The Charter Institute at Erskine
Board Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019

The Board meeting of the Charter Institute at Erskine was held in the Chestnut Room on the Erskine College campus at 11:30 AM.   President Dr. Rob Gustafson called the meeting to order and gave the Invocation. Board members in attendance were Dr. Rob Gustafson, Dr. Tom Hellams, Mr. Stu Rodman, Mr. Martin O'Connor, and Mrs. Marjorie (Beth) Gustafson. Attendees from the Charter Institute at Erskine included Mr. Cameron Runyan, Mr. Vamshi Rudrapati, Mr. Johnley Li, Mrs. Mary Green Thomasson, Mrs. Celina Patton, Ms. Per'Chea Nunally, and Mrs. Paula Gray.

The roll was taken by Mrs. Gray and a quorum was present.

Dr. Gustafson announced that Item 6, Student Success Profile, has been moved in the agenda following the Executive Session and that Item 9, Inspirations College and Career Charter has been withdrawn. Dr. Gustafson called for approval of the agenda as amended for the April 24, 2019, meeting and the minutes for April 10, 2019.   Dr. Hellams moved for approval of the amended agenda for the April 24, 2019, meeting and the minutes for April 10, 2019. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gustafson and carried unanimously.

Executive Session:

Dr. Hellams moved to go into Executive Session for discussion of contractual matters at 11:33 AM. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gustafson and approved.

Return to Open Session:

The Board returned to Open Session at 12:20 PM. No action was taken.

Action Items:

a) Student Success Profile

    Dr. Buddy Coleman presented this item with input from Mr. Rudrapati. Dr. Coleman explained the process for the development of the Student Success Profile and the stakeholder involvement throughout the process. The Student Success Profile is based is based on State and Federal accountability requirements.

After a question and answer period, Dr. Hellams moved to adopt the Student Success Profile as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gustafson and carried unanimously.

Action Items – New Charter School Application Hearings – New Hope Elementary

Steve Scoma, the founder of New Hope Elementary, shared a PowerPoint presentation on behalf of New Hope Elementary and answered questions from Board members.

Ms. Nunally reported on the recommendations from the outside reviewers and staff. Mr. Runyan discussed the fact that this application was sent to the SC Public Charter School District, Charleston County Schools, and the Charter Institute at Erskine and expressed his concern that this application was sent to totally different types of authorizers.

Dr. Hellams moved that the Board not approve the charter application for New Hope Elementary. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gustafson and carried.

Information Items:

a) Finance and Enrollment

   Mr. Li presented this item for information and answered questions.

Institute Updates:

   Mr. Runyan reported on the phenomenal work done by Haley Perez and Ciera Bing on Federal Programs.

   Mr. Runyan announced that Governor McMaster will attend the year-end banquet and that the banquet has been fully funded by donations.

   Mr. Runyan added that the Institute has employed a Data Scientist to begin the process of putting scientific method into data for the schools.

   Mr. Runyan also reported that four proposals have been received for the Institute audit and one more is expected.

   Mr. Rudrapati reported that Mr. Derek Phillips is sending bi-weekly reports to Board members and that 20 letters of intent have been received for new schools. After charter application training from Institute staff, several groups have dropped out leaving eight.

Mr. Rudrapati thanked Per'Chea Nunally for all of her incredible work and announced that she has decided to leave the Institute to pursue other dreams. Dr. Gustafson thanked Per'Chea and wished her well in her new endeavors.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments for this meeting.

Adjournment

As there was no further business, a motion was made to adjourn by Dr Hellams at 1:37 PM. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

05/23/2019 9:34 am