



APPROVED 06/17/15

South Carolina Connections Academy (SCCA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, May 20, 2015 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 the legal requirements and the school was open to the public to attend the meeting.

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Gary Prince, Peter Moyi and Frank Thomas (in person); Armando Colombo, Melanie Murphy and Beth Purcell (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Rebecca Battle-Bryant;

Guests via Phone: Amanda Ebel, Executive Director; Nekeesha Carter, School staff; Kyle Michel, Kyle Michel Law Firm; Allison Reaves, Jay W. Ragley, Tanya Lee and Laura Karns, Connections staff.

III. Public Comment

There were no comments at this time.

IV. Audit Committee, Consideration of the Entire Board

a. Review and Consideration of Audit Firm Engagement for the 2014-2015 School Year Financial Audit

Ms. Lee reviewed the audit firm's proposed engagement letter to the Board. She noted that the proposed audit firm is the same firm the school had engaged for the previous school year's audit. Board members discussed the audit firm's scope of work and estimated charges, as outlined in the engagement letter. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the engagement of Clark Eustace Wagner, PA as the school's audit firm for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

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 May 20, 2015 South Carolina Connections Academy Board of Directors Meeting, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Oral Reports

a. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Ebel reviewed the Monthly School Report (MSR), as well as recent faculty accolades with the Board.

i. Graduation Plans and End of Year Activities Update

Ms. Ebel provided the Board with an update on recent school events and discussed end of year activities planned. Ms. Ebel further advised the Board of the school's planning for the upcoming graduation ceremony and encouraged Board members to attend.

ii. State Testing Update

Ms. Ebel discussed the ongoing state testing and preparations by school staff members.

b. Financial Report

Ms. Lee reviewed the financial statements in detail, as included in the Board materials. She further reviewed the balance sheet, and the school's revenue expense statements, as well as the forecasted expenses 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 April 15, 2015 Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Revision(s) to the 2015-2016 School Year General School Handbook: Grievance Policy and Use of School Educational Materials; and
- d. Approval of Board President as Board Designee to Approve Summer Staffing Decisions for the 2015-2016 School Year; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Action Items

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

Mr. Moyi reviewed the invoice for the month of April, as 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 April, in the amount of \$1,239,137.59, as presented, is hereby approved for payment upon the availability of funds.

The motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of the Budget and Fee Schedule for the 2015-2016 School Year from Connections Academy of South Carolina, LLC

Ms. Lee reviewed the proposed 2015-2016 school year budget outline and Budget Notes documents with the Board, also reminding them of the budget development process to date that included the school leader, Board Treasurer and/or other Designee(s) and Connections staff. She further reviewed the accompanying fee schedule from Connections Academy of South Carolina, LLC with the Board. Ms. Lee advised the Board that the 2015-2016 Fee Schedule being presented summarizes the basis for all charges from Connections to the school under the Educational Products and Services Agreement (EPSA), and that the basis for all charges is drawn directly from the Budget. Board members discussed the budget, including related staffing, outreach and other specific expenses for the school, as well as the fee schedule and all services provided by Connections under the schedule. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the budget and fee schedule for the 2015-2016 school year from Connections Academy of South Carolina, LLC school year, as presented, 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.

b. Board Training Reminder

Ms. Karns reminded the Board of the online state-required training modules for charter school board members, as discussed at a previous meeting. She further advised that Board members who were required to complete the training would be receiving more information via email.

X. Adjournment and Confirmation of Annual Meeting – Wednesday, June 17, 2015 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 June 17, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. ET. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:25 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.