

Mallard Creek and Southwest Charlotte STEM Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
February, 24, 2021 6:30 pm
At ZOOM due to COVID-19

Present: Kellen Nixon, Christy Condon, Tyrone Harmon, Shelly Domenech

Missing: Jose Garcia

Other: Jennifer Lucas (Managing Director), Deanna Smith (MCSA principal), Shekeria Barnes (SCSA principal), several MCSA/SCSA community members via Zoom

6:35 Call to Order

Ms. Condon called the meeting to order and welcomed the group to the meeting.

6:37 Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Meeting minutes from the January meeting will be approved during the March meeting.

6:40 Presentation by School Nutrition

Ms. Romano is currently accepting RFP's for various vendors. The food and nutrition department will be sampling foods during March and April then will select a vendor by May 24th. MCSA and SCSA will be moving to a more nutritious meal prepared on sight with fresh fruits and salads offered as well. The RFP's that have been viewed so far indicate that the meals will be offered at a much lower cost. Ms. Romano feels that the improved quality of food and lower rates will increase the amount of students eating school lunch.

Ms. Domench asked about the current kitchen equipment. The response was the equipment belongs to the current vendor and will be returned. The process of securing new equipment began earlier this month.

Mr. Nixon recommended advertising the improvement in food quality and why this is important for the students with the community via various social media platforms to encourage participation.

7:03 Budget Review:

Ms. Lucas reports that both schools are doing well financially. Both schools are receiving local funds. Both schools meeting their enrollment targets has been beneficial for providing the needed instructional materials and staff. Ms. Lucas reports that both schools will be offering academic summer learning programs similar to the summer bridge and jumpstart that was offered last year.

Currently, Ms. Lucas is working on the NC Access Grant for SCSA. She will submit it on Friday and SCSA should know the results in June or July. For MCSA, she is working on a 21st Century Learning Grant. She feels that both schools would benefit from earning the International Accreditation for schools. This would involve examining some of the following components of the school: student engagement, differentiation, textbook selection, technology implementation, etc.

7:10 Principal Reports: Ms. Deanna Smith, MCSA (*See Principal Report)

Enrollment: Still meeting goal of 950. Currently receiving enrollment documents for the 21-22 school year. Small in-person tours for new families will be offered in the near future.

Academics: Teachers are doing a great job implementing instruction and using data from assessments to drive instruction.

Communication: Ms. Smith will be delivering a State of the School Address in the near future. She will also offer Principal Office Hours where parents can login to Zoom to get their questions answered.

Technology: Received an additional allotment of chromebooks for students.

7:35 Principal Reports: Ms. Shekeria Barnes, SCSA (*See Principal Report)

Enrollment: ADM goal of 645, currently 639 students enrolled. Currently accepting enrollment documents from new families.

Celebrations:

Sally Stokes, Teacher of the Year

National Junior Honor Society collecting blankets and socks

Over 75, 5-7 graders made the 2nd quarter Honor Roll

Parents Teacher Appreciation Committee set up a beautiful Valentine's buffet for staff

Parent Networking Committee we help families with onboarding questions.

Ms. Barnes completed the Distinguished Leadership in a Remote Learning Environment program.

Communication:

Parents are encouraged to reach out to the child's teacher with specific questions regarding the student.

Send feedback or school based inquiries to grade level administrators so we can schedule a time to meet.

Join one of the 3 upcoming virtual parent sessions that will be coming in March.

7:36 21-22 School Calendar

Board approved the academic school calendar for the 21-22 school year.

Board Tally: 4/4

7:38 SCSA Field Update

Mr. Harmon reports that the field is progressing, but with delays due to the continuous days of rain.

7:40 Adjourn

Ms. Condon thanked everyone for joining. Mr. Harmon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Nixon seconded the motion. The meeting was unanimously adjourned. Vote tally: 4/4. The meeting is adjourned.