

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

December 9th, 2021

Call to order

Shennice Cleckley called the virtual meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Attendance:

Shennice Clackley, Board Chair; Roger Sears, Secretary; Elizabeth Vice, Treasurer; Nancy Mandlove, Board Member; Stig Rasmussen, Board Member; Kim Dunbar, Executive Director; Ebone Adams, Principal; Michelle Bishop, Director of Compliance; Annette Havens, Director of Teacher Quality and Support; Susan Herring, Director of Human Resources; Amber Goff, Director of School Counseling; Katelyn Thomas, Administrative Assistant, Marcus Thomlinson, Elliot Davis; Maria Head, Prestige School Solutions; Andrew Cilone, Prestige School Solutions.

Public comments

None

Approval of minutes - 9/9/2021

Nancy Mandlove made a motion to approve the board meeting minutes from September 9, 2021, Antonio Simon, 2nd the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Annual audit presentation

Marcus Tomlinson from LA Davis presented the audit. An unmodified audit opinion was submitted. Mr. Tomlinson explained how the audit was conducted. There were no findings found in the audit this year.

*Marcus Tomlinson left the meeting.

Financial update

Andrew Cilone and Maria Head, from Prestige School Solutions, presented. Maria presented the reports through November 30, 2021. The majority of GEER expenses that were budgeted have been spent. GEER and ESSER III have supplemented for the difference in the EFA. SCWS should begin receiving funds from federal funding programs within the next few months. Vocational numbers were lower than what was budgeted for for our 45 day ADM count.

*Andrew Cilone and Maria Head left the meeting.

Principal's report

Ebone Adams shared reasons why students are choosing to attend SC Whitmore School. Some of these reasons are: flexibility and pace, freedom of distractions, being able to focus online, focus on goals (i.e., college or graduating early), or have had health issues that made it

difficult to be in a brick-and-mortar setting. The 10 year projection is to have at least 500 students enrolled, with the potential to increase to 750. The rate of completion is at 83% for finishing on time for current, active students. There is an option to extend the class completion date, if it is needed. The course pass rate of 97% shows our students are passing their courses. Additional support is provided for those students who do fall behind. An estimate of 127 students expected to graduate at the end of June or July 2022.

Executive Director's report

Kim Dunbar shared SCWS has 503 active students, which is a record for the school. SC Whitmore School story is being shared at the State House regarding having record numbers of students, but are not receiving full funding for the number of students. SC Whitmore School was named 2022 Irmo/Chapin Best Charter School. The 2nd Annual Talent Show was very successful. There were a total of eight participants, including one teacher. The National Honor Club and Beta Club induction was just completed. Dr. Josie White has been working on a proposal for an online library for our students to have access to virtual books. These will also include bilingual books for those students who wish to have access to them. Christina L'Etoile was able to obtain ten hotspots for our students that are in need to complete classwork. Maria Head and Kim Dunbar have been introduced to Intact, a program that stays up-to-date on financial information. This program connects with all accounts to keep track of spending and cash-on-hand.

Executive Session

Roger Sears made a motion for the board to go into executive session. Stig Rasmussen 2nd the motion.

Roger Sears made a motion to use the remaining Title II FY20 funds for retention of teachers and to match these funds with Board discretionary for the returning school office staff. Stig Rasmussen 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Shennice Cleckley made a motion to return to open session. Roger Sears 2nd the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Other business

None

Adjournment

Stig Rasmussen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed by the unanimous vote.

Upcoming Events:

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, March 10th, 2022 at 9 am

SCWS Graduation Ceremony: Saturday, June 4, 2022 at 11 am

SCWS Board Meeting: Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 9 am