



APPROVED 10/18/2017

**South Carolina Connections Academy (SCCA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Wednesday, September 20, 2017 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

Mr. Prince called the meeting to order at 3:05 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 and Adam Hall (in person); Mike Campbell and Meka Childs (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Frank Thomas, Beth Purcell and Rebecca Battle-Bryant;

Guests Present: Amanda Ebel, School Leader (in person); Kyle Michel, Kyle Michel Law Firm; Karen Duquette, Brian Rosta, Brenda Little and Laura Coleman, Pearson Online & Blended Learning (POBL) staff (all via phone).

III. Review and Acceptance of Board Member Resignation: Beth Purcell

Mr. Prince reviewed Ms. Purcell's resignation letter with the Board. The Board thanked Ms. Purcell for her service to the Board and the School. There being no further discussion, and upon advice from Mr. Michel, Ms. Purcell's resignation from the Board was accepted, effective immediately.

IV. Public Comment

There were no comments at this time.

V. 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 September 20, 2017 South Carolina Connections Academy Board of Directors Meeting, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Oral Reports

a. School Leader's Report

i. Back to School Activities Update

Ms. Ebel discussed with the Board back to school activities, including past and upcoming open houses and a fall festival.

ii. Staffing and Enrollment Update

Ms. Ebel reviewed the Monthly School Report (MSR) and current enrollment with the Board, including the enrollment distribution across grades. She also discussed with the Board staffing updates that have been made based on enrollment.

b. Financial Report

Ms. Lee reviewed the financial materials included in the Board materials in detail, highlighting the budget and forecasting areas of the financial statements. She reviewed the balance sheet, and the school's revenue and expense statements with the Board.

VII. 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 August 16, 2017 Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Connections Academy of South Carolina, LLC Invoices for July and August; and
- d. Approval of Closing Enrollment for the 2017-2018 School Year; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Action Items

a. Approval of School Focus Goals for the 2017-2018 School Year

Ms. Ebel reviewed the school focus goals for the 2017-2018 school year included in the Board package with the Board. She advised that the staff worked closely with school leadership and Pearson Online & Blended Learning (POBL), formerly Connections Education, on establishing the school goals. She further 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 school focus goals for the 2017-2018 school year, as presented, are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of Math Time to Talk Proposal and Contract

Dr. Rosta reviewed the Math Time to Talk Proposal and Contract with the Board. He discussed the proposed use of training math specialists to engage in small group discourse with students needing additional assistance in mathematics. The Board discussed the benefits and budget implications in detail with Dr. Rosta. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Math Time to Talk Proposal and Contract, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of Board Designee for Annual School Handbook Review

Ms. Coleman advised the Board on the school handbook review process, and requested a Board Designee to assist on an annual basis. The Board members briefly discussed the best candidate to act in this capacity and nominated Mr. Prince to be the Board Designee. Mr. Prince confirmed his desire to serve in this capacity. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that Gary Prince as Board Designee for the annual School Handbook review, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

IX. 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

Mr. Rosta presented to the Board on behalf of Pearson Online & Blended Learning's (POBL), formerly Connections Education, Partner School Leadership Team.

i. Quarterly Metrics Update

Mr. Rosta reviewed the outline of items planned to be presented within the Quarterly Metrics throughout the current school year.

c. 2017-2018 Items for Board Consideration

Ms. Coleman reviewed the outline of items planned to be presented for Board consideration throughout the current school year. She further advised the Board that the document was fluid, and items may be included, omitted, or considered on a varied timeline based on a number of factors, including state submission and enrollment deadlines, as well as school need for student support.

d. Curriculum Town Hall Reminder

Ms. Coleman reminded the Board of the timing of the upcoming Curriculum Town Hall presentation as part of the annual review process. She advised the Board that additional information on the presentation would be sent via email.

e. Board Election Process Update

Ms. Coleman provided the Board with an update on the upcoming biennial Board Election process.

f. Education Management Organization (EMO) Evaluation Reminder

Ms. Coleman reminded the Board of their option to complete an annual EMO Evaluation if they so desire.

X. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting – Wednesday, October 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 October 18, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. ET. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:49 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.