



Board Meeting Minutes
Monthly Meeting
January 11th, 2021
Virtual Zoom Meeting
6:00 p.m.

The mission of Rocky Mount Prep is to educate, equip and empower each scholar to excel academically by providing equitable learning opportunities and collaborating with families and communities.

Board Members in Attendance:

Board Members Present

Keen Gravely
Jean Kitchin
Shelton Daniel
Charles Davis
Daniel Harwell
Mark Piatkowski

Board Members Absent

Administration Present

Dr. Chaunte Garrett
Brandon Evans
Shaneki Cauble
Cheryl Horton

Keen Gravely, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

- a. Dr. Chaunte Garrett, Superintendent, asked that the agenda be amended to move “Reopening Plan Updates” below “Charter Success Report”.
- b. Motion made by Jean Kitchin, seconded by Shelton Deniel, and unanimously approved.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Motion made by Shelton Daniel, seconded by Jean Kitchin, and unanimously approved.

3. Charter Success Report

- a. Cory Draughon with Charter Success Partners provided an update on the November 2020 financials. At November month end, revenue is at 39% utilization, with year complete at 42%.
- b. COVID relief fund originally was set to expire at the end of December, 2020 but has since been extended.
- c. Expenses are on track at 42% utilization. Tracking a \$100,000 surplus at the end of November which is in addition to the planned savings in the budget.
- d. Draft audit is ready for management review.
- e. E-hire program has been fully implemented and is ready for utilization for the 2021-2022 academic year for staff hiring.

4. Reopening Plan Updates:

- a. Dr. Chaunte Garrett, Superintendent, provided an update on the current reopening plan stating that the Reopening Task Force meets bi-weekly to discuss current COVID conditions and develop reopening plans according to conditions. The plans are currently turn-key and can be implemented within two weeks after notifying families of any reopening decisions. At the current time, the team has recommended remaining in remote learning through the third quarter (March 12) and would reevaluate based on COVID conditions for the district and surrounding communities at that time. PPE purchases are ongoing including a campus-wide air purifier.
- b. Jean Kichin asked if there has been any discussion around staff vaccinations. Dr. Garrett responded stating that the staff had not officially been polled for who would be willing to take a vaccine but Nurse Carrie Spragley has communicated information around it to all staff.
- c. Jean Kitchin also asked if the Reopening Task Force had discussed whether bringing scholars back during the fourth quarter (March 15) would be too late in the academic year. Dr. Garrett responded stating that this has been discussed and is being considered as the months move forward.

5. Academic Goal

- a. Dr. Chaunte Garrett, Superintendent, presented the revised academic goals for the 2020-2021 school year stating that they look much different from previous years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The goal for this year is for every scholar to show growth in some form.
- b. Keen Gravely commended Dr. Garrett and the team on developing the revised goal and for maintaining high levels of engagement with all scholars.

6. College and Career Academy

- a. Dr. Chaunte Garrett, Superintendent, presented the new College and Career Academy initiative for the 2021-2022 academic year. This initiative would consist of transforming five classrooms in the secondary building to be used as space for college and career classes for high school scholars. These classes would be courses offered by Nash Community College in the current "College & Career Promise" partnership as well as the new AVID program.

7. AVID Program

- a. Dr. Chaunte Garrett, Superintendent, presented the new AVID program which would be implemented in the 2021-2022 academic year. This program will provide scholars with opportunities to build college habits while enrolled at Rocky Mount Prep. The team has currently agreed to implement the program for grades 6-12 but is evaluating implementing it school-wide. With a surplus available in the budget, Dr. Garrett and team feel that it is the appropriate time to purchase for five years.
- b. Information on the program, associated costs, and North Carolina statistics on AVID were provided digitally to the board.
- c. Jean Kitchin responded that it would be great to implement the program as early as possible so that younger scholars are exposed to positive reading habits.

8. Potential Partnership with Wesleyan College

- a. Dr. Chaunte Garrett, Superintendent, provided information on a potential partnership with Wesleyan College for JROTC. At this time, there is not an opportunity to implement the program as Wesleyan's program is housed at St. Augustine College however conversations will continue to develop a solid program in the near future.

9. Closed Session

- a. Shelton Daniel made a motion to move into closed session, seconded by Daniel Harwell, and unanimously approved at 6:55 p.m.
- b. Shelton Daniel made a motion to accept new hires, seconded by Daniel Harwell, and unanimously approved.

10. Adjournment

- a. Jean Kitchen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Shelton Daniel, and the motion was approved unanimously at 7:46 p.m.