



Board Meeting Minutes
March 7th, 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, Ricky Parks, and Marcus Whitaker.

Staff In Attendance: Doug Haynes, Tim Everett, Angela Langley, Melissa Watson, Richie Mitchell, Ben Barnes, Ben Eustice, Beverly Joyner, Tracy McBride, Rochelle Dunlop, Rebecca Meng, Travis Williams, Lisa Bullock, Gale Parker, Faith Boakye, Debbie King, Margery Ryan and Melody Lynch.

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. Mr. Parrish expressed that had shared some insight into our board structure to another board and feels confident about our recent board changes and efficiency.
 - b. We're currently receiving applications for the Headmaster position online. We have a timeline in place as we move into the transition and hope to select a new headmaster by the end of May.
2. Approval of Consent Agenda – Minutes and Financials
 - a. A motion to approve the minutes and financials was made by Morris Wilder, seconded by Chip Williams and unanimously approved.
3. Management Report – Doug Haynes
 - a. Our AdvancEd materials have been completed and turned in. Board members should decide who will represent the board during their upcoming site visits to Rocky Mount Prep
 - b. Mr. Haynes welcomed new Dean of Instruction for Middle and High School, Lisa Bullock.
 - c. In revising the initial instructional calendar for the 2016-2017 school year, staff confirmed that our calendar follows the local school district as closely as possible. A motion to approve the proposed calendar was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Whitaker and unanimously approved.
 - d. Mr. Haynes shared additional winter benchmark data for Elementary and Middle School. From the handout distributed, results displayed a significant improvement in level one and two

students. Math is a positive trend in both schools, reading lags behind, and science is ahead in comparison to last year. Some board members expressed concerns over subject areas needing significant improvement. Ms. Langley assured our board that we are working through specific standards to practice targeted skills. We are analyzing the data by breaking it down to specific classes, scholars, and standards in order to pinpoint areas of improvement.

- e. In terms of our current scholars, we have received confirmation of intent to return by 92% in elementary school, 96% in middle school, and 71% in high school. We're working to ensure all scholars return documentation and make plans to return to Rocky Mount Prep next school year. In terms of new scholars, we have received approximately 402 applications for next year, including over 100 for our Kindergarten class. Our lottery will held on Friday to determine the random order for next year. Ms. McBride will provide additional documentation outlining enrollment numbers for intent and new scholars.
- f. In looking ahead for our recruitment of teachers for next year, Ms. McBride gave a report in terms of targeting education school graduates throughout North Carolina. Over the next few weeks she will attend 9 universities education fairs working towards teacher recruitment.
- g. As we work to improve blended learning, we are hiring a consulting group to assist in observing where we are and advising us on improvements for next year.

4. Governance Committee Report – Ricky Parks

- a. Governance Committee has been looking at the size of the board and would like to recommend adding four additional board members to the bylaws to have a total of 11 board members. A motion to raise the amount of board members as stated in the bylaws was made by Mr. Whitaker, seconded by Mr. Wilder and unanimously approved. Next meeting, the board will review new bylaws and vote.
- b. Mr. Parks made a recommendation to add an additional board member and active parent, Michael Wiggins. A motion to add Michael Wiggins was made by Mr. Whitaker, seconded by Chip Williams and unanimously approved. Governance Committee will be taking additional board member recommendations.

5. Education Committee Report – Marcus Whitaker

- a. The Education Committee is focusing on recruiting and retention of teachers. We have a great policy in place, but they're looking for opportunities to expand and grow. Mrs. Watson gave a report on the branding "one prep, one purpose", where the school focuses their efforts on looking for teachers who drive and influence results. The committee is focusing on creating a model for an ideal teacher, pipeline for promotion of current teaches, and expanding through our own resources.
- b. The Board's Education Committee asked leadership for options to reduce our class sizes, and as a result of a leadership brainstorming meeting Mr. Haynes presented several options. Out of the five different options discussed, he an option that would add an additional 10 net new teachers. With normal, attrition, hiring 10 net new teachers could potentially be a very large recruiting

challenge and an extra \$500,000 per year. A class size reduction strategy will be considered when developing the budget and hiring teachers.

- c. The Education Committee also is looking at ways to have more teachers involved in blended learning through station rotation. Mr. Barnes discussed how an ideal model allows scholars to visit various stations or centers the allotted time for a specific subject. Although we currently have a similar model, we want to improve our practices and provide a solid infrastructure to our teachers to build confidence with the program.
- d. The Education Committee will have their next meeting March 16th; from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. All board members are welcome to attend.

6. Finance Committee Report- Board

- a. We will be following normal protocol in terms of budgeting for May.

7. Other Business – Dave Edwards

- a. Management presentation from Ignite Learning Partners, Inc. who will be contracted to look into a 30-60-90 triage approach in effort to improve our blending learning model. The company will help ensure our instructional strategies are and help transition plans for the new school year.

Ricky Parks made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Morris Wilder and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.