



APPROVED 1/26/2017

North Carolina Connections Academy
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING
Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

Held at the following location and via teleconference:
2700 Meridian Parkway, Suite 300
Durham, NC 27713

I. Call to Order

Dr. Setser called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. when all participants were present and able to hear each other. The meeting location was open for the public to attend.

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Bryan Setser and Bridget Phifer (in person); Donna Sullivan, Kristin Cuilla and Catherine Edmonds (all via phone);

Board Members Joined During Meeting: Eric Strother (in person);

Guests Present: Nathan Currie, School leader; GeRita Walden, School staff; David Schmidt, Vality Consulting (in person); Jill Hammergren, Public Relations (via phone and in person); David Hostetler, Board Counsel; Meesha Brown, Generation Ready; Melissa Nelson, Brenda Little, Jay W. Ragley, Karen Duquette, Shon Hocker and Laura Coleman, Connections staff (all via phone).

III. Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

IV. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Setser asked the Board to review the Agenda distributed prior to the meeting. The Board requested to hear Ms. Brown's Generation Ready report immediately following the Approval of the Agenda, the Approval of a One Month Extension with Vality Consulting under Action Items, and the addition of Closed Session to consult with their attorney following the Action Items. There being no further changes noted, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the January 12, 2017 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Connections Academy, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

Spring 2017 Planning

Generation Ready Curriculum Audit

Ms. Brown reminded Board members of the findings during Generation Ready's Curriculum Audit, including short and long term recommendations. The Board discussed responses with Connections regarding the curriculum to-date and the desire for changes to be implemented.

[Mr. Strother joined the meeting at 9:20 a.m.]

[Ms. Brown left the meeting and Ms. Hammergren joined the meeting in person at 9:26 a.m.]

V. Action Items

a. Approval of Revision(s) to NCCA Board Policy Manual

i. Revised Enrollment Procedures

Ms. Nelson reviewed with the Board the proposed revisions to the Enrollment Procedures as included in the Board meeting materials. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the revised Enrollment Procedures, as presented, are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of Teacher Compensation Phase I

Dr. Setser reviewed the compensation research of school staff state-wide and NCCA staff. He further expressed the school's desire to provide the staff with two phases of additional compensation, a one time bonus and a subsequent salary increase. The Board discussed a \$1,000 bonus for all 10 month employees and a \$300 bonus to administrative assistants and adjunct employees. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Teacher Compensation Phase I, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of One Month Extension with Vality Consulting

Dr. Setser reviewed the benefits to extending the contract with Vality Consulting for an additional month. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the One Month Extension with Vality Consulting, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Spring 2017 Planning

- a. Revised Budget Forecast
 - i. Year to Date Actuals
 - ii. Projected Budgets

Ms. Little reviewed the updated forecast as included in the Board materials for period ending November 30th, with the addition of the items recently approved by the Board including, calculator purchase, Dreambox Pilot, Vality Consulting and Generation Ready's services. She added that the forecast does not currently include the additional one-month extension with Vality Consulting or the Staff Compensation that the Board acted upon earlier in the Board meeting.

CLOSED SESSION - § 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.

The Board entered into Closed Session at 9:45 a.m. upon a motion being made, seconded, and confirmed via roll call vote of all Board members present, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §143.318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged. Board members in attendance to begin the session were: Bryan Setser, Eric Strother, Donna Sullivan, Kristin Cuilla, Bridget Phifer and Catherine Edmonds. Guests invited by the Board to attend were: Nathan Currie, David Hostetler, David Schmidt and Jill Hammergren. All others left the meeting at this time.

[Dr. Sullivan, Dr. Cuilla, Ms. Edmonds, and Mr. Hostetler all left the Board meeting at 11:12 a.m.]

The Board ended Closed Session and entered into open session at 12:15 p.m. upon a motion being made, seconded, and confirmed via roll call vote. No action was taken during Closed Session. Rejoining the Board in Open Session were: Jay Ragley, Brenda Little, Melissa Nelson, Karen Duquette, Shon Hocker and Laura Coleman.

- b. Future Budget Planning

The Board reviewed the Budget in detail with Connections, including increased legislative reports, Phase II of Teacher Compensation, curriculum alignment, substitute teaching options, Connections fees, marketing, special education, and potential alternative relationship options. The Board requested that all Connections communications in response to their inquiries be directed to Mr. Strother who will report back to the Board.

- c. Generation Ready Curriculum Audit

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

- d. Teacher Compensation Phase II Discussion

This item was discussed within the Future Budget Planning.

e. Long Term Operations

This item was discussed within the Future Budget Planning.

VII. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting – Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.