



**Lake Norman Charter Board Meeting
May Open Board Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2020
Conference Call**

General Meeting

Attending: Ricky Jones, Shannon Stein-superintendent, Sherry Latten, Jennifer Johnson, Jared Tilley, Anna Blackwelder, Ridgley Chapman, Stephanie Painter, Thom McElroy, Rick Buckler

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by Ricky Jones.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the April minutes by J Johnson; Thom McElroy seconds; motion carries.

I. LNC/State Update

- A. General assembly Tuesday April 28: COVID-19 response bill created. Agreed and Gov Cooper signed it: High level meaning for charter: Waived all EOG and EOC testing. Waive a grade on the school report card this year. By the tenth day of 2020-2021, 4th graders will take 3rd grade EOG to identify students who need additional assistance. By September 1, 2020 charter schools will report the number of 3rd graders on and not on track based on assessments. (Current 3rd graders have taken several assessments this school year MAPs, I Station and they met their benchmark goal to be considered on grade level or above. Our concerns were under 20 students who had not met the benchmark.) The bill requires all PSU to develop a remote instruction plan to be submitted by July 20. Charter Schools, every school is required to have 190 days of instruction or 155 hours for the 2020-2021 school year. Must have remote instruction days. This is due by the end of June and will be shared at the June 3 meeting. In addition to the additional calendar days, we will still start on August 13.
- B. State Board of Education: Cancelled Governor's school for the first time ever. The State Superintendent cancelled iStation. (This was used to track students and their progress.) There was a lot of training in this system, but there will be a new system in place the next school year.
- C. He also shared a Schools Reopening Taskforce: Improving opportunities for e-learning, future social distancing guidelines, and remediation for lost instruction. (There are no charter schools on this committee.)
- D. Grading Guidance: Originally, students can take a pass, keep the grade as of March 13, or continue for the year to improve their grade. There were problems with this, so new plans were made within the past 48 hours on how to execute this in the PowerSchool system. Final options as of 5/6/2020 to address year-long courses:
 - i. Option 1 – PASS. This means your semester 2 grade (S2) is a PC19 (pass) and it has no bearing on your GPA. Your semester 1 grade (S1) will show on the transcript and count at a 50% weight toward overall GPA.
 - ii. Option 2 – F1 grade. Choosing the F1 option still means you are satisfied with your grade through the third quarter. This F1 grade becomes your grade for semester 2 (S2). As stated above, if this F1 grade is higher than your S1 grade, it becomes your grade for semester 1 (S1). If it is less than your grade for semester 1, then your S1 grade becomes your grade for semester 1. The S1 and S2 grades will count toward your GPA.
 - iii. Option 3 – Continue. You are choosing to continue instruction through May 14 to improve your F1 grade. At the conclusion of instruction on May 14 your F1 grade now represents

your cumulative grade through the fourth quarter. Just as in option 2, this one grade now appears twice on your transcript, once as your semester one grade (S1) and again as your semester two grade (S2). The S1 and S2 grades will count toward your GPA.

Students will be able to adjust their initial choice if they want to and we will work with them to make sure all kids have what they need. We also have a constantly updated FAQ document to address all questions. Calculating the GPA will work like this: All courses will be split in two - Semester 1 and Semester 2. They will get .5 credit for each semester. This did give us another chance to “warn” the families about taking a PASS and how that may affect them as they apply to colleges. They may have to explain why they took that PASS instead of the grade.

- E. HB5-14 Committee: The NAACP is suing on behalf of that legislation.
- F. The high school is being honored by US News and World Report as a Gold School of Honor. Top 500 High School. LNCS was #10 in NC, #2 in the Charlotte Mecklenburg area, and 405 for the Nation. This is determined based on students who take and pass AP exams, math and reading proficiencies, college curriculum represented (the more students who take more AP exams the better) graduation rates, and at risk student performance.

II. Finance Update

- A. Budget Amendment Proposal: In response to the COVID-19 crisis, Governor Cooper authorized a \$50 million flexible allotment for all public school units to address COVID-19 related expenses. This allotment was funded with unused FY18-19 carryforward funds, unspent FY19-20 Summer Reading Camp funds, and funds from the State Emergency Response and Disaster Relief Fund. Lake Norman Charter received \$33,913, which will be used to offset technology costs as a result of remote learning.
- B. The federal government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) last month. North Carolina is expected to receive approximately \$386M in Elementary & Secondary Emergency Relief. These funds will be allocated to LEA's and Charter School based on the proportion of Title 1 funding received this year. Lake Norman Charter does not receive Title 1 funding so we will not receive any of this relief funding.
- C. Governor Cooper will also have access to the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (\$98M) which he can use to allocate funds to K-12 and Higher Ed institutions at his discretion. It is unclear at this time how this funding will be allocated.
- D. The Department of Public Instruction is strongly recommending that all public school units budget flat on revenue for FY20-21. They have also suggested creating a scenario with a 3% decrease in state funding in response to the economic impact COVID-19 will potentially have on state revenue sources.
- E. The state recommends to budget flat and with a 3% decrease in funding. In June there will be a 2020-2021 budget to address this.
- F. LNCS would like to recognize all staff by offering a \$750 May 27 COVID-19 stipend for all teachers.

Motion to approve the amendment to the budget, including the staff stipends, by Thom McElroy, seconded by Anna Blackwelder; motion approved.

II. Committee Updates

- A. Elevate/Construction: Admin trailer is up and running at the elementary school and the middle school office is cleared out. Three contracts have been signed. The work in the MS office has started and walls are gone and improvements are being made. The track and turf is still in the works. The town has to approve the plan (storm water, traffic, and planning). The planning

committee signed off already and tomorrow we expect the next two committees to sign off and we may have the permit by Thursday (5/13/20) to get started. By June 3 LNCS should be up and moving on all the projects. Next week there will be a preconstruction meeting. Ordering the turf --this is being finalized and will be ready to go soon. Donations are continuing to come in, so we seem to be on track. Risks/challenges moving forward: Weather, COVID-19.

- B. School-Life Balance: Work life balance crash course has happened due to COVID, the committee will meet again after school begins in the fall and they will continue to collect data once we are back in school.
- C. Engagement: Call for buddy families has gone out. We need 35-50 buddy families and we already have 38. This is for brand new families to LNCS. :)
- D. Global Diversity & Inclusion: Did not have an April meeting. Discussions about equity with e-learning and making sure everyone has access. Funchess had leaders/professionals from different fields bring their expertise to the students. These meetings are continuing to happen virtually through Zoom. These started the Monday after spring break. There will be a meeting prior to the end of the school year.

IV. New Business

- A. Dress Code Committee Presentation: Marianne Rogowski presented: They met 10 times and discussed data, documents, surveys. They used deliberate dialogue in their conversations. They looked at several dress codes from a variety of schools. There were four main areas that needed addressing. Changes include: Must wear: Clothes that cover midriff and waistbands, opaque bottoms covering bottom and underwear and meet the required length rule. May wear: bottoms that are relaxed fingertip length or longer, compression pants covered by shorts or dress, tank tops with straps two fingers width and do not expose the torso. May Not Wear: holes above the knee, clothing with profane, violent, drug-related, pornographic, illegal, hate speech, poor images or messages Enforcement: subjectivity have been addressed, so this should be much easier and should not be an issue. This will still be handled by administrators and teachers. These expectations will be clearly communicated at the beginning of the year to teachers and parents. This will be reviewed by the policy committee and will be presented for board approval in June. LNC will follow the process as it relates to policies.
- B. **Staff Recommendations:** Elementary School. Justin Wright: Science and Math, Tyler Schroth: 3rd grade math; Julianna Kautz: EC, Dawn Gilbert: 3rd grade Science and SS, Korrine Belfield: K team (LNCS alum)

Motion to approve staff recommendations of elementary staff recommended by Michelle Holland by Thom McElroy; seconded by Stefanie Painter; motion approved.

- C. Board of Director Nominations: 25 people applied for the 4 positions. The nominating committee reviewed the applications and narrowed it to 7 people. They interviewed through conference calls and agreed upon 4 people. They will be nominated this month and the board will vote next month. Leslie Fogarty, Greg Kilpatrick, Elizabeth Timkovich, and Amy Carr. Resumes and bios are on Google Drive for review. Voting will be in June.

Motion to adjourn at 8:44 PM by Jennifer Johnson, seconded by Sherrie Latten; motion approved.