

**Mallard Creek and
Southwest Charlotte STEM Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
April 26th at SCSA at 7pm
5203 Shopton Rd, Charlotte, NC 28277**

7:00 Call to Order

Present: Shelly Domenech, Kellen Nixon, Tyrone Harmon

Excused Absent: Shekeria Barnes, Jose Garcia, Christy Condon

Also Present: Justin Matthews, Jennifer Lucas, Teddy McIlweine, Daryl Williams, Jeremy Thompson, Clay Sanders

7:05 Approval of Minutes from last meeting- Kellen made a motion to approve the March minutes, Shelly seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

7:10 Public Comment – None

7:20

Principal Reports:

Deanna Smith:

Academics: Presentation of the data I Ready and Case 21 showing movement and growth from Fall to Spring. I Ready will be complete by end of next week and we will share Fall to Spring in May. Discussion on the difference between Case 21 and I Ready and what they measure and how. Using the data to drive instruction and reteaching the high priority skills that are heavily tested for EOG. Some standards are tested more than others on the tests. Also providing students with test prep, meaning how to prepare for the test, how to eliminate distracting answers and narrow down their answer selection.

Student Sports: Championships are coming up. MCSA had over 100 attendees for kindergarten round up and Clay Sanders presented about the K3 basketball camps and parents were so excited! Sports banquets are coming up. MCSA has a chance to win the championship. Our schools have won every sport in the conference between the 2 schools so far. Cheerleaders will be on radio station celebrated once week on Friday.

Facility updates: Working a drain issue from all the rain. Made progress on site lighting with Duke. Second set of boring on the field assessments to see if we can get a full site plan to review for the MCSA field.

Financials:

Enrollment: planned for targeted enrollment. As of this am MCSA has 112 fully enrolled kinder kids. 22 are still active completing paperwork. This is a great position to be in as of now. MCSA is getting about 6 applications per day in different grade levels on a waitlist.

Other: Attendance is getting a little bit better and attendance is being handled through MTSS.

Shekeria Barnes:

Academics: Daryl Williams presented: You will see huge growth in I Ready reading which is something the school has been focusing on. Projected summary growth scores. At winter we were already at 71% of the projected growth for the year. SCSA is set up to exceed expected graph at this time in I Ready. At this year, we were at 414% of the annual strength goal for all students. Because math is an area that really needed extra attention and growth. Homeroom in middle school so students were moved into groups and cohorts. SCSA has developed multiple forms of after school. When growth is prioritized, mastery is inevitable.

Student Sports: Track and football championships are coming up this Saturday. SCSA launched a basketball camp for grades K-3 to get younger rockets involved now and help them build foundational skills so they can learn if they like sports and what they like to do in the future. The K3 camp has 42 students playing already! Parents looking for summer sports camp. Character education is also embedded into the athletics program to teach leadership and good character.

Facility updates: Planning for regular wear and tear for the summer schedule. We need some additional good, consistent plumbers. Need some areas of maintenance. Exterior scoreboard will be going up next week.

Enrollment: SCSA projections for next year is 867, with 245 kids on a waitlist. Very healthy school with students continuing to apply each day. The school runs parent information sessions and tours regularly.

Other:

8:00 New Business:

Approval of the updated Volunteer and Hiring Policy aligned with NC Statute requirements regarding licensure revocation. An updated language for the volunteer and hiring policy is shared with the Board for approval. This is required for compliance in our charter agreement. After review of the policy language, Tyrone made a motion to approve the language and Kellen seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Invitation to the NC Charter Conference to attend board/governance training presented to the Board. At least 2 board members will attend the annual NC conference and attend the governance training sessions and other breakout sessions.

Finance: SCSA is almost at a \$4mm net position. Last year it was at \$.5mm. The reason it is such a high position is we are not paying for the field, we paid cash, also we have 100 students more this year and we finally received a large distribution from covid of the employee retention credit. Last year \$6.3m in revenue and \$5.9 in expenses. This year \$7.8m in revenue and \$6.9 in expenses. Very healthy annual surplus. This is necessary as part of the bond covenants. It costs \$24,000 per day (365 days per year) to run the school! The school now has 125 days cash on hand if all revenue stopped. This is great for the school. Our requirement is 45 days, and we have 3 times what is required. We had a lot of funds in COVID relief and cash built up by being able to hold expenses during the closure. The school also has to maintain a ratio of 1:5 in revenue to debt. We have 1:72 debt coverage ratio. Bond holders.

MCSA last year was \$5.6mm net position. Now they are 6.4mm in net position. Mallard has been stable enrollment of over 900 students. The annual revenue had increased due to the payroll tax credit that came in and other than that they are running about the same. Just about \$900 in surplus and a debt coverage ratio about 1.76. These are great, healthy financial fund reserves. They meet all criteria for the bondholders and covenants and now the schools have the money they need for staff development and student achievement. The Schools have been able to provide staff raises for bonuses, pay high salaries for summer camp and after school and incentives and put a lot of money into professional development for staff.

Tyrone made a motion to adjourn and Shelly seconded the motion. No further discussion and the motion was passed unanimously.

8:16 Meeting was Adjourned