



APPROVED 11/17/2021

**Oklahoma Connections Academy (OKCA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING**

Date and Time:

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. CT

Held at the following location:

2425 Nowata Place Ste. 202
Bartlesville, OK 74006

I. Call to Order

Mr. Tidwell called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m., when all participants were present and able to hear each other.

II. Statement of Compliance with the Open Meeting Act

Mr. Tidwell confirmed the Board Meeting Agenda had been posted in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

III. Roll Call

Board Members Present: John Tidwell, Charlie Daniels, Bob Sullivan, Aubrey Lakey, and Michael Lapolla (in person at the school location);

Guests: Melissa Gregory, School Leader; Rebecca Wilkinson, SVCSB representative (in person); Skyler Lusnia, SVCSB representative; Nicole Anderson, Mandi Adams-Brazill, Kristin DeGross, Jay W Ragley, Eileen Sigmund, and Gary Corkran, Pearson Virtual Schools staff (via phone and videoconference).

IV. Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

V. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Tidwell asked the Board to review the Agenda distributed prior to the meeting. He asked whether the Board requested any changes be made to the Agenda. There being no changes requested, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the October 20, 2021 Oklahoma Connections Academy Board of Directors Regular Meeting, as presented, is hereby approved.

A roll call vote was conducted; the motion was approved unanimously.

VI. Statewide Virtual Charter School Board (SVCSB) Annual Report Presentation

Ms. Wilkinson presented this item to the Board, and discussed data from the 2018-2019 school year. She advised that due to insufficient data during the COVID-19 pandemic, the availability of information from the state was more than a year in arrears. Ms. Wilkinson further discussed the school's performance framework, as well as the timeline for submission prior to the fourth year of the Charter contract term. The Board discussed the Annual Report data in detail, including the school's graduation rates as compared on a year to year basis, as well as the accreditation review which was fully compliant with no deficiencies. Ms. Wilkinson thanked the Board for the school's compliance and strong academic outcomes.

VII. Oral Reports

a. Principal's Report

Ms. Gregory provided an update on data included in the Monthly School Report and the Principal's Report Dashboard document. She advised of the school's implementation of a full advisory model, and noted that the student withdrawal rate has been positively affected by the model. Additionally, Ms. Gregory discussed a recent grant awarded to the school, and advised of the school's use of the funds for Response to Intervention (RTI) work.

i. College Remediation Report

Ms. Gregory reviewed the College Remediation Report and advised that the data included in the report reflects information on college students who are enrolled in remedial classes.

ii. Update on Grades 7-12 Drop Out Report

Ms. Gregory presented this item to the Board. She reviewed the school's data report, as released by the state, and advised of the school's efforts to locate previously enrolled students.

iii. Student Spotlight

Ms. Gregory discussed the successes of a current OKCA student who is training as a competitive gymnast. She profiled the student's schedule and appreciation for the school's programming, which allows her to compete in gymnastics competitions. Ms. Gregory further advised of the student's 4.0 GPA, and intent to major in kinesiology and biology in college.

iv. Update on Student Activities

Ms. Gregory presented this item to the Board. She discussed the cancellation of activities for the month of October due to COVID-19 safety recommendations, and advised that future student activities will be revisited on a month to month basis.

[Mr. Ragley left the meeting at 3:53 p.m.]

The Board discussed safety protocols for students and staff in detail with Ms. Gregory and Ms. Anderson.

b. Financial Report

Mr. Corkran reviewed the financial materials included in the Board meeting materials in detail, highlighting the budget and forecasting areas of the financial statements. He further reviewed the revenue and expense statements and discussed specific line items of interest with the Board.

Additionally, Mr. Corkran provided an overview of ESSER III and American Rescue Plan funding. The Board discussed federal programs support in detail, including Pearson's support with grant applications.

VIII. Consent Items

Mr. Tidwell 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 made and no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the September 29, 2021 Special Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report; and
- c. Approval of Pearson Invoices for September (# 91000008998); are hereby approved.

A roll call vote was conducted; the motion was approved unanimously.

IX. Action Items

There were no action items.

X. Information Items

a. President's Update

Mr. Tidwell provided an update on recent conversations with Ms. Gregory and Ms. Anderson regarding Pearson's request for staff COVID-19 vaccination status. He discussed recent communications to staff regarding the request, as well as the Board's position to grant all

staff an additional day of paid time off. Ms. Anderson noted Pearson's work to proactively assist in planning for the school, particularly regarding in-person events and mandatory state testing. She advised that further information would be available as it is gathered and compiled.

b. School Success Partner (SSP) Update

Ms. Anderson presented to the Board on behalf of the School Success Partner (SSP) team. She introduced Ms. Sigmund, who provided a brief review of her credentials and work on legislative activities which may impact the school.

c. Academic Success Partner (ASP) Update

Ms. Adams-Brazill presented to the Board on behalf of the Academic Success Partner (ASP) team. She discussed the school Leadership Team's upcoming attendance at a conference, as well as provided information on her work with Ms. Gregory to provide additional support to students in grades K-2 for dyslexia. The Board thanked Ms. Adams-Brazill for her work with the school.

XI. Extended Public Comment (limited to agenda items only)

There were no comments at this time.

XII. New Business – Discussion and consideration of any item that could not have been known or reasonably foreseen prior to time of posting agenda (Oklahoma Code §25, O.S. 311 (A)(9))

There was no new business at this time.

XIII. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting Date – November 17, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. CT

The Board confirmed the next Board Meeting is to be held on November 17, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. CT. The Board, being at the end of its agenda, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by

Name: Kristin DeGross
Board Minute Clerk

Approved by

Name: John Tidwell
Board President