



**APPROVED 05/20/15**

**South Carolina Connections Academy (SCCA)  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.**

**Held at the following location and via teleconference:  
220 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 403  
Columbia, SC 29210**

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**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Prince called the meeting to order at 3:05 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 (in person, at the school, which was open to the public); Armando Colombo, Melanie Murphy and Beth Purcell (via phone);

Board Members Joined During Meeting: Peter Moyi (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Rebecca Battle-Bryant and Frank Thomas;

Guests in Person: Amanda Ebel, Executive Director;

Guests via Phone: Allison Reaves, Jay W. Ragley, Tanya Lee 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. There being no further changes noted, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the April 15, 2015 South Carolina Connections Academy Board of Directors Meeting, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

## V. Oral Reports

### a. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Ebel reviewed the Monthly School Report (MSR) and discussed enrollment data trends with the Board.

#### i. Graduation Plans and End of Year Activities Update

Ms. Ebel advised the Board of the upcoming high school graduation ceremony and encouraged all Board members to attend. She further advised the Board on recent school events and discussed end of year activities planned.

[Mr. Moyi joined the meeting at 3:08 p.m.]

#### ii. 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 with Ms. Ebel.

#### iii. Accreditation Update

Ms. Ebel provided the Board with an update on the accreditation process with AdvancED, highlighting a recent site visit. She further reviewed the positive Index of Educational Quality (IEQ) scores SCCA achieved compared to the average of other school's within the AdvancED network.

### 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.

### c. School Leader Review Process Update

Ms. Reaves outlined the annual school leader review process with the Board. She reminded Board members that the process includes feedback from the Board through a survey. Ms. Reaves further reminded the Board that Ms. Ebel's final review will take place during the Board's Annual Meeting in June. She also reiterated the importance of Board member participation in the review process.

## VI. Consent Agenda

Mr. Prince asked the Board members whether any additional 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 February 18, 2015 Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of School Calendar for the 2015-2016 School Year;
- d. Approval of Staff Composition Plan for the 2015-2016 School Year;
- e. Approval of Revision(s) to Employee Handbook; and
- f. Approval of Curriculum for the 2015-2016 School Year; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

## VII. Action Items

### a. Approval of Connections Academy of South Carolina, LLC Invoices for February and March

Mr. Moyi reviewed the invoices for the months of February and March, 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 invoices. There being none, he recommended the approval of the invoices 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 invoices for February, in the amount of \$1,565,988.49, and March, in the amount of \$1,609,998.60, as presented, are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

## VIII. Information Items

### a. State Relations Update

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

### b. School Leadership Team Support Update

Ms. Reaves reviewed the upcoming changes in the School Leadership Team (SLT) with the Board. She advised that Ms. Rachel Graver would be transitioning into the role of primary liaison to the Board on behalf of Connections' SLT at the conclusion of this school year. The Board thanked Ms. Reaves for her support over the past several years as an SLT member and former school leader.

### c. Board Planning for the 2015-2016 School Year

Ms. Karns discussed the planning for the 2015-2016 school year that Connections Academy has been working on with the school.

#### i. Proposed Meeting Schedule

Ms. Karns advised that the consideration of the Board meeting schedule for the 2015-2016 school year will be included on the June Annual Meeting agenda. The Board confirmed their support of maintaining the current meeting schedule for the upcoming school year.

#### ii. Board Composition

Ms. Karns reminded the Board of the election and appointment processes of the Board, and to please notify the Board Chair of any intended changes to composition or officer position. Board members discussed current Board composition.

**IX. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting – Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. ET**

The Board confirmed the next Board meeting would be May 20, 2015 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 3:27 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.