

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SOUTH CAROLINA WHITMORE SCHOOL
501 Commerce Drive NE
Columbia, SC 29223

December 10th, 2020

Call to order

The virtual meeting was called to order by Board of Directors Chair, Shennice Cleckley at 9:00 am.

Attendance via Google Hangouts

Shennice Cleckley, Board Chair; Roger Sears, Secretary; Nancy Mandlove, Board Member; Elizabeth Vice, Board Member; Antonio Simon, Board Member; Charlotte Hamilton, Board Member; John Loveday, Executive Director; Ebone Adams, Director of Student Services; Annette Havens, Director of Teacher Quality and Support; Susan Herring, Director of Human Resources; Amie Schlichtig, Administrative Assistant; Kim Dunbar, Director of School Counseling; JaQuette Gilbert, School Counselor; Andrew Cilone, Prestige School Solutions; Mike Loiacono, Prestige School Solutions; Marcus Tomlinson, Elliott Davis, LLC; Patrick Bowers, School Testing Coordinator.

Public comments

None.

Approval of minutes - 9-10-20 and 10-6-20 Board Meetings

Roger called for a motion to approve the September 9th, 2020 and October 6th, 2020 board meeting minutes. Shennice Cleckley made a motion to approve the September 9th and October 6th, 2020 board meeting minutes, Charlotte Hamilton 2nd the motion. Board voted unanimously to approve.

- Oath of Office

Rogers Sears administered the oath of office to Antonio Simon and Charlotte Hamilton. Antonio and Charlotte affirmed their oaths.

Annual Audit Presentation

Marcus Tomlinson of Elliot Davis LLC, performed the FY2020 audit for SCWS. An unmodified audit opinion was issued. The audit report starts with the audit opinion and then moves into the management section and the financial statements. Footnotes included in the audit describe information and numbers along with additional supplementary information for added details. The audit examined internal controls and found no material weaknesses or deficiencies. Overall, very positive results from a financial perspective and internal control perspective. Pointed out

key financial information. Good year financially. Overview of the Report to the Board of Directors.

*Marcus Tomlinson left the meeting.

Financial update (Prestige School Solutions)

Andrew Cilone, with Prestige School Solutions, started by giving a quick overview of the financial reports. Introduced Mike Loiacono, Andrew's supervisor. Budget was updated with the FY 2021 45 day count. The highest 45 day ADM count in school history. Revenue is coming in as expected and the school is in a good position. No real concerns. Early in the year most of the Professional Development was spent. CARES Act money was used to purchase software and technology during Covid-19. Marketing is spent early in the year to bring students into the school. Still being funded on the 398 ADM and in January will change to 430 ADM. Andrew explained ADM to new members of the board. School has several months of operation. John is anticipating the school will receive additional CARES Act money which the school had to apply for. The additional funds will be used to pay for the five contract teachers hired due to the increased number of students.

*Andrew and Mike left the meeting

Standardized Testing update

Patrick Bowers, School Testing Coordinator, presented a standardized testing update. He started by giving a brief description of his previous work experiences. Patrick explained SCWS has implemented testing procedures to reduce the risk of spreading Covid-19. He is creating a relationship with the Marriott brand to use for testing sites across the state. In January approximately 70-80 students will be taking the EOC's. Patrick has created a testing website for more information to help alleviate questions from parents and students. John complimented Patrick on the work done this fall to make the testing run smoothly.

School Counselor update

Kim Dunbar, Director of School Counseling, updated the board on the counseling provided through Dial Care, this service is free to all students at SCWS. Leah Jones, from Clemson University, is our Counselor Intern. Leah is managing a race based stress group and a COVID group. Amber Goff, school counselor, is running a teen mom group. The counseling department held a Virtual college application night, a FASFA event, and led a group for "steps to choose a future path".

Executive Director's report

John Loveday spoke on a record setting 45 day count (Currently at 430). A change in demographics prompted the start of a student council, NHS, and an increase in qualified students for Beta club. With the increase in students, five additional contract teachers were hired. Dr Josie White has submitted her application for SC State teacher of the year, if she wins she will not be teaching here for the next year while on tour. The SCWS graduation rate

improved to 54.3% for the 2019/2020 school year. This brings the school to a 90% increase in graduation since 2015 and on track to be at the state level by 2025. The School improvement team updated the school's mission and vision statements. John talked about how the school's teachers are faring in this stressful year. It is Charter renewal year, the school's application has been submitted. On January 7th, 2021 the school will host the district site visit. The SCPCSD board will vote on our renewal on February 11th, 2021. Upcoming events March 11th, 2021 will be the next board meeting (probably virtual), June 5th, 2021 SCWS graduation (Hopefully in person), and June 10th, 2021 a board meeting.

Executive Session

Shennice called the board into an executive session. After the executive session ended, Elizabeth Vice made a motion for a one time holiday bonus for the staff and teachers. The bonus would be \$1000 for full time staff and \$500 for contract staff. Roger 2nd the motion. The vote was Unanimous by the board.

Other Business

NONE

New Business

NONE

Adjournment

Roger Sears presented the motion for the SCWS December board meeting to adjourn, Charlotte Hamilton 2nd the motion. Meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

Next SCWS board meeting - March 11th, 2021 at 9:00 AM (location TBD).