



Lake Norman Charter Board Meeting Minutes

Open Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2013

Meeting Called to Order by Bill Farber– 7:05 PM

Attending: Bill Farber – Board Chair, Mike Manahan – Vice Chair, Tricia Sisson – Secretary, Eddie Bethea, Laurie Fabian, Bonnie Newell, Jim Cuttino, Ron Jones, Cynthia Bush, Shannon Stein - Managing Director, Lawrence Sullivan – HS Principal, Michelle Harrison – MS Principal, Mike McAlpin– MS Vice Principal, Terri Costa – HS Vice Principal, Harrella Wedington – Director of Business Services, Scott Abel – Director of Facilities, Matt Schlegel – Athletic Director

I. Approval of Minutes

- a. Correction to item 5, motion and approval stricken, as it did not occur.

Motion by Mike Manahan, seconded by Ron Jones to approve March Open Meeting Minutes with correction, motion passed

II. Support organization update

- a. PTO update – Karen Clark reported
- b. Athletic Update – Mr. Schlegel reported

III. Managing Director’s report

- a. Recognition:
 - i. HS Odyssey of the Mind placed 1st in state, beating perennial winner, Myers Park. Olivia introduced her team and discussed and how they achieved there 1st place status.
- b. Shannon reported WCNC reporter Stuart Watson was out at LNC filming for their May series of reports on “hot” issues in education and the increase in Mecklenburg County charter schools based on the ~40 bills in the legislature currently.
- c. Shannon congratulated the musical, all four performances were great.
- d. Update on director of community relations, over 200 applications. Shannon will screen candidates initially and Mr. Boone will narrow them for live interviews.
- e. Shannon reported the information in the Drop Box on House Bill 443, NC school board position paper. Mike asked what we do with issues with the Bill. Shannon referred to a bill that would have automatically allowed all siblings to be admitted regardless of space constraints. Generally the association serves to inform, and Shannon sends letters to legislature to let them know why the bill is not a good fit for charter schools.
- f. House Bill 452 would put \$34 million to school safety, and install panic buttons in all

classrooms. Bill will likely change. Shannon stated nice to know there may be a pool of dollars to tap into, and informed with the new facilities security at LNC will be updated. Once complete, parents will be informed of all security changes and school will partner with Huntersville to bring in drug dogs.

IV. Finance Update

- a. Harrella reported
 - i. Substitute teacher pay rate has not been changed in 3-4 years. Sub pay rate is lower at LNC. We have fewer non-certified subs than certified. Proposing an annual adjustment to the pay rate at 90% of CMS. Adjustment for this year would be approx. \$5,500 this year. Would pay 150% of the rate for long term substitutes. Shannon added we have strong sub base, need to adjust pay to compensate appropriately. Jim asked if the 90% was a rule or a guideline. Harrella reported as a rule. Jim asked that the request be amended to state that it be only if the budget was in a position to allow for it. Ron proposed making it simple and not including the caveat, as the board would look at it each year as part of the budget process.

Mike Manahan made a motion to approve the request to move to a 90% of CMS sub pay rate, Jim Cuttino seconded. Motion carried unanimously

- ii. Budget is in finance committee and will be reviewed at the May meeting.
- iii. Construction – once payment made tomorrow, the school has paid \$800K, close to the \$1M in cash allotted, so in a month or two will be in the loan.

V. Old Business

- a. Construction Committee Update.
 - i. Bill reported construction is 90% under roof and looking good. Scott added that contractor stated once the brick hits the site he will provide a definite completion date. Scott assured the GC is likely confident he will hit the August 1st date. Scott is setting up a meeting with the engineer on the back corner rain garden as it is not in development and there is no clear understanding if it would need to be developed.
- b. Strategic Planning Committees
 - i. Cross cultural – Did not meet
 - ii. Partnership – Terri reported some members met with Lakeside on partnerships, met with Public Library for job shadowing and other opportunities, Shannon and Norris Woody met with Brakes for safety and possible internships.
 - iii. Communications – Michelle stated goal was to partner with technology on how the information was going to be disseminated. Mike added most of the work will be moved to the new Director of Communications and discussed the 8 portraits of a graduate.

- iv. College Counseling – Laurie Fabian reported their meetings filled up twice, now at 527 for the morning session. College fair is open to all. Other schools (PLP, Hough) are also attending. Last meeting working through parent surveys.
- v. Technology Committee Update – Jim reported full steam ahead with pilot program. Teachers have opportunity to share out celebrations moments working toward how this impacts the students. Curtis Kendrick updated the board of some of the celebration moments. Jim added kids are finding new solutions on the tablets as well as assisting with classwork. Another major pilot will be launched next year with a single determined device, two full grades (one in HS and one in MS). Meeting on 29th to narrow down selections based on input and budget. Jim thanked all committee members. Shannon asked if the committee would be asking for a tech support person now or in May, Jim stated the committee highly recommended the IT support person be hired. Extensive discussion regarding what parameters related to determining which device to select by Mike, Scott, Harrella, and Jim re: how will the decision be made on manufacturer, program, and tablets vs. laptops.

VI. **New Business** – Bill asked to make an agenda adjustment to add Field Trip approval request and tech specialist hire request.

- a. Board Nominations - Bill reported that the fiscal year begins in July, and there will be three board openings. Also must approve two officer positions, secretary and treasurer.

- i. Mike reported on the nomination committee’s process and their recommendations for the following individuals to be appointed board positions for the coming school year:

- 1. Dr. Mike Putman
 - 2. Kyle Burkey
 - 3. Kevin Lambert

Jim Cuttino made a motion to approve all three candidates, Cynthia Bush seconded, Motion carried unanimously.

- ii. Bill stated the following officer appointment recommendations – Cynthia Bush recommended to assume the office of Treasurer, and Jim Cuttino recommended to assume the office of Secretary in July.

Mike Manahan made motion to approve the officer positions, Ron Jones seconded, motion carried unanimously

- b. Field Trip Approval

- i. Shannon reported on field trip for Science Olympiad State Competition in Raleigh

Motion to approve field trip by Mike Manahan, seconded by Ron Jones, motion passed unanimously.

- c. Tech Specialist request for full time position to start the process now, budgeted for next school year, may run a bit into this school year but there is funding for the role.

Tricia Sisson made a motion to start the process to hire the tech specialist now...

- d. Cynthia requested budget clarification, it was provided by Harrella and Shannon.

Mike Manahan seconded the motion on the floor. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Manahan, seconded by Bonnie Newell, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Tricia Sisson, Board Secretary