



APPROVED 11/19/14

**South Carolina Connections Academy (SCCA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, October 15, 2014 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 3:10 p.m. when all participants were present and able to hear each other. The agenda had been posted in accordance with the legal requirements and the school was open to the public to attend the meeting.

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Gary Prince, Armando Colombo, Peter Moyi and Frank Thomas (in person, at the school, which was open to the public);

Board Members Joined During Meeting: Rebecca Battle-Bryant (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Melanie Murphy and Denise Forest;

Guests in Person: Amanda Ebel, SCCA Executive Director;

Guests via Phone: Kyle Michel, Kyle Michel Law Firm; Chris Clark, Clark, Eustace & Wagner; Allison Reaves, Jay W. Ragley, Tanya Lee, Megann Arthur and Laura Karns, Connections staff.

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. He then asked if there were any requested changes to the Agenda. There being no changes noted, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the October 15, 2014 South Carolina Connections Academy Board of Directors Meeting, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Audit Committee, Committee of the Entire Board

a. Presentation of the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year Audit Report

Mr. Clark presented the 2013-2014 fiscal year audit report to the Board. He highlighted key aspects of the report, and related to the Board that the audit firm indicated no findings; he advised that the report was the best result the school can achieve. Mr. Clark further reviewed two (2) minor changes to the report from the version included in the Board's materials with the Board.

[Ms. Battle-Bryant joined via phone at 3:21 p.m.]

b. Review and Acceptance of the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year Audit Report

Mr. Moyi advised that he had reviewed the audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, as included in the Board materials, and recommended acceptance. Board members discussed the audit report, and expressed their satisfaction with the school and Connections 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, 2014, as amended, is hereby accepted.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Oral Reports

a. Executive Director's Report

i. State of the School Report

Ms. Ebel provided the Board with a state of the school report. She discussed last year's enrollment figures with the Board and reviewed the current enrollment and school goals. Ms. Ebel 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 commented that the goals are created with the intention of making the school a better experience for students and to allow for better outcomes and student achievements. The Board thanked Ms. Ebel for her thoroughness and partnership in the educational process.

ii. Final Results on 2013-2014 Goals

Ms. Ebel reviewed the 2013-2014 goals, the weights placed on individual goals and that effect on staff bonus sums, as well as targets attained with the Board.

iii. 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. Board members discussed the metrics data, incorporating the current school goals, with Ms. Ebel.

b. Financial Report

Ms. Lee reviewed the financial statements in detail, as included in the Board materials. 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 any items from the Consent Items that they wished to have moved to Action Items for discussion, or tabled. There being no changes, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the September 17, 2014 Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Revision(s) to the 2014-2015 School Year General School Handbook: Conduct, Due Process and Communication Policy;
- d. Approval of Revision(s) to the 2014-2015 School Year State Specific School Handbook: Bullying and Prohibited Behaviors;
- e. Approval of Enrollment Deadline of April 3, 2015 for the 2014-2015 School Year;
- f. Approval of Curriculum Strategy for the 2015-2016 School Year; and
- g. Approval of Revised Bylaws; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Action Items

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

Mr. Moyi reviewed the invoice for the month of September that was included in the Board package, and derived from the financial report provided earlier in the meeting. He asked the Board whether they had any questions on the invoice. There being none, he recommended the approval of the invoice to the Board based on his review. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Connections Academy of South Carolina, LLC invoice for September, in the amount of \$1,639,916.22, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Approval of Appointment of Board Members

Ms. Karns briefly discussed the recent start of the annual Board election process, including the nomination process, and timeline for expected election results. Ms. Karns reminded the Board of the recent legislative change that will allow the Board to both elect and appoint members of the Board. The Board discussed their desire to appoint the three most senior Board members, Mr. Prince, Mr. Moyi and Ms. Murphy, to the Board for two (2) year terms to ensure continuity and stability on the Board. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of Gary Prince, Peter Moyi and Melanie Murphy to the South Carolina Connections Academy Board of Directors, as Class 1 Directors, for a term of two (2) years to the 2016 election, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Information Items

a. State Relations Update

Mr. Ragley provided the Board with an update on recent legislative activities that may impact the school.

X. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting – Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. ET

The Board confirmed the next Board meeting would be November 19, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. ET. The Board, being at the end of its agenda, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:59 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.