



APPROVED 05/16/2018

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

Wednesday, April 18, 2018 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 3:02 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. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Gary Prince and Frank Thomas (in person); Rebecca Battle-Bryant and Joe Baxter (via phone);

Board Members Joined During Meeting: Adam Hall (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Meka Childs and Ashley Hinson;

Guests Present: Amanda Ebel, School Leader; Ken Nixon, School staff (in person); Karen Duquette, Brian Rosta, Tanya Lee, TraKisha McNeil and Laura Coleman, Pearson Online & Blended Learning (POBL) staff (all via phone).

III. Public Comment

There were no comments at this time.

[Mr. Hall joined at 3:03 p.m.]

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 April 18, 2018 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. Graduation Plans and End of Year Activities Update

Ms. Ebel advised the Board of the school's planning for the upcoming high school graduation ceremony and encouraged Board members to attend. She further reviewed upcoming student activities, including the National Honor Society Induction and school dances.

ii. State Testing Update

Ms. Ebel provided the Board with an update on ongoing state testing, including staff preparation and exam participation rates.

iii. School Facility Update

Ms. Ebel provided the Board with an update on the school facility search. She reviewed the potential school sites in detail with the Board as well as the process and expected timeline.

b. Financial Report

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

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 February 21, 2018 Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Connections Education Invoices for February and March;
- d. Approval of Staff Compensation Plan for the 2018-2019 School Year; and
- e. Approval of Employee Handbook Revision(s); are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Action Items

There were no action items.

VIII. Information Items

a. State Relations Update

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

[Ms. McNeil joined at 3:24 p.m.]

b. Partner School Leadership Team (PSLT) Update

Dr. Rosta presented to the Board on behalf of Pearson Online & Blended Learning's (POBL) Partner School Leadership Team.

i. School Operations Metrics

Dr. Rosta presented the quarterly School Operations Metrics to the Board. He reviewed the data included in the Board materials, highlighting the school's performance as compared with other POBL partnering schools of similar size and years in operation.

c. Curriculum for the 2018-2019 School Year

Dr. Rosta reviewed the 2018-2019 Curriculum and Instructional Programming Memo as included in the Board materials, as well as the recent Curriculum Town Hall presentation hosted by POBL. Dr. Rosta further advised the Board on upcoming enhancements to the curriculum based on performance indicators. He further reviewed Ms. Ebel's meeting with the POBL Curriculum team and involvement in the curriculum development process.

d. Outreach for the 2018-2019 School Year

Ms. Ebel introduced Mr. Nixon to present this item to the Board. He reviewed the school's proposed Outreach Plan for the upcoming school year, as included in the Board materials. Mr. Nixon highlighted current and projected enrollment numbers, as well as planned activities for student recruitment. Board members had discussion on the outreach plans and specific activities.

[Ms. McNeil left at 3:51 p.m.]

e. National School Board Association (NSBA) Conference Update

Mr. Hall provided the Board with an update on his trip to the National School Board Association (NSBA) Conference in San Antonio, Texas. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the conference and noted the value of the information that was presented.

f. Board Planning for the 2018-2019 School Year

Ms. Coleman discussed the planning for the 2018-2019 school year that POBL has been working on with the school.

i. Proposed Board Meeting Schedule

The Board confirmed their support of maintaining the current meeting schedule for the upcoming school year. Ms. Coleman advised that the consideration of the Board meeting schedule for the 2018-2019 school year will be included on the June Annual Meeting agenda.

ii. Board Composition

Ms. Coleman discussed with the Board the current composition, including board member officer positions that would be up at this year's annual meeting, and encouraged Board members to discuss their intentions regarding officer positions with the Board Chair.

IX. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting – Wednesday, May 16, 2018 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 May 16, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. ET. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.