

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

Board Members Present:

Dawn Dixon, Chair
Rodney Dunn, Treasurer
Michelle Denning
Chris Johnson
Robbie Taylor

Board Members Absent:

Paul Worley, Vice Chair
Nichole Booker, Secretary
Jimmy Lloyd

Call to Order [6:06 pm]

Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. Dixon read the Ethics Statement. All board members were given the opportunity to respond to the Conflict of Interest statement.

Agenda Review [6:08 pm]

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Taylor, to approve the agenda at 6:08 pm.

Public Comment [6:08 pm]

None.

Approval of Minutes [6:09 pm]

Motion by Dunn, seconded by Johnson, to approve June minutes. Passed unanimously at 6:10 pm.

Booster Club Report [6:10 pm]

None.

SGA Report [6:10 pm]

None.

Directors Report [6:10 pm]

Personnel:

Pullium reported that we currently have 10 staff vacancies with 7 of those positions having recommendations for closed session. That leaves 3 vacancies that we are interviewing and we are confident those should have recommendations in the next week or so.

Currently, we show just over 970 students on the books with 939 in PowerSchool. The discrepancy comes from a timing issue getting students added and withdrawn.

Budget 2019:

State has release final budget numbers that include \$260 more per pupil than budgeted. If we meet our 950 projected students, the budget will have an additional \$260k surplus.

Opening:

The first day for students will be August 13. There are also two meet and greets scheduled for August 7 and 9 from 3:30-5:00 pm: one for primary and one for intermediate/senior academies. There will also be booths set up for donations/pledges, boosters, spirit wear, volunteerism, etc.

PLUS Update:

We have PLUS Updates and New Business for later in the meeting.

Consent Agenda [6:17 pm]

None.

Finance [6:17 pm]

Dunn presented the June budget and noted that we are still working with Acadia regarding the end of year surplus that is showing \$591k. Dunn explained that some of the overage comes when a staff member leaves or isn't hired at the beginning of the year and the salary is replaced by substitutes. Additionally, there were some facilities savings. We are projecting the actual end of year will fall between \$500-600k.

Dixon asked if the Finance Committee was considering priorities for this surplus. Dunn explained that the committee is working with Pullium and facilities to determine the best usage. Johnson mentioned a cash reserve account to hold for future needs. Dixon confirmed the usage toward the needs that the Board has outlined for the school.

Johnson thanked the Board, Pullium and all the staff for all the hard work to get to this point.

Motion by Taylor, seconded by Johnson, to approve the June budget report. Passed unanimously at 6:31 pm.

Personnel [6:31 pm]

Closed Session.

Academic Affairs [6:32 pm]

Pullium reported that the Administrative team has worked together to develop the following goal for implementation of PLUS:

By May of 2019, NCS will design, develop and begin implementation of a targeted assessment plan for PLUS: Performance Learning Underscoring Success.

Accompanying this goal would be a detailed action plan with implementation steps that will continue to carry through years 2, 3 and 4.

The Board had discussion of details of implementation. The Academic Committee and PLUS Leadership Team will serve as a sounding boards to confirming the details and future of this goal. Silver is the Driver for the PLUS Leadership Team with Pullium as a Champion. Dixon confirmed that this plan should be detailed enough for someone to come in behind this committee and pick up the plan and continue.

Facilities and Resources [6:50 pm]

Johnson reported that he met with Jeff Navarro from Edwards Jones to get some thoughts on the Resources focus of NCS. He noted that we needed to set up an investment policy if we are going to be accepting stocks and securities. The question is will NCS or NCSF be accepting these donations. This will be a 10-20 year process. Mr. Navarro recommended that NCS doesn't hire a fundraiser but might should consider hiring a grant writer.

The board had discussion on how the school can collect donation payments and into what various category: families, outside supporters, foundations, etc. Most families already know where they will give their donations. NCS needs to get on their lists. One way might be a "Lunch and Learn" for Grandparent's Day where families are given information of NCS' vision and needs. Also, what are we willing to give back – name on a building, classroom, playground, etc.?

NCS also needs a Facilities Master Plan to ensure that the donated items fit our growth plan for campus and student needs. The Master Plan should include our assets, their values, and future goals.

Discussion around Open House presentations and requests for donations. Johnson had a draft template to finalize for that presentation.

The Facilities Committee thanks Dunn for his work cutting the grass around the retention pond. Johnson also wanted to remind the school that NCS has to have the retention pond inspected annually.

NCS has received the COO for new building. We still need to pad walls and put flooring for band room and finish the landscaping. Dixon requested that the school host a VIP reception for those who have helped NCS along the way and given monetary donations as well as donations of their time and business services.

Denning asked about NCS publishing a newsletter to recognize those who have donated.

Pullium recognized the entire construction staff for completing the building project early allowing our staff to all be moved in prior to students being on campus.

Board Development [7:24 pm]

No report. Dixon reminded that comments on the by-laws should have been sent to Lloyd.

Tony Gupton has submitted a letter to the board regarding his resignation. Johnson requested this letter be inserted into the minutes.

The board is waiting notification of his status on the board.

Old Business [7:26 pm]

Pullium presented details regarding the 2018-19 compensation plan extra-duty pay and agreement document. For 2018-19, Pullium presented the following extra-duty pay areas: HS/MS Athletic Director, Beginning Teacher Mentor, and PLUS Leader. Discussion regarding job duties, selection and annual salary approval. Individual clubs were not included in this proposal as they currently meet during the school day and not as extra duty time. Additional discussion around our athletic needs regarding both a Senior Academy and Intermediate Academy Athletic Director or a NCS Athletic Director with an assistant.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Dunn, to approve the 2018-19 extra-duty pay compensation with the following additional category: F – NCS Athletic Director - \$10,000. Passed unanimously at 7:53 pm.

New Business [7:53 pm]

Senior class field trip proposal by teachers Anna Westergard and Daniel Casey [see attached]. Discussion regarding logistics and pricing. The goal is to have at least 30 students attend the trip.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Taylor, to approve the field trip with the condition that more information will be provided at a later date. Motion passed 3-1 with opposing vote by Denning at 8:02 pm.

Motion by Johnson, second by Denning, to move into closed session for personnel and administrative discussion per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6). Passed 3-1 with opposing vote by Johnson at 8:05 pm.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Denning, to reconvene in regular session. Passed unanimously at 8:50 pm.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Dunn, to approve the Director's personnel recommendations. Passed unanimously at 8:50 pm.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Taylor, to adjourn. Passed unanimously at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Nichole Booker, Secretary