



APPROVED 11/15/17

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

Wednesday, October 18, 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 3:03 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, Adam Hall and Frank Thomas (in person); Mike Campbell and Meka Childs (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Rebecca Battle-Bryant;

Guests Present: Amanda Ebel, School Leader (in person); Chris Clark, Clark Eustace Wagner, PA; Karen Duquette, Brian Rosta, Tanya Lee and Laura Coleman, Pearson Online & Blended Learning (POBL) staff (all via phone).

III. Public Comment

There were no comments at this time.

IV. Audit Committee, Committee of the Entire Board

a. Review and Acceptance of the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Audit Report

Mr. Clark reviewed the audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, as included in the Board materials. He highlighted key aspects of the report, and related to the Board that the audit firm indicated no findings; Mr. Clark advised that the report was the best result the school can achieve, and also re-iterated his satisfaction in working with the school and Pearson Online & Blended Learning (POBL) on this year's audit. Board members discussed the audit report, and expressed their satisfaction with the school and POBL for the results. There being no additional discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, the Audit Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, as presented, is hereby accepted.

The motion passed unanimously.

[Mr. Clark left at 3:19 p.m.]

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 October 18, 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. School Activities Update

Ms. Ebel updated the Board on recent school activities.

ii. Final Results on 2016-2017 Goals

Ms. Ebel noted her intent to present this data during the State of the School Report.

iii. State of the School Report

Ms. Ebel discussed last year's target enrollment goals as well as final enrollment numbers by grade level with the Board and reviewed the current enrollment and school goals. Ms. Ebel reviewed the final results of the 2016-2017 school year goals, reminded Board members that the staff worked closely with Connections Academy staff on establishing this year's school goals, and reiterated that the school goals represent the major driver for the staff incentive plan. Ms. Ebel related that the goals are created with the intention of improving school outcomes, the student and family experience, and to foster student achievements school-wide. The Board thanked Ms. Ebel for her thoroughness and partnership in the educational process.

b. Financial Report

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

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 September 20, 2017 Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Connections Academy of South Carolina, LLC Invoice for September; and
- d. Approval of Enrollment Opening on First Business Day in March and Authorization for the School Leader to Work with Pearson Online and Blended Learning (POBL) Regarding Opening Enrollment; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Action Items

a. Approval of Officers until the Election

Ms. Coleman reminded Board members that the position of Secretary was now vacant with the resignation of Ms. Purcell. The Board discussed the Secretary position, and who would best serve the Board and school in this role. Nominations were opened for the position of Board Secretary, and Mr. Hall was nominated for the position. Following the closure of nominations, and there being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of Adam Hall for the position of Board Secretary until the election, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved 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.

b. Partner School Leadership Team (PSLT) Update

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

i. School Operations Metrics

Dr. Rosta presented this item 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. POBL Rebranding Update

Ms. Coleman provided the Board with an update on the rebranding efforts of Pearson Online & Blended Learning (POBL), formerly Connections Education. She advised of the minor changes that may be noticed in the coming months, and re-iterated that these brand modifications are occurring for POBL at the corporate level only, and should not have any effect on the school.

d. Board Election Process Update

Ms. Coleman advised the Board of the total number of nomination forms received, and the timing of the election process. She reminded the Board that the announcement of the newly elected Board members would be prior to the next regular Board meeting.

X. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting – Wednesday, November 15, 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 November 15, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. ET. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:01 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.