

Neuse Charter School Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – September 26, 2017

Board Members Present:

Dawn Dixon, Chair
Paul Worley, Vice Chair
Rodney Dunn, Treasurer
Martha Andre, Secretary
Chris Johnson
Robbie Taylor

Board Members Absent:

Tony Gupton, Past Chair
Nichole Booker
Michelle Denning
Jimmy Lloyd

Call to Order [6:02 pm]

Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and read the Ethics Statement. All board members were given the opportunity to respond to the Conflict of Interest statement.

Celebrations & Recognitions [6:03 pm]

Faculty & Staff Recognition:

- Core Value Awards for Communication:
 - K-2: Lexly Montano, 2nd grade
 - 3-5: Bhakti Patel, 5th grade
 - 6-8: Mackenzie Spicer, 6th grade
 - 9-12: Delaney Harris, 9th grade
- “Like a Champion” is the theme this year for our faculty and staff. Throughout the year, various faculty and staff will be recognized when they display “Champion” qualities. This month the staff recognized 15 members for perseverance, 19 for determination, and 31 for dedication.
- On September 1, the campus of NCS was under a Tornado Warning during an after school activity. Thank you to the following staff members for handling the situation “Like a Champion:” Jennifer Antongiovanni, Michelle Barbour, Gail Browning, Oswald Cervera, Lillian Cole, Marjorie Harris, Caroline Hines, Missy Hodges, Jennifer Horne, Angela Jenkins, Carrie Ragland, Trey Ragland, Jessica Turner, Brad Ward, Brad Williams, and Sue Wilson.
- Military Appreciation Day was a tremendous success including the formal presentation with Key Note speaker Major General Austin and the Golden Knights parachute team. Over 1000 members were present in the audience. A special thank you to parent volunteer, Lt. Col. Shannon Mann for coordinating the event.

Approval of Agenda [6:14 pm]

D. Dixon noted that the agenda is being presented without the field trip on the Consent Agenda portion. Motion by C. Johnson to approve the agenda. Seconded by P. Worley. Motion passed unanimously at 6:14 pm.

Public Comments [6:14 pm]

None.

Approval of Minutes [6:15 pm]

C. Johnson moved and R. Taylor seconded to approve August minutes. Motion passed unanimously at 6:15pm.

Booster Club Report [6:15 pm]

S. Pullium reported gearing up for Booster Bash and joint effort fundraising. Additionally, thank you to Mr. Wood, NCS parent, for his help with the electrical work for the new electrical goals in the gym.

Executive Director's Report [6:16 pm]

- Final ADM 933. Budget 930. October will have updated budget.
- Current enrollment 933. Maintain an active waitlist until the next lottery round starts.
- Currently have one employment vacancy in 8th grade math. Math department is creating an ability to maintain high academic standards by teaching during their planning periods.
- Sept. 7 was the first in the Round Table series with 12 participants including parents, student, and staff. The topic was Safety which resulted in many good recommendations. The next session is September 28 at 5:30 pm on the new Intermediate Academy.
- A special thank you to the DOT for giving NCS two connections to Kellie Drive with the completion of the new road.
- Yankee Candle Fundraiser starts next week through October 18.
- College visits, field trips and testing season has begun.
- Bullying Awareness month is October, and NCS is finalizing guest speakers and classroom challenges.
- C. Johnson noted again a big thank you to DOT. P. Worley suggested a big thank you card and asked M. Andre to take the lead on what we can do for them. D. Dixon suggested a thank you picture taken aerial with a drone. C. Johnson offered to print the thank you banner to use for a school photo.

Consent Agenda [6:24 pm]

None

Standing Committees

Finance Committee [6:25 pm]

R. Dunn presented the August budget. The finance committee is waiting on the 2016-17 audit to finalize. Currently showing a net surplus of \$249,651 for 2017-18. Everything looks to be on track for this current year. Thanks to S. Pullium and A. Highfil for working with Acadia to keep the budget accurate.

C. Johnson asked when is the meeting to get off of financial probation. NCS is waiting for the audit to complete and the state to meet.

Action Item to the Finance Committee from D. Dixon to have committee description ready for the next board meeting.

Personnel Committee [6:27 pm]

None.

Academic Affairs Committee [6:27 pm]

D. Dixon reported that they met September 25 and updated the committee description. They will give a full recommendation next month. The committee discussed graduation outcomes and competencies. There is a second draft of that language, and the committee should have a final draft at the next board meeting for the staff to review.

The committee received the academic redesign by Dr. J. Silver with many interesting items including new ways of observing classrooms and new tool to review teachers. The Academic Affairs Committee has had discussions of major pain points of the school, mainly student reading for K-12. Teachers are working to analyze data in this area as well as math.

R Dunn would like to see examples of the innovative things NCS is doing. To help the board understand the school's progress and to keep ourselves accountable.

Staff noted reading was a struggle. Dixon referred to J. Silver who shared that the staff is working on reading via PLC work with grades K-12. NCS still wants to focus on math achievement, so grades 3-8 and high school math associated with EOCs are completing benchmark processes in this area as well.

R. Dunn asked for the latest numbers for AMC8 enrollment. Dr. Silver reported 15 paid students with 20 registered. NCS is opening county-wide in hopes to have 30 participate.

Resource Development [6:33 pm]

C. Johnson reported that this committee has not met. They will meet with the planning team for construction reviews in the next few weeks. D. Neville talked with Vanguard and worked out some reduction of expenses by Vanguard. J. Boykin is working through USDA to secure the loan. Additionally, R. Dunn and R. Taylor are working on a fire ant treatment bid for the campus.

Action Item to the Resource Development Committee from D. Dixon to have committee description ready for the next board meeting.

Board Development [6:35 pm]

No report.

Old Business [6:35 pm]

None.

New Business [6:35 pm]

S. Pullium presented the following Field Trip Requests [see attached]:

- Cherokee Holiday on the Hardwood Basketball Tournament – Cherokee, NC – self-funded by students – December 26-29. C. Johnson asked about tournament fees, and there are none for this tournament.
- Student Leadership Retreat – Ft. Caswell, NC – February 17-19: Parent is recreating an event from Johnston County. First step is to see if there is interest for this trip. Reduced cost as students prepare their own meals, etc. Teachers will nominate students who have potential to have leadership skills to attend this retreat. R. Dunn encouraged the students to bring back to the Board what they learned.

R. Dunn moved to approve the field trips. P. Worley second. Motion passed unanimously at 6:42 pm.

Executive Committee [6:43 pm]

D. Dixon reported that the Executive Committee met earlier this afternoon to conduct the annual evaluation of the executive director which will be shared in closed session.

Congratulations to S. Pullium for completing her Master's Degree and to S. Johnson on her upcoming wedding.

R. Dunn moved to go into Closed Session for personnel matters. Seconded by C. Johnson. Motion passed unanimously at 6:45 pm.

The NCS Board of Directors reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Motion by P. Worley to accept the recommendations of the Executive Committee for the Executive Director's evaluation. Seconded by R. Taylor. Passed unanimously at 7:30 pm.

Motion to adjourn by C. Johnson. Seconded by P. Worley. Passed unanimously at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Andre