforts.

ii. Enrollment Update

Ms. Ebel reviewed the school's current enrollment numbers with the Board, including those students in the pre-approval and approved phases of their applications.

iii. CA Leadership Summer Retreat Update

Ms. Ebel discussed the recent CA Leadership Retreat, held annually in Baltimore. She reviewed many of the topics covered at the retreat, as well as mentoring and networking opportunities for her and other school leadership team members.

iv. School Operations Metrics

Ms. Ebel presented this item to the Board. She reviewed the data included in the Board materials, highlighting the school's performance as compared with other Connections' partnering schools of similar size and years in operation. Board members discussed the metrics data with Ms. Ebel.

[Ms. Childs joined the meeting at 3:12 p.m.]

Call to Order

Having a quorum of the Board present, Mr. Prince called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m. when all participants were present and able to hear each other. The agenda had been posted in accordance with legal requirements and the school was open to the public to attend the meeting.

IV. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Prince asked the Board to review the Agenda distributed prior to the meeting and properly noticed and posted per the legal requirements. There being no changes noted, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the August 17, 2016 South Carolina Connections Academy Board of Directors Meeting, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Oral Reports

a. School Leader's Report

i. Back to School Activities, Staffing and Training Update

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

ii. Enrollment Update

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

iii. CA Leadership Summer Retreat Update

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

iv. School Operations Metrics

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

b. Financial Report

Ms. Lee reviewed the financial report included in the Board Meeting materials. She highlighted key aspects of the school's revenue and expense reports, as well as the school's forecast for the school year. The Board discussed specific line items of the budget in detail.

i. Unaudited 2015-2016 Financial Results

Ms. Lee reviewed the unaudited financial results from the previous school year with the Board.

VI. Consent Agenda

Mr. Prince asked the Board members whether any items from the Consent Items that they wished to have moved to Action Items for discussion, or tabled. There being no changes noted, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the June 15, 2016 Annual Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Federal Title Funding Documentation: Parent Involvement Policy;
- d. Approval of 2016-2017 Base Salaries and Incentive Percentage, Career Ladder Positions and Home-Worker Stipends; and
- e. Approval of Connections Training and Professional Development Offering for the 2016-2017 School Year; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Action Items

a. Approval of Connections Academy of South Carolina, LLC Invoice for June

The Board discussed their desire to table the invoice for the month of June due to the absence of the Board Treasurer at this meeting. Board members indicated their desire to receive the Treasurer's confirmation of review and recommendation for approval. There being no further discussion, this item was tabled.

b. Approval of School Focus Goals for the 2016-2017 School Year

Ms. Ebel reviewed the school focus goals for the 2016-2017 school year, as included in the Board package with the Board. She advised that the staff worked closely with Connections on establishing the school goals. Ms. Ebel also advised the Board that the school goals represent the major driver for the staff incentive plan. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the schools focus goals for 2016-2017 school year, as presented, are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of Board Training and Conference Attendance for the 2016-2017 School Year

Ms. Coleman reviewed the upcoming trainings and conferences that have been identified that may interest members of the Board. The Board discussed the advantages and specific agenda topics of each conference, and their support of Board members making an effort to attend the training opportunities. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Board training and conference attendance for 2016-2017 school year, including South Carolina Charter Alliance Conference and other state conferences, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Information Items

a. State Relations Update

Ms. Duquette reviewed the State Relations report included in the Board Meeting materials on recent legislative activities that may impact the school. The Board discussed legislative priorities in detail.

b. Conflict of Interest Statement Reminder

Ms. Coleman advised the Board that reminders for annual conflict of interest statements per Board policy will be sent via email in the coming month.

c. Leadership Team Update

Ms. Graver presented to the Board on behalf of the Connections' School Leadership Team. She provided the Board with additional background on school operations metrics.

IX. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. ET

Mr. Prince noted that the Board was at the end of its agenda and that the next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. ET. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.