



**APPROVED 09/20/2017**

**South Carolina Connections Academy (SCCA)  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
Wednesday, August 16, 2017 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 3:00 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. Roll Call**

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

Board Members Absent: Rebecca Battle-Bryant;

Guests Present: Amanda Ebel, School Leader (in person); Kyle Michel, Kyle Michel Law Firm; Karen Duquette, Rachel Graver, Brenda Little 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 August 16, 2017 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. Summer Update

Ms. Ebel reviewed the Summer Update sent to the Board via email between Board meetings. She reviewed in detail the back to school activities and training opportunities, including Connections Academy Summer Leadership Conference, High Schools that Work conference and the Harvard Leadership conference.

#### ii. 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.

### b. Financial Report

Ms. Little reviewed the financial report included in the Board materials in detail. She highlighted key aspects in the school's revenue and expense reports as well as the schools' forecast for the new school year.

#### i. Unaudited 2016-2017 Financial Results

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

## VI. Consent Agenda

Mr. Prince asked the Board members whether there were 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 21, 2017 Annual Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Connections Academy of South Carolina, LLC Invoice for June;
- d. Approval of Federal Title Funding Documentation: Parent and Family Engagement Policy;
- e. Approval of Revision(s) to the Employee Handbook: Work at Home Stipends;
- f. Approval of Revision(s) to the Fiscal Controls Policy; and
- g. Approval of 2017-2018 Base Salaries and Incentive Percentage and Career Ladder Positions; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **VII. Action Items**

### a. Approval of Board Training and Conference Attendance for the 2017-2018 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 2017-2018 school year, including South Carolina Charter Alliance Conference, National School Boards Association Conference and National Charter Schools Conference, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

[Mr. Michel joined the meeting at 3:17 p.m.]

## **VIII. Information Items**

### a. State Relations Update

Ms. Duquette reviewed the State Relations report included in the Board meeting materials on legislative activities that may impact the school. The Board discussed legislative activities in detail with Ms. Duquette and Mr. Michel.

### b. Partner School Leadership Team (PSLT) Update

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

#### i. Teacher Professional Development Products and Services for the 2017-2018 School Year

Ms. Graver reviewed the professional development products and services for school staff, as offered by Connections for the 2017-2018 school year. She discussed the various levels and delivery models of professional learning opportunities available to staff members based on years of service and experience. She and Ms. Ebel also highlighted the additional training and development opportunities offered by school leadership. Ms. Graver further advised of the training and resource opportunities available for Learning Coaches at the school.

### c. Conflict of Interest Statement Reminder

Ms. Coleman thanked the Board for their prompt completion of the annual conflict of interest statements required per Board policy.

## **IX. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 20, 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 September 20, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. ET. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:33 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.