



Board Meeting Minutes

November 2nd, 2015

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

Staff In Attendance: Doug Haynes, Tim Everett, Grova Bridgers, Tracy McBride, Angela Langley, Melissa Watson, Richie Mitchell, Ben Barnes, Ben Eustice, Rochelle Dunlop, Rebecca Meng, and Beverly Joyner

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

1. 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.
2. Chairman's Report – Thomas Parrish
 - a. Thomas Parrish welcomed board and staff members.
 - b. Thomas Parrish has seen progress going on at school with new arrangements to learning environments and has received positive feedback from both parents and students.
 - c. Thomas Parrish will plan to attend meeting at the Department of Public Instruction on November 17th in order to show support for Rocky Mount Prep.
3. Management Report – Doug Haynes
 - a. Doug Haynes distributed and discussed a revised budget highlighting differences to what the board has approved in June into the new revision. Some of the highlights include a higher surplus of funds than originally set, fewer enrolled students, higher number of student receiving free and reduced lunch, and a higher proposed change to teacher's salaries, with an average increase for teachers of 7.3%. Salary changes will be discussed and processed individually between teachers and principals.
 - b. A motion to approve the new budget was made by Chip Williams, seconded by Morris Wilder, and unanimously approved.

- c. Mr. Haynes has been asked to make a presentation to the Charter School Advisory Board on November 17th to address why Rocky Mount Prep has not made academic growth on state testing. He will present the plan the board approved in August as well as answer questions. He invited any board members who can to attend the meeting.
 - d. We have worked with other charter school leaders to make more equitable funding for charter schools a priority in the legislature. While it did not pass this time, the issue is still alive for next session.
 - e. The charter renewal process, which will begin in December, includes submitting online documentation and team visitation by DPI.
 - f. Additionally, we are going through the process of re-accreditation through AdvancEd. We have a required structure for re-accreditation that will help us with our own self-assessment.
 - g. Doug Haynes had the opportunity to visit the Charter regulation meeting where charter school leaders were able to listen and hold productive conversation with state education leaders about options to reduce regulation on charter schools.
 - h. Several staff changes have been made such as Richie Mitchell focusing his efforts toward Elementary School as the new Principal, Ben Barnes moving into the role of Middle School Principal, and Melody Lynch becoming Dean of Scholars for Middle and High School.
 - i. We have implemented new strategies to refocus on some of the issues from the beginning of the year causing staff stress. In looking an eight-week cycle, implementation of new systems, staff changes, and more intensive instructional coaching are taking place. Based off listening session feedback, staff are feeling support from new staff leadership changes and strong curriculum.
 - j. Ben Barnes, Angela Langley, and Melissa Watson discussed productive changes occurring include pinpointing behavior issues through LiveSchool, improved internal communications, coaching, and teacher observations over the next month.
 - k. Board members discussed and agreed that they would like a more detailed update on our results and progress in how we are collecting data, tracking data, and reviewing a progressive and positive growth from the beginning of the academic year. They asked for data at the next board meeting.
 - l. Some of the priorities until Christmas include implementing time management strategies with principals, ramping up coaching of teachers, upcoming parent involvement events, providing staff support and benchmark testing.
4. Other Business – Grova Bridgers
- a. We will hosting our third annual Career Day on November 20th and would appreciate support from the Board of Trustees in regard to this event.

Morris Wilder made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chip Williams and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.