



Board Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2024
6:00 PM

The mission of Rocky Mount Prep is to educate, equip and empower each scholar to excel academically by providing equitable learning opportunities and collaborating with families and communities.

Attendance:

Board Members Present Administration Present Keen Gravely (virtual), Jean Kitchin (virtual), Charles Davis (virtual), Taneka Bryant (Virtual) , Shelayna Parker (virtual)

Staff: Kenya Grant, Tristan Hunter, Susan Sharpe, Lois Glass, Jeaninne Wallace, Dr. Robin Wright, Dr. Heather Collins, Casey Moore, Yoshika Phillips, Shamika Gardner, Quadric Witherspoon (All staff virtual)

1. Call to Order

- a. Keen Gravely, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The meeting met quorum. Jean Kitchin motioned to approve the agenda and June, July, and Special minutes. The motion was seconded by Charles Davis. The next meeting was scheduled for the 2nd Monday in October.

Approval of Minutes

- a. Parker Motioned Second by Kitchin
 - b. Kitchin moved to approve the pledge of allegiance seconded by Parker. It was led by Keen Gravely -
 - c. Dr. Collins shared a news article about Board Member Mr. Davis about being a Parker Middle School legend
- No Public Address
 - A. Information Items - Dr. Collins discussed upcoming events and breaks.
 - Financial Report - Dr. Collins presented the financial report to the Board. We still have a surplus of \$92,120.92. We were awarded a \$73,000 grant for Safer Schools. We were awarded a \$5000 female hygiene products grant for our scholars. We received an innovation grant \$60,000 to expand Career opportunities for middle school students to talk about college and career paths.
 - Dr. Collins is updating a copy for Dr. Cooper about Saturday Academy. They are hosting a valentine's dance for all scholars this Wednesday. We continue with Saturday

Academy and open it up school wide to all scholars. We had a visit from International NBA star George Blackeney, who is invested in this area and wants to partner with Rocky Mount Prep as a partnership.

- Principals Updates - Each principal gave their report of what is going on in their grade levels and to discuss some of their key points and updates.
 - a. Mr. Witherspoon's reports that we saw our largest decrease (42%) in behaviors to date. We discussed and put into place behavior incentives for the elementary school and we are now working to mimic that in the secondary school. We are giving every scholar the ability to speak their mind freely without being judged.
 - b. Dr. Hunter - Middle School updates, Friday is EOG test strategy days and getting them used to being in a testing environment. 1/26 Andre Stuart came to help us to create Data action plans for our scholars and to make sure they are growing. We are doing Drop Everything and Read as well. We are doing graded notebooks to make sure that they are taking notes. EOG camp starts on 2/16. Planetarium is coming to the campus to visit us through a grant to talk to the scholars. We have also had another Data Night as well. Testing updates: K-3 Dibels assessments, 3-5 Masteryconnect assessments, HS EOC rates as well are updated for the board. We are still in our testing window so that we can get the rest of our scholars tested.
 - c. Dr. Wright - Dually enrolled scholars are making progress at Nash Community College. We continue to focus with middle school scholars on STEM and college and career readiness. We now have a STEM club and they will compete in a STEM competition. We are applying for a STEM grant so that we can add more scholars to the program. We have a summer leadership program scholarship to send 4 scholars to their summer program.
 - d. Dr. Glass - mentioned that we have completed all benchmark testing. We had very promising results in 1st and 2nd grade. We are still working on our Kindergarten students but they are working very hard to improve. We are analyzing our data and placing strategies to best help our scholars. We are utilizing small groups, progress monitoring, mastery connect data is showing progress in 3rd grade and a slight decline in 4th and 5th grade. 21 3rd graders will be in the Joshua's Challenge to support their reading skills for the EOG
 - e. Dr. Wallace - Thursday we have a curriculum night to meet the parents and they can meet teachers and get a syllabus for new classes. We are also doing scholar surveys to get more rigor in our classes for scholars. We are embracing the writing revolution and they are introducing it in their lesson plans and we are looking to see growth from this in our scholars.
 - f. Ms. Farmer - We have received 3 grants and have a March 7th CCIP 21st Century grant coming and we have sent a letter of intent. We have 87 EC students at this time. We are seeking candidates for our open EC positions. Ms. Parker asked about a parent survey for CTE development. Dr. Collins stated that it has been postponed so that we can receive the Intent to Return letters.
 - g. Dr. Collins reported for Mr. Abrams and Coach Barnes - Senior night this Friday at 7pm. We will have a sports banquet tentatively 5/15 or 5/22 for our entire athletic department. We have had our second meeting for booster club and they are planning fundraisers to raise funds
 - h. Ms. Phillips - one bus incident and we have a need for afternoon drivers due to athletics. We are running 15 regular buses and 2 activity buses. We are looking to have a class for teachers and staff in house that would like to get their CDL's to drive buses.

- i. Dr. Collins presented the audit findings presentation for Mr. Jay Sharpe. She shared the PowerPoint presentation with the board.

3. Action Items

1. Dr Collins talked about the engagement letter from Poyner and Spruill to continue to represent us. They increased our hourly rates which haven't been increased in over 10 years. Dr. Collins asked for a motion to accept. Parker motioned to approve the letter and Kitchin seconded. The motion passed and it will be further discussed in closed session.
2. Telephone system upgrade for a new telephone system from Verizon with telephone tree. The cost for the change is \$3299.97 for the crossover and then a monthly fee of \$1500 to maintain all of the services with 70 extensions in the school. This increase is \$300 more than what we currently have. This is a one year commitment. Motion to accept by Parker, seconded by Kitchin and unanimously approved. It will be done on a Friday afternoon.

4. Adjournment

- a. Ms. Kitchin motioned to adjourn to closed session and it was seconded by Parker and voted unanimously.
- b. The meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm to go into closed session.