

Mallard Creek and Southwest Charlotte STEM Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
July 27th 2022
MCSA STEM Lab

7:00 Call to Order
Meeting is called to order at 7:06

Present: Tyrone Harmon, Christy Condon, Jose Garcia, Kellen Nixon, Shelly Domenech
Also present: Deanna Smith, Shekeria Barnes, Jennifer Lucas

7:05 Approval of Minutes from last meeting (May)
Motion made by Tyrone and motion was seconded by Christy. No questions and no discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.
Board members introduced themselves to the families on the call.

7:10 Principal Reports:
Highlight on:
 Student enrollment
 Clubs, Sports and Fundraisers for 2022-2023
 Staffing update

Deanna Smith Introduced new admin—her MS principal Krystle McKnight and ES principal Jeremy Thompson. Mrs Smith started with enrollment report and shared current target was 950 and currently at 1059 students. We get more student applications every day and building a big waitlist. Mrs. Smith discussed changes of curriculum after the remote instruction taught us some lessons in supporting students. CKLA was purchased to build the literacy program. Is strong in phonics and phonemic awareness. Smith and Mrs, Lucas will be presenting pd for readers workshop and teaching reading this summer for all teachers 3-5. Students struggle with vocabulary and comprehension in upper grades. Amplify will be used in upper grades to support middle school students. Working with goals for math instruction and providing specific coaching in the classroom and building 3 model classes. Will build math PLC for all math. Mrs. Smith shared info on science and math curriculum and special projects students will be doing all year . Smith introduced clay sanders as the ad and upcoming sports. She shared all the clubs including tae kwon do chess music and many more. Discussed total number of teaching positions were open and how many are filled 16 positions were open and how many are open. We have 3 more spots to fill but we should have them filled soon.

Open houses are posted for all grades and other events. Back to school picnic was moved back because of the heat and transitions in building so the picnic will be held when school starts and have a welcome back bash for families in September. Accreditation is begun with the representative from Cognia and they are in process. Self-assessment phase is working now and review all the SWOT for the School. Discusses the process and future site visit and interviews with families teachers and board members.

Working again with the lead for the program regarding food scarcity and how to use their school greenhouse and continue to grow that partnership. Mrs. Smith reaching out to some tech firms and stem fields to see if they will partner with the School and share their careers with students to encourage students to see how they will use the information they are learning, Innovate Day in November. Also want them to participate in the school improvement team to develop stem instruction and integration.

Capital fundraising plan is getting ready to launch. They want to run a campaign to have nice turf field like SCSA. The capital plan is twofold: big goal of building athletic field on campus and another goal is setting aside funds for work with students in area of sports. Wil also be planning

a winter gala for adults and enjoy.

Shekeria Barnes

Mrs. Barnes opened with introduction and thank you for all families. She also shared the theme of the year which is Unmasking our potential. She is very excited about starting the year off right. Sitting at 931 students right now. Expect more families to apply and enroll and running a waitlist to join. They started a new vision and mission in moving the school in STEM and making the school the premier stem school in the state and country. She shared the work that students photos enjoying the stem. Both schools have adopted the CKLA curriculum for the younger grade levels in reading. She discussed learning opportunities to help students improve and the school improve. Barnes shared the staffing status is full and finding excellent teachers for the school and only has one teacher pending a background check and should be fully staffed. She celebrated the process and discussed professional development in August. Waiting on the playground needs to be put back up but that's the only outstanding facility item. She also discussed sports and upcoming new sports with fun competitive plans 🏈🏈 Adding flag football and other sports and ready to get in there full ms sports program. Open house August 10 and 11 ready for pen house events and meet all the teachers and fun events.

Renewal Letter SCSA SB SCSA is entering the renewal portal this year and the first step is sending in a letter of intent to renew. That letter was signed by Jose and will be overnighted into Office of Charter Schools.

Professional Development JL Jennifer shared with the team the collective year long PD that works with admin and 4 lead staff to create a full year curriculum map for all core curriculum for all grades k8. This work will deploy units of prepared scope/sequence and lesson plans so teachers could spend time focused in instruction and access to resources for students.

Feedback on parent proposal for SCSA: JL Parents prepared a proposal for board review that would require parents to volunteer and put a parent compact together to increase parent participation. Although we agree that parents are integral part of school success and want as many parents to participate a possible, we also understand that you can not create a rule that requires such hours, because there is no acceptable consequence or result for NOT meeting the rule. After discussion with parent outreach committee we agreed to put together a positive plan for parents to volunteer and participate and the school will commit to supporting tracking hours, and recognizing and rewarding parents for their contribution each quarter and hold assemblies and celebrations for same. Parents should be recognized and rewarded for helping and the parent outreach committee will work on ways that allow ALL parents to be involved in ways that work for them.

Updated handbooks and discipline policies JL Attached

Financials Jennifer presented the Q4 unaudited financials and discussed the year over year increase in positive net position. Each school increased their net position between 550-650k. Both schools are undergoing their independent audit right now and will post those after state submission.

7:55 Public Comment There was no formal public comment. Many parents joined the zoom, names attached. A few parents typed questions in the chat box related to curriculum, safety and playground facility. Those were all answered by the Board or school leadership. The meeting was recorded.

8:00: Kellen made a motion to adjourn and Shelly seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously