



APPROVED 1/18/2017

South Carolina Connections Academy (SCCA)  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

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

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**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Prince called the meeting to order at 3:02 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.

**II. Introduction of Participants and Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Gary Prince, Frank Thomas and Adam Hall (in person); Mike Campbell, Beth Purcell, Meka Childs and Rebecca Battle-Bryant (via phone);

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

**III. Public Comment**

There were no comments at this time.

**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 November 16, 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

Ms. Ebel reviewed the Monthly School Report (MSR) with the Board, highlighting enrollment changes from the previous month's report.

[Ms. Graver joined the meeting at 3:06 p.m.]

i. Student Intervention Efforts Update – Tier 1 and Tier 2

Ms. Ebel updated the Board on Student Intervention Efforts. She advised the Board of school staff members' increased awareness of critical educational components and benchmarks, as well as Connections' useful tools for tracking student progress. Ms. Ebel further discussed the relation these efforts have to the school's annual success in goals completion.

ii. State Testing Results Update

Ms. Ebel reviewed with the Board the recent state testing data as included in the Board meeting materials. The Board discussed the state testing results, including attendance and truancy issues that can affect the school's results. There was further discussion on legislative priorities for the school in detail, and updates to legislation that would likely allow for a more accurate data representation with Ms. Ebel.

b. Financial Report

Ms. Lee reviewed the financial report included in the Board Meeting materials. She reviewed the changes in the financials and the forecasted expenses since last month's statements, enrollment funding, projected fund balance and specific expenses.

**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 October 19, 2016 Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report; and
- c. Approval of Board President as Board Designee to work with School Leader to Finalize and Submit the School's 2015-2016 School Year Annual Report; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

**VII. Action Items**

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

Mr. Thomas reviewed the invoice for the month of October, as included in the Board package, and derived from the financial report provided earlier in the meeting, and recommended approval. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Connections Academy of South Carolina, LLC invoice for October, in the amount of \$2,298,816.31, as presented, is hereby approved for payment upon the availability of funds.

The motion passed unanimously.

## VIII. Information Items

### a. State Relations Update

Ms. Duquette provided an update on recent legislative activities which may impact the school.

### b. Partner School Leadership Team Update

Ms. Graver presented to the Board on behalf of the Connections' Partner School Leadership Team.

#### i. School Leader Review Process Reminder

Ms. Graver outlined the annual school leader review process with the Board. She reminded Board members that the process includes feedback from the Board through a survey. Ms. Graver further reminded the Board that Ms. Ebel's mid-year review will be discussed during the January meeting and the final review will take place during the Board's Annual Meeting in June. She also reiterated the importance of Board member participation in the review process.

### c. Future Funded Enrollment Growth

Ms. Ebel reviewed with the Board a proposed Funded Enrollment Target for the 2017-2018 school year of 4,400-4,500 students. She reminded Board members that the target is a major driver for school budget planning, including outreach, staffing and many other initiatives. Ms. Ebel further advised that the proposed enrollment target will be presented for approval during the upcoming January Board meeting, if Board members indicate their support of the number. She reviewed past target numbers and the predicted growth for the schools based on many factors, including trends in enrollment, students currently in the pipeline and outreach efforts. The Board expressed their support of the proposed number.

## IX. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting – Wednesday, January 18, 2017 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 January 18, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. ET. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:29 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.