



Regular Board Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2024

14613 Steele Creek Road, Charlotte NC 28273

Attendees: M. McCarthy, D. Goldfarb, B. Butler, J. Young, L. Rakvic, and J. Cole

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

Minutes by: J. Whisnant

- I. **CALL TO ORDER - ESTABLISH QUORUM.** President S. Walker was absent. Vice President M. McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm and established a quorum was present.
 - A. Next meeting: Monday, February 26, 2024
 - 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. J. Cole moved to adopt the agenda. J. Young seconded. The agenda was adopted.
 - D. Approval of Minutes from December 2023 J. Young motioned to approve the minutes. D. Goldfarb seconded the motion. The December minutes were approved.

- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- III. **REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS**
 - A. **PTC President Report** - Donja Williams
 - i. Snow Scholar Fundraiser was a success, raising slightly under \$19,000.
 - ii. Sponsoring a School-Wide Skate Night on Jan. 31st
 - iii. Dress Down day will be Feb. 14th.
 - iv. School dances are coming up in February; One for elementary school, and one for middle school.
 - v. PTC staff support: snacks were provided this morning by our fourth-grade families.
 - vi. Introduced to the board Summer Austin, PTC vice president and incoming President for 24-25.
 - B. **School Culture Committee Report** - Jumel Jones, Heather Podell, Alicia Hamp
 - i. House System: Cultivates A Community of Belonging
 - All students and staff will participate in this.
 - It becomes Increasingly important as we grow. As we become a larger student body, it will create smaller families within the body.
 - Houses reflect diversity. Teachers are assigned to houses to bond with students.
 - There are eight houses, following the Ron Clark Academy Structure
 - Kids, parents and staff can earn points for their houses. There will be larger events that encompass house traditions.
 - ii. Each of the Houses were reviewed in detail: noting the House color, Unity Virtue, Animal, Country of Origin and Language.
 - iii. Program is global as well as nationwide.

- iv. There are two house leaders from staff and two from student body. The board is invited to be in a house as well.

C. *Treasurer Report* - Dana Goldfarb

- i. Got through to Acadia but have questions
- ii. Discussion on cash flow followed.
- iii. D. Goldfarb wants to meet with Sheila and team to go over forecast line item by line item.
- iv. Received our ADM counts from state. Day 20 number 765. \$3000 off where we hoped to be.
- v. We have new financial reporting we have to do on a quarterly basis.
- vi. Waiting on a number of open deliverables federal grants, run rates, FDE plan (complete update), draft salary and bonus plan. Discussion followed.

J. Cole motioned to receive the treasurer's report. J. Young seconded. Treasurer Report was received.

D. *Governance Committee (Operations and Board Policy Handbook)* – Linda Rakvic

- i. L. Rakvic will be scheduling a meeting for Governance committee.

E. *School Calendar Proposal and Vote* – Mrs Reddick and Administration

- i. M. McCarthy state that it will be discussion only and the board would not be voting today. S. Reddick stated that the proposal for review is a little more of a modified year round calendar.
 - Biggest concern is how to answer some of the things the board has challenged us to look at: Becoming an "A" school and growth. Created a calendar to satisfy state requirements and give staff/students balance. A strong calendar will help us be as competitive as possible in hiring more employees. Discussion followed.
- ii. Built calendar with a focus was on instructional hours. Biggest change is a reduction in school days by about a week. Discussion followed.
- iii. M. McCarthy called to close the discussion. Asked J. Cole to send a copy of his calendar to board and M. McCarthy will get a copy of Bonnie Cone's Calendar.

F. *Charter School Advocacy Summit* – Susan Walker

- i. Thursday, Mar.7- Friday, Mar. 8 2024
- ii. Interest? Possibly L. Rakvic and S. Walker

G. *Visioning and Strategic Planning Retreat* – Susan Walker

- i. Discussion on best timing for a planning retreat. With the bonds approved it is time to consider our five year vision and next steps

IV. HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

1. Bleachers, Padding, Speakers, and Scoreboards were installed over Christmas break.
2. Generator inspected and annual maintenance.
3. Water Filtration maintenance performed and we are now in compliance
4. Water leak happened during holiday break on the first floor. Discovered it quickly and were able to fix it.
5. Working on the I-90 with Mrs. Morrison
6. Parent teacher conferences went well when we returned from break.
7. Gryphon Academy is starting now for the second semester.
8. Mid-year testing began today. NC Check Ins and Star. This will provide us good data to help us finish the year strong.

9. Enrollment has been open. Ms. Morrison will getting spreadsheets out to you so you will start seeing those coming via email. Lottery takes place 2nd Tuesday in March

10. Marketing: Tours are starting and ongoing. Preschool visits upcoming. Have a new brochure.

Marketing team: creating videos with parent testimonials.

New YouTube channel: Featuring weekly episodes of Tell me Something

Good.....Completely done by middle school students. Full school will watch together on in the morning (News)

11. Middle School: Quarterly awards ceremony went really well. New sound system and it was really nice to have parents there.

- Secured a grant for 8th grade field trip. More details to come.
- Middle School Door competition underway: New year and New door theme.

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) to consider the competence and performance of an individual employee. Do I hear a motion and a second. We expect to close out the meeting after the closed session.

VI. **ADJOURN.** J. Young moved to adjourn the open meeting and go into closed session. J. Cole seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 6:16 pm.