

Charter Institute at Erskine Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2022, | time 11:00 a.m. | Zoom

Chair Dr. Steven Adamson

Members in Attendance
Mr. Stu Rodman
Mr. Martin O'Connor
Dr. Tony Foster
Dr. Gordon Query
Dr. Noel Brownlee
Mr. Todd Carnes

Members Absent
None

Attendees from Charter Institute at Erskine

Mr. Cameron Runyan (Superintendent)
Mr. Vamshi Rudrapati (Director)
Mr. John Li (Chief of Finance and Operations)
Mrs. Laura Merrick (Chief of Student Services)
Ms. Ashley Epperson (Director of Communications)
Mrs. Sarah Timmons (Legal Counsel)

Chairman Adamson called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Li announced that in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, notice of this meeting and the agenda were posted and distributed to persons requesting notification.

The invocation was delivered by Mr. Carnes.

Mr. Li called the roll, and a quorum of the board was present.

Adoption of the Agenda for the August 17, 2022, Meeting

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Executive Session

Mr. Carnes moved to enter executive session to discuss contractual matters.

Dr. Foster seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

The board entered executive session at 11:05 a.m.

The board resumed open session at 11:29 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the July 20, 2022, Regular Meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

Action Items

Transfer Out Policy

Superintendent Runyan presented a background on the Institute's Transfer Out Policy and presented information on the Institute's recommended amendment to the existing policy. Recommendation includes updates to the policy regarding Mid-Year Transfers and added ineligibility criteria and allow for additional time for the board to make decision relating to transfer.

Mr. Rodman made a motion to approve the amendment as recommended by the Institute. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carnes and was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

Revocation Policy

Superintendent Runyan provided the Institute's recommended amendment to the Institute's Revocation Policy. The amendment provided additional clarity on the timeline relating to the revocation process of a school's charter.

Dr. Query made a motion to approve the amendment as recommended by the Institute. The motion was seconded by Dr. Foster and was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

Informational Items

Gates School Updates

Mrs. Merrick shared an update on Gates School. The Institute staff received the audit report on the Gates School's Individualized Education Program (IEP) implementation that was requested by the Institute Board. The audit findings were in agreement with previous Institute findings. A copy of the audit report will be provided to each board member. Members of the Institute team also visited the Gates School to provide support and share the audit report and recommendations with the Gates School's leadership team. Gates School reports that it is in the process of reviewing the report in order to put an implementation plan in place. Mrs. Merrick thanked the School for taking steps to address the recommendation from the audit report.

Dr. Castelli, the school leader, reiterate the update provided by Ms. Merrick. Dr. Castelli introduced the additional team member that was hired this school year. Gates School has conducted an internal audit on all of its IEPs. Dr. Castelli emphasized the tremendous support received from Mrs. Merrick and Mrs. Sarah Love.

Dr. Adamson thanked the leadership at Gates School for the collaboration with the Institute's team.

Charter Local Education Agency Status

Superintendent Runyan shared with the Board of Directors the correspondence from the Chief Legal Counsel at the South Carolina Department of Education regarding the status of the Charter Institute's at Erskine LEA status. The correspondence confirmed the SCDE position that the Charter Institute at Erskine is the proper and lawful sponsor and Local Education Agency under the Charter School Act.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Being that there was no further business, Chairman Adamson entertained a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Rodman made the motion to adjourn.

Dr. Query seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 11:46 AM.