

Board Minutes

Date: September 14 2021

Location: In person at 15 Randy Ct. Fuquay Varina and via Zoom

Board Members Present: Cindy Pierce, Ray Strain, Jason Smith, Kira Royal, Ryan Denney

Guests: DOE Leaja Horne

Call to Order:

- Meeting called to order at 4:35
- Kira Royal read the mission statement aloud.

Minutes Approval:

- Board review of the June, July and August 2021 meeting minutes.
 - Upon a motion by Kira Royal, seconded by Ryan Denney, and unanimously approved by roll call, it was:
 - **MOVED: To accept the June, July and August 2021 minutes.**

Agenda:

- Upon a motion by Ryan Denney, seconded by Cindy Pierce, and unanimously approved by roll call, it was:
 - **MOVED: To accept the agenda**

Public Comment:

Parent Brian Healy spoke in question of the Board decision to make masks optional and why the derivation from the CDC guidelines. Ray Strain indicated that we are a school of choice and detailed a study of schools in Georgia that did not support the efficacy of masks with evidence. Mr. Healy asked the Board why the school policy changed from the previous school year's policy. Mr. Strain stated the issue was presented prior to the school year and it was and is difficult for the Board to find trustworthy information and keep political bias out. Mr. Healy was understanding and appreciative of the Board's time.

DOE Report:

*Leaja Horne presented an overview of enrollment.

*173 are occupying spaces which is up from 156 on day 1. A company was hired to assist with marketing. September 20 is the 20 day cutoff.

*No discipline issues in August.

*2 active COVID cases of students, 0 active staff reported. A cluster of 5 appeared but all were already quarantined.

*Legislation passed to allow local schools to determine mask requirements and vote each month on same.

*mClass is currently being performed.

*Parent engagement has increased 25%

*The school's third goal is emerging to proficient.

Action Items:

*Prospective teacher resume review and discussion.

*Upon a motion by Kira Royal, seconded by Ryan Denney, and unanimously approved by roll call, it was:

- **MOVED: To approve the contract recommendations for Jessica Kerce and Keith Pakela**

*Prospective Board member resume review and discussion.

*Upon a motion by Kira Royal, seconded by Ryan Denney, and unanimously approved by roll call, it was:

- **MOVED: To approve Rebecca Winchester and Mike Payne as Board members.**

*Ray Strain indicated committees will need to become more active now that school is in full operation. He proceeded to review committee roles and placed volunteers onto their choice of committee. Nancy Herrick was added to the Student Achievement committee and will work with the DOE to define academic achievement. Kira Royal was placed on the Personnel committee and will assist with employee policy. Jason Smith was placed on the Community

Relations committee and will take an active role in public interaction along with development and marketing.

*Discussion of Board Committee Calendar of meeting frequency. There is nothing in the bylaws that specifies how many times to meet. Finance is currently 8 times per year, others are as needed. Ray Strain suggested quarterly for Community Relations.

* Face Covering Policy review and discussion.

*Upon a motion by Cindy Pierce, seconded by Jason Smith, and unanimously approved by roll call, it was:

- **MOVED: To remain in an optional status for face coverings.**

* The Board participated in a strengthening activity.

- Jason Smith made a motion to adjourn. Kira Royal seconded. Remaining board members approved adjournment by roll call.

Meeting adjourned 5:40pm

Secretary Approval:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C. Pierce, RTHB". The signature is written over a horizontal line.