

Neuse Charter School Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 24, 2018

Board Members Present:

Dawn Dixon, Chair
Paul Worley, Vice Chair
Rodney Dunn, Treasurer
Tony Gupton, Past Chair
Nichole Booker
Michelle Denning
Chris Johnson
Robbie Taylor
Kevin Gomez-Gonzalez, SGA President

Board Members Absent:

Jason Cummings
Jimmy Lloyd
Dave Neville, Ex-Officio NCSF

Call to Order [6:00 pm]

Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and read the Ethics Statement. All board members were given the opportunity to respond to the Conflict of Interest statement.

Agenda Approval [6:01 pm]

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Dunn, to approve the agenda and January minutes. Passed unanimously at 6:01 pm.

Public Comments [6:01 pm]

None.

Minutes Approval [6:02 pm]

Motion by Dunn, seconded by Taylor, to approve the March minutes. Passed unanimously at 6:02 pm.

Booster Club Report [6:02 pm]

None.

SGA Report [6:02 pm]

Kevin Gomez-Gonzalez reported that SGA is not currently working on any major goal or event at the moment. Students across campus are getting ready for exams and graduation. Junior Marshals, Valedictorian, and Salutatorian have been named. Last week students attended the Model UN conference at Appalachian State where NCS won an award. SGA would like to recognize Senior Alana Croiser for her involvement with Special Olympics.

Directors Report [6:03 pm]

Student Updates:

Earlier today, NCS recognized 12 students celebrating the core values of Perseverance, Compassion, and Honesty. We will continue this process of quarterly recognition at 5:30 pm on Board Meeting evening as we look to 2018-19.

Five students have art work on display at the Frank Creech Art Gallery at JCC.

The NCS Band and MS Baseball team were featured guests at a Mudcats game. The band played the National Anthem and the baseball team lead the crown in “Take Me out to the Ballgame” during the 7th Inning Stretch. \$1,710 was raised for band and MS baseball based on ticket sales. Thank you to parent organizer, Shannon Mann.

NCS had a huge student and volunteer group attend Special Olympics. In addition to the hundreds of student supporters, one of our students provided the welcoming remarks for the event.

The Willie Wonka performance included over 60 students in cast and crew. JCC will not be available next year due to renovations. Johnson expressed concern that the performance was only one night.

Staffing Updates:

Dr. Amanda Swartzlander has accepted the position of Intermediate Academy Leader and will be on campus this Thursday and Friday for an opportunity to meet staff, students and families. There will be a reception and information session at 6:00 pm on Thursday in the commons.

The interview process for Senior Academy Counselor is continuing this week.

The Facilities Maintenance Technician has been posted, and we are currently accepting applications.

Will post any known vacancies for the 2018-19 school year this week and begin interview processes accordingly.

Business Updates:

The RFP for custodial services has drawn interest from 6 companies. The deadline for submitting a proposal is May 1, and administration will work with the Finance Committee and the Facilities Subcommittee to review the proposals and recommend next steps.

Enrollment/Application Lottery Updates:

Enrollment for this year is holding steady at 915 for this school year.

Ms. Walker and the office team have been contacting those that were selected during the application lottery for next year and we are running 960 right now with a waitlist of over 350.

Consent Agenda [6:12 pm]

None

Standing Committees

Finance Committee [6:12 pm]

Dunn reported that the Finance Committee met with no major changes to budget. The budget has a current surplus of a little over \$93k. Motion by Johnson, second by Denning, to approve March budget. Motion passed unanimously at 6:13 pm.

Dunn presented the Rives and Associate contract to continue our audit contract with a \$300 increase due to the NCSF audit. Motion by Johnson, second by Worley, to approve the Rives audit contract. Denning noted the contract was missing pages 8 and 9 of 9. The board decided to table the motion at 6:18 pm until the complete contract was presented.

Dunn explained that NCS is required by DPI to hold \$50k in a fund to cover retirement and closing costs if NCS were to close. KS Bank can move funds to a holding account with Board approval. Motion by Booker, seconded by Denning, to move \$50,000 to a holding account per state guidelines. Passed unanimously at 6:21 pm.

Facilities Subcommittee:

Johnson reported that NCSF met and will be meeting again tomorrow. Construction is back on schedule, and NCS should be able to move in on time.

Personnel Committee [6:22 pm]

None.

Academic Affairs Committee [6:22 pm]

Dixon and Silver met and went over assessment development for the PLUS program. Teams of teachers are meeting to come up with assessments at various grade levels to check for school wide check points. Teachers are helping decide which grade levels will introduce assessment of each of the four NCS graduation competencies. The pace is a bit slower than expected as our teachers are teaching. Administration is using PLC time to work on these planning components.

Dunn asked about the timing of retention letters. Pullium explained that the first round was sent in January for intervention actions. Administration is currently looking at current benchmarks and grade level testing with final decisions not made until year end. Communication with these families has been intermittent since January.

Dunn asked about this year's rate of retention as compared to other years, specifically is NCS projecting higher or lower than year's past. Van Hoy explained that this year looks about the same but it's hard to say until the end of the semester because of the amount of growth a child can make in a short period of time. Van Hoy noted that more retention confirmation letters have been returned this year than year's past. She also explained that students are also being moved to EC services earlier based on the intervention data. Pullium added that NCS is working toward targeted intervention prior to retention based on benchmark data.

Resource Development [6:31 pm]

None.

Board Development [6:31 pm]

None. Johnson asked about the date for the Summer Retreat. Discussion of dates. Dixon will do a poll of the board to set the date.

Johnson withdrew the previous motion to approve the Rives contract for audit services at 6:35 pm.

Motion by Booker, seconded by Taylor, to approve the Rives contract for audit services with the condition that page 8 and 9 are instructional only and do not change any of the terms of the contract and are attached to the signed contract. Passed unanimously at 6:36 pm.

Old Business [6:36 pm]

None.

Pullium reminded the Board that tomorrow night is the New to Neuse Round Table at 5:30 pm to learn about the school and ask any questions.

Taylor reported that a few weeks ago Miracle League Park has opened at SRAC. Student Owen Heavey helped with the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with several of our student ambassadors assisting. Taylor asked that we publicize these types of community event more.

New Business [6:38 pm]

Field trip request by 6th grade to Washington, DC for 2018-19. This is an out of state and overnight trip. This trip is organized by Marjorie Harris. Booker noted that prices are higher due to gas prices and vendor costs increasing. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Gupton, to approve the trip. Passed unanimously at 6:40 pm.

Motion by Gupton, second by Johnson, to move into closed session for personnel and administrative discussion per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6). Passed unanimously at 6:41 pm.

Motion by Johnson, second by Gupton, to come out of closed session. Passed unanimously at 7:28 pm. No action taken in closed session. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Denning, to adjourn. Passed unanimously at 7:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Worley, Vice Chair/Secretary