

Minutes for Achievement Charter Academy Board Meeting

March 8, 2022

Meeting called to order by Ray Strain at 4:42 pm on March 8th, 2022. Ray read the mission statement. Quorum recognized for continuation of meeting.

In attendance: Leaja Horne, Ray Strain, Barbara Marchioni, Ryan Denney, Nancy Herrick, Becky Winchester, Kira Royal, and guests: Bob Bedi and Connor Harney.

Absent: Jason Smith.

Agenda: Barbara motioned to approve agenda as written, Ryan seconded, motion was unanimously approved by roll call.

Closed Session: The board did not initiate a closed session.

Public Comments: No members of the public were present to comment.

Media Integration Report: Bob Bedi (Media Integrations LLC) reported on the marketing efforts since the last board meeting.

Marketing campaign is on-going, 60K people reached, 25K Spanish-speaking people reached, 25K views on video content, 17 unique posts in 28 days, teacher of the week posts continue to generate the most traffic. Marketing efforts appear effective. Bob discussed strategies for increased visibility in the community including joining Chambers of Commerce (Lillington, Fuquay-Varina) and ways to leverage membership to enhance marketing efforts. He discussed the possibility of using speaking opportunities or the Fuquay Arts Center for community engagement and marketing.

Director of Education Report:

Enrollment: DOE reported on the introduction session with enrolled/pending student parents, 15 families attended, the largest attendance to date. In-person tours are planned. DOE reported on the current lottery process and wait list status. 209 is the max enrollment for next year, retention rate currently looks to be around 70% based on intent to return survey.

COVID: New State legislation makes masks optional/leaves parents with the choice of whether to mask their children, boards are no longer required to vote on this policy.

Discipline: DOE reported on the number of suspended students and MTSS team activity.

Academic achievement: All staff are moving through the levels of Glasser Model training. Nancy reported positive progress and improvement in staff understanding and implementation of Glasser Model strategies.

Parent engagement: Parent perception survey is in the works.

Finance: Next year's budget is currently in the process of preparation.

HR: There were/are no new hires, no terminations. DOE is working on a salary scale in preparation to offer contracts for the coming year, those contracts need some revisions, the goal is to work toward making salaries commensurate with neighboring districts to continue attracting quality teachers.

Connor Harney Report: Connor Harney, Reading & Language Specialist, provided an update on his role as reading and language specialist. Connor discussed his day-to-day activities and efforts to improve reading across all grades as well as challenge students who are excelling. He provides support to all teachers as needed, has developed reading groups, book clubs, and proctors reading achievement tests. Students enjoy working with him. He also performs administrative duties such as coordinating tutors, developing/seeking appropriate curriculum, and using/developing reading software. The board appreciates his good work and the DOE reports growth/improvement in student reading due to his efforts.

Financial Committee Report: Surplus is projected to be around 4%, but this does not account for rising fuel costs. \$1.9 million total budget. Discussed remaining vigilant about future building needs and saving appropriately in preparation for expansion.

Action item: Last month's minutes: Barbara moved, Ryan seconded, unanimous approval of February minutes by roll call.

Board report: Board will complete self-survey soon. Term limits were discussed: Barabara is scheduled to roll off the board in June as her term will expire, but she plans to continue serving on the planning/development committee. Ray is scheduled to roll off the board in June as his term will expire, the board will review the by-laws regarding re-election of board members/president.

The board would like to formally recognize [Cindy Pierce](#) for her excellent, committed service to the board, a commemorative plaque will be purchased and presented to her.

Ray plans to facilitate, in coordination with school staff, a field trip for 2-5th graders to the airfield to view/learn about aircraft.

The board discussed receiving training in Choice Theory soon.

Barbara raised the question of crisis response/management at the school, and the DOE explained the school's efforts to develop/implement a crisis response plan, including working to participate in a pilot program for "Say Something" to be developed for K-5, along with mental health training for the staff.

Motion to adjourn: Barbara moved, Ryan seconded, motion was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

[Ryan Denney](#)