



**Regular Board Meeting - Minutes**

**August 28, 2023**

**14613 Steele Creek Road, Charlotte NC 28273**

**Members present: S. Walker, M. McCarthy, L. Rakvic, J. Young, D. Goldfarb,  
T. Wiggins, B. Butler, and J. Cole**

**Admin: S. Reddick, A. Hamp, A. Abraham**

**Minutes by J. Whisnant**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER - ESTABLISH QUORUM. Meeting was called to order at 5:37pm. It was established that a quorum was present.**
  - A. Next meeting: Monday, September 25, 2023
  - B. Mission Statement – Through classical education’s rigor, Unity Classical Charter School will develop intellectually, morally and physically excellent citizens who embrace learning and the desire to serve. Read by M. McCarthy
  - C. Adoption of Agenda. M. McCarthy moved to adopt the agenda. J. Cole seconded. Motion carried.
  - D. Approval of Minutes from July 2023. M. McCarthy moved to adopt the minutes. J. Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT. There was no public comment.**
- III. **REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS**
  - A. ***PTC President Report*** - Donja Williams
    - i. Donja Williams will serve PTC president. Summer Austin is vice president. This will be Ms. Williams final term as president.
    - ii. PTC is just now getting started. An interest survey went out yesterday.
    - iii. Implementing a PTC newsletter....You ask, We Listen. We are also implementing a later meeting time.
    - iv. Upcoming we have our first Parent Night Out. We will host these monthly.
    - v. Established all roles and responsibilities. All policies and procedures are in place. This year, All Pro Dads will be under the PTC umbrella.
  - B. ***Treasurer Report and Bond Update***- D. Goldfarb
    - i. Distributed forecast for current year and the next 5 years. Working through everything to get ready to go to market. Negotiated with landlord to get FF&E that they owe us, check is on the way. BCG contract has been closed. DOT is still outstanding. Vannoy will supply us with quotes for contractors to finish out 3rd floor. Discussion followed.
    - ii. Bleachers and sound buffers are still coming. We have gone up to 4 buses to meet demand.
    - iii. Bottom line we have about a half million in service revenue in the bank. Goal is to have a good cushion. Have a meeting with Acadia tomorrow.

- iv. Reviewed health insurance with Van Popering. 17.5% increase. Discussion followed.
- v. 401K. Low % of participation. Need to better educate employees. Discussion followed.
- vi. Bond Update: Bonds side: Working through the logistics, closing the line items to wrap up. Aiming for Mid-October. Should be good to go. Discussion followed.
- vii. A. Hamp spoke to grants. Annual Federal Grant Title One will come together to pay Interventionist salaries. Title 2 is teacher quality (\$19,000) pays for our UNCC contracted teacher coach. This year we will be eligible for ELL funds, with licensed ELL teacher on staff. Grant for Gryphon Academy will pay salaries and snacks. Discussion followed. Also noted that EC student count is growing. Discussion followed.

**C. Legislative Update – S. Walker**

- i. Busy month in terms of Legislature. August 18th, the State Legislature overturned three governor vetoes which took effect immediately. Discussion on new policies followed.
  - 1. Charter School Advisory Board has become the Charter School Review Board. This is the now first place for charter schools to go. There is a one-year look back on any decisions that have been made. The bill has gotten rid of a cap on 30% enrollment as long as you are not a low-performing school. Discussion followed.
  - 2. Parent’s Bill of Rights. To summarize, this bill states that parents have the right to direct the education of their child. Many new policies we have to adopt; update manuals and create new forms to reflect changes. Big changes, will take time to update everything. Discussion followed.
- ii. NC Coalition of Charter Schools. As members, there is a webinar that we can attend which will help us rewrite policies on Sept. 25th.
  - 1. Will get templates for rewrites free as members.

**D. School Improvement Team Discussion – S. Reddick**

- i. North Carolina State statute that we have this. Will meet in Sept. Team members are A. Hamp, the new MLL teacher, Mr. M. Jones, K. Stroman and A. Reese and PTC (D. Williams and S. Evans) and N. Bratcher.
- ii. Key objectives: Access safety and discipline, academics, and teacher support (2 coaches to help and support our teachers). May consider doing a midyear survey to have time to react and help fix some of the things telling us.
- iii. S. Walker: Tom Miller has asked for a date to help close out. Discussion followed.

- E. **Report on number of employees who received bonus checks for sick days not taken. What was the total payout?** – S. Reddick
  - i. 27 employees for a total payout of \$13,800. Only concern is to identify people who want to rollover days.
- F. **Report on 2022-23 Student turnover – How many students did we begin with and how many did we end with?**– S. Reddick and staff
  - i. Total number of students August 2022 was 619 on day one. On our last day of school we had 554 enrolled students. Today’s student count is 808. Discussion followed.
  - ii. Why students left? 7 disciplinary withdrawals, 2 went to Language Inversion magnet, 2 left because upper grade level issues. Vast majority left due to moving. Discussion followed.
- G. **Enrollment Report** – S. Reddick and Team
  - i. Once rosters received, teachers call their families, confirm they are attending and invite them to the Teacher Meet and Greet. After school starts, we start calling absent students to see if coming or were out sick. Bring in students from waiting list.

**IV. HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT**

- A. Brand new digital sign is installed and working.
- B. Welcomed all our teachers. Had school health fair.
- C. First day of School. Morning Carpool going very well. First day of school went very well. No real discipline issues. Biggest hurdle is the dismissal in afternoon.
- D. Day one to Day two took 40 minutes off....Start at 3:30 and got out 5:15. Today was first day with everyone here.
- E. Completely full buses. Quite honestly could use two more buses. Been having some issues with Eagle.
- F. Currently working through first 20 days
- G. Testing is coming up. Sept. 6 BOG
- H. Evening cleaning crew sent an email that they found a snake. They did not call. Forced to close due to the snake and called in wildlife company. Thoroughly hecked everything. Officially snake free.

- V. CLOSED SESSION** – ( The Chair will now entertain a motion that the Board go into closed session under NC General Statute 143-318,11.(6) M. McCarthy made the motion. J. Young seconded and Board moved into closed session at 7:52 pm.

- VI. ADJOURN** Meeting returned to open session, there was no further business. Motion to adjourn made by J. Young, seconded by L. Rakvic. Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.