



**Lake Norman Charter Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Open Meeting Minutes**  
March 1, 2018

**General Meeting**

Attending: Anna Blackwelder, Steve Jones, Sherry Latten, Jennifer Johnson, Rick Buckler, Stephanie Painter, Thom McElroy, Kyle Burkey, Shannon Stein - Superintendent

*Meeting called to order at 7:00PM by Steve Jones.*

**Approval of Minutes**

***Motion to approve the February 2018 minutes by Sherry Latten; Thom McElroy seconds, motion carries.***

**I. Support Group Update**

- A. PTO: Not present
- B. Athletic Boosters: Matt Schlegel - Winter season has wrapped up and we had another successful year, including a MS girls' basketball championship. First spring sport games began yesterday.

**II. Superintendent's Report:**

- A. Art Key Awards: 2018 LNC Scholastic Art Key Award winners: Recognized talent at both schools and attributed to the exceptionally good art teachers; Cara Matocha and Courtney Mervine. Ms. Matocha explained the criteria to earn a key award, which begins with students competing regionally. If a student wins a Gold Key, their work is submitted to the national level. Eighteen counties in NC and SC. About 2,200 pieces of work are submitted to the contest. We have three high school students who were recognized: Christina Torres (Silver Key), Kylie Chan (1 Silver key and an honorable mention), Savanah Schroeder (Silver Key and honorable mention). Middle school winners: Anika Kolano (honorable mention), Mya Dabney (Gold Key), Abigail Williamson (Silver Key), Isabelle Ceramic piece (Silver Key).
- B. Senior Charanya Uppalapati was recognized for her research (The Precise Estimation of the Fitness Effect of Spontaneous Mutations in Burkholderia cenocepacia HI2424) at the district level for the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF) at UNCC. After a day of presentation interviews, she was awarded the overall UNCC STEM award and was nominated to represent the Microbiology category at the state level in March.
- C. We are continuing to pair with other charter schools to be involved with a lobbyist. This will involve a small investment in the end, but it will allow us to have a voice with the new legislation, specifically with the school funding restructuring subcommittee.
- D. School Safety Update: We have a partnership with the Town of Huntersville to have a school resource officer on campus (SRO), Officer Ron Bononno. Having relationships with the kids is the best thing the school can do to keep us safe.

Officer Bo builds relationships throughout the day and especially during lunch. This allows him to better understand what is happening at home, what is happening in their lives, what their thoughts and concerns are. We are really trying to keep the kids from “falling through the cracks.” Additionally, we have monthly drills for internal/external lockdowns, fire drills, bomb drills, etc. All staff have an emergency folder with what to do during an emergency. We make it a practice to have off duty officers at extracurricular events (prom, football games, dances, etc.) All exterior doors are locked during the day. Huntersville PD and Charlotte Mecklenburg Sheriff department SWAT teams train here at the school. We like this because it allows them to be very familiar with the building, and they are able to provide feedback. The administration will be requesting to upgrade the camera system, which would also allow our staff and law enforcement to have access to the video feed off campus. The administrative team will be looking at potentially restructuring areas and relocating student staging areas. Outside activities will include teachers with radios.

Our SRO worked with Mr. Schlegel on our safety plan, which they continuously improve. We do have a crisis communication plan, which will include some preplanned communications ready to distribute in the case of emergency. Our SRO provided training at the PD at the beginning of the year and will again offer the session on March 8. He has started meeting with different grade levels and departments to discuss area specific plans and questions.

### **III. Finance Update:**

- A. Budget Amendment: Haley Wilson - Budget Amendment: for capital projects. Revenue increase to 1.5 million, state by 450K and our ADM money was more than planned as well as state funding for 3 EC students in elementary, principal and teacher bonuses. Expenditures have increased mostly due to retirement and health insurance. This needs to be communicated with the staff that because of these increases the school will have to look at these benefits when considering the teacher bonuses and raises.
- B. Capital Expenditures: last year 2.1 million was approved; we only spent 1.6, same with technology for elementary. The money is in the budget and has already been approved. Requesting \$111,000 for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Furniture is the biggest need. Also asking for a furniture refresh at the middle school. (We did do the pilot with the furniture and learned a great deal.) Also asking for security upgrade with cameras and technology for both MS and HS. McElroy would like to send out a communication to all parents to let them know that we are being proactive, etc. Service coverage 1.2 Cash on hand 1.1 We are still doing very well even with the budget amendment. Financing committee would like to move forward with this amendment. The security and furniture will be done over the summer.

***Motion to approve by Thom McElroy; seconded by Sherry Latten, motion carries***

### **IV. Old Business: Committee Reports**

- A. Campus Master Planning: As a result of new discussions and the campus master plan, we have created this as a working document that be utilized for both our

financing investors and S&P rating process. Elementary school redesign is proceeding as scheduled and we will have a new guaranteed maximum price. One challenge is that soil testing on the elementary site shows that we will need to remediate material on the site to make it suitable for the foundation. GLWilson provided an estimate of \$300,000, but is looking at other options. The builder is trying to get an early building permit so that the grading work can be done while other approvals are received.

- B. Knights' Fund: Sara Lay shared that we met the fundraising goal of \$1,000,000 for the Rise Together elementary school capital campaign! We have about 10% in hand and the rest is in reoccurring, three-year pledges. We will receive an additional 10-15% in corporate matches. \$80,000 came from the new kindergarten class upcoming next year. We are officially at **\$1,190,390** with matches, but expect that some money will not be realized due to changes in family circumstances.
- C. Technology Innovation: No report this month.
- D. Engagement: Jennifer Johnson shared that the committee is working on a 20 year campaign theme and strategy which will be presented in April at the retreat.
- E. Global Diversity & Inclusion: Sherry Latten shared that members of the committee facilitated a diversity PD for about 30 new teachers. Staff shared that they liked the topics that were addressed and the format. Next year this will be rolled out to the remainder of the teachers. The student programming subcommittee is collecting feedback regarding Drop Everything and Talk (MS) to help redesign the way this was facilitated. Marianne Rogowski will be taking on the role of Diversity & Inclusion resource for staff for the middle school. This role will begin this summer.
- F. College Readiness: High level of engagement at the first meeting. Action items will be noted by the time of the retreat. While a challenging and rigorous academic program will remain central to what we do, the committee will be examining how to engage all the members of our community in developing the emotional, ethical, and social skills needed to successfully navigate college and life.
- G. Leadership: Anna Blackwelder discussed the four (4) sessions of the pilot program for the 9<sup>th</sup> graders. The group has just begun the second skill of "Integrity and Accountability." Note for next year possibly doing a "get to know you" day with the advisors and students. There will be some accountability as to how many people participated at the end of the year. A survey will go out to advisors and students.

**V. New Business:**

- A. None

***Motion to adjourn by Rick Buckler; seconded by Jennifer Johnson, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.***