



Board Meeting Minutes
February 1st, 2016
6:00 p.m.

Our Mission is to inspire scholars to Learn with Passion, Lead with Confidence, and Live with Character so they will achieve their dreams for college, career, and life in a competitive global marketplace.

In Attendance: Thomas Parrish, Chip Williams, Morris Wilder, Margaret Evans, Ricky Parks, and Marcus Whitaker.

Staff In Attendance: Doug Haynes, Tim Everett, Angela Langlely, Melissa Watson, Richie Mitchell, Ben Barnes, Beverly Joyner, Ben Eustice, Debbie King, Faith Boakye, Melody Lynch, Inezsia Anderson, Lekia Palmer, Tracy McBride, Rochelle Dunlop, Rebecca Meng, Travis Williams, and Tiffany Hickman

Thomas Parrish, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Chairman's Report – Thomas Parrish
 - a. Mr. Parrish welcomed board and staff members.
2. Approval of Consent Agenda – Minutes and Financials
 - a. Mr. Wilder asked a question about the financials to clarify federal funds and was satisfied that federal funds would be drawn down next month
 - b. A motion to approve the minutes and financials was made by Mr. Wilder, seconded by Mr. Williams and unanimously approved.
3. Parental Concerns ---- Ms. Smith
 - a. She expressed concerns that graduation is scheduled on a Monday, which would be inconvenient to out-of-town guests. She presented a list of parent signatures asking the board to consider changing the date.
4. Management Report – Doug Haynes
 - a. Graduation- Dunn Center was unavailable a year in advance, and only available venue was Nash Community College on a Monday. He said he hoped if the calendar can be approved now that next year's date can be planned further in advance. He also asked the board for ideas for a

commencement speaker. Mr. Wilder suggested checking into Word Tabernacle Church as a venue option for graduation, and Mr. Haynes said staff would look into it.

- b. Enrollment- 181 applications have been received and Parent Intent-to-Return Meetings have proven successful with good attendance.
- c. Staff Update- Ms. Joyner was welcomed to the meeting with a clean bill of health after being out for almost a year. She will volunteer this month and start full time next month in March. Will work on coaching and boost leadership and staff morale to be back in Elementary. We have hired a new secondary Dean of Instruction, Lisa Bulluck, who has children at our school and has been an assistant principal Parker Middle School. We are excited about her experience.
- d. Academic Performance Update- Mr. Haynes presented first semester EOC results from high school, which showed no gains in Math I from first semester last year and slight gains in Biology and English 2. However, only about 1/3 of Math I scholars have taken the test and about 60 percent of Biology scholars have it second semester. High school is making adjustments to improve performance in second semester. In addition, he shared the middle school ELA results from mid-year NWEA MAP testing since those had been re-tested. Results showed comparable or higher growth than mid-year last year. Mr. Whitaker asked for clarification on how to read NWEA growth, and Mr. Haynes and Ms. Langley explained the process.
- e. Snow Day Makeup- We don't feel that we need to make up the day we missed since we already have a longer day and year an extra day at the end of school. We feel that our teachers will benefit from maintaining Friday afternoon planning and not lengthen Fridays.
- f. Next Year's Calendar—A proposed calendar for next school year was presented to the board, and Mr. Whitaker asked for another month to review it before a board vote.
- g. Upcoming Site Visits
 - i. Office of Charter Schools (charter renewal)- March 23rd- Will be sending team to discuss charter renewal process to observe classes, tour the school, conduct several different focus groups, and gather more information.
 - ii. AdvancEd (accreditation renewal)- used to be Southern Association of Colleges- very detailed process and staff is working on a self-assessment document that needs to be completed by March 7th. The accreditation team will be here April 7th and 8th for review and will observe classrooms from all areas, conduct focus groups, and ask questions. They will look at their standards for continuous improvement and will meet with administration and board members to make a final decision. Will receive a final written report a month after.
- h. Charter Alliance- if board members want to register for the state conference on March 9-11 in Charlotte, we can get them registered if they let staff know.

5. Principal Reports:

Richie Mitchell, Elementary- First full week in new schedule in order to add more time into school day for math. Teachers are embracing teaching outside comfort zone for math push and end of the year state testing. Conferences are still being worked out due to the snow

delay/cancellation. Handwritten notes went out to parents before Christmas received positive notes. Overall, he thinks elementary is off to a good start for second half of year

Melody Lynch was introduced in her new role as Dean of Scholars for MS & HS overseeing student culture. She shared some data on discipline and behavior, positive and negative.

Ben Barnes, Middle- Math power hour has started positively in middle as well. They also are implemented English test prep during half period of Social Studies. He shared several staffing changes that are positive for middle school as well as upcoming plans for professional development and winners of the Geography and Spelling Bees.

Melissa Watson, High- She shared celebrations around staff accomplishments and implementing the in-class station rotation blended learning model. She also highlighted the winner of the Martin Luther King oratorical contest and shared strategies the high school is using to improve rigor for student, relevance, relationships, and she discussed the male mentorship program with a local organization.

6. Other Business – Mr. Whitaker moved to hold a closed session to discuss personnel issues, and Mr. Parks seconded. The board unanimously voted at 7:29 p.m.

At ----- p.m., ----- made a motion to adjourn from the closed session back into open session, seconded by ----- and unanimously approved. ----- moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by -----, The meeting adjourned at ----- pm.