



## Board Meeting Minutes

May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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, Kelly Shore, James Galliard, 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, Travis Williams, Lisa Bullock, Gale Parker, Debbie King, Faith Boakye, Tiffany Hickman, Lakeia Palmer, Nisha Gonzalez and Melody Lynch.

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

1. Chairman's Report – Thomas Parrish
  - a. The board is finalizing the process in looking for the right candidate for the school's Headmaster position. The board is looking to make final decision over the next few days from the final three candidates.
2. Approval of Consent Agenda – Minutes and Financials
  - a. In reviewing previous minutes, Mr. Parrish requests a spelling correction for his name in 7-C.
  - b. A motion to approve the minutes and financials was made by Marcus Whitaker, seconded by Morris Wilder and unanimously approved.
3. Academic Committee Report– Marcus Whitaker
  - a. Beverly Joyner distributed material and discussed our strategic plan to reinforce the team teaching model. Two components of this plan include general teaching portion with lower whole-class student/teacher ratio and small group teaching with 13:1 ratio. Other items addressed in the plan for elementary school include adding a character education class, adding an A/B Day based on instruction, and updating our Read to Achieve Program. This plan will provide the opportunity to accelerate scholar learning with an updated blending learning model and utilize new strategies.

- b. Mrs. Joyner additionally discussed the summer school enrichment program. The state funded program will allow 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade scholars to receive additional instruction. Nine teachers have committed to teaching the program scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup>. Scholars will be invited to attend based on end of the year testing results. With a 10:1 student to teacher ratio for the program, scholars will have small group support in this enrichment summer programs. Board members discussed the possibility for other summer enrichment programs targeting other grade levels.
  - c. Ben Barnes distributed a handout and discussed middle school updates for the next school year. Some of the updates include moving into a six period school day and adding enrichment classes. Middle school hopes to work on continuity between high school in developing a similar culture of college readiness and developing subject based learning communities.
  - d. Melissa Watson discussed high school updates for next year including transitioning to yearlong English and math courses and refining how to use blended learning and the lab.
  - e. Doug Haynes discussed shortening the school day by 30 minutes in order to provide more time for after school tutoring. Additionally, the school will add approximately 10 teachers and a social and emotional specialist for next year.
  - f. We have been recommended for accreditation from AdvancEd, a process that we have been undergoing for the last few months.
  - g. Our current retention plan will be revisited following NWEA testing this week. The NWEA testing will allow us to collect additional data points and make retention suggestions based on teacher recommendations. The draft on the new policy of promotion and retention will be revisited with the new headmaster at the next board meeting.
  - h. A revised 2016-2017 academic calendar has been suggested based on the Nash-Rocky Mount calendar change. The only change made to the previous calendar would give our school a later start date to work in unison with Nash-Rocky Mount school district. Morris Wilder made a motion to approve the new calendar, seconded by Marcus Whitaker and unanimously approved.
  - i. A handout was distributed reviewing Benchmark data from spring tests compared with last year's EOG's. We will report NWEA results following testing that will take place this week.
  - j. Our survey results through our third party survey company, Panorama Education, and our charter accreditation company, AdvancEd, show areas of strength and weakness. Summary reports were shared with the board.
4. Finance Committee Report– Morris Wilder & Tim Everett
- a. We are following normal protocol in terms of budgeting. The handout distributed details the general breakdown of the budget starting in July. Some of the changes in the newly proposed budget included new staff and changes in staff, security measures, insurance changes, food service changes, bus driver changes, and the cost of a new chiller system.
  - b. The budget was distributed for review and the board will discuss final changes at the next board meeting in June. The budget must be approved in June and sent to D.P.I.

5. Governance Committee – Ricky Parks
  - a. No new business to report.
  
6. Other Business – Thomas Parish
  - a. A handout regarding a draft of the board’s committee structure was distributed for review. Board members are asked to review in preparation to discuss and approve at the next board meeting.
  - b. Mr. Parrish wants to review recent technology issues and our current technology budget. Mr. Parrish has asked Mr. Everett for a formal evaluation in upgrading technology and our current infrastructure.

Chip Williams made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Morris Wilder and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.