



Lake Norman Charter Board Meeting Minutes

Open Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2013

General Meeting

Attending: Bill Farber – Board Chair, Eddie Bethea, Laurie Fabian, James Cuttino, Cynthia Bush, Michael Putman, Kevin Lambert, Kyle Burkey, Shannon Stein - Managing Director, Michelle Harrison – MS Principal, Terri Costa – Interim Principal, Kyle Pierce-Interim Vice Principal, Harrella Whitehead – Business Manager, Scott Abel – Director of Facilities, Matt Schlegel – Athletic Director

I. Meeting called to order by Bill Farber at 7:04 PM

II. Approval of Minutes

Eddie moved that the minutes for the open, closed, and executive meetings for August be approved, motion seconded by Laurie, motion passed

Eddie moved that the minutes for the open, closed, and executive meetings for September be approved, motion seconded by Laurie, motion passed

III. Support Organization Update

A. PTO:

- i. First staff lunch is next Friday
- ii. Angie has been working with Robbie to come up with an online apparel store

B. Athletic Boosters:

- i. Proud of the enhancements Boosters have included for this year's fall sports
- ii. Concession stand has been started and it is a smoother process; the old trailer has been sold
 - a. Volleyball leading conference and football is 5 and 1
 - b. Admissions and concessions are right on budget
 - c. Will unveil fall sports program tomorrow
 - d. Senior nights for football, soccer, and cheer are coming up

IV. Public Comments – no public comments

V. Managing Director's Report

- A. Shannon commended staff and the Huntersville PD with the lockdown on Monday due to CPCC incident
- B. Lake Norman Preparatory Academy was turned down again to use this name. If they apply again they would change their name to Mecklenburg Charter North. The letter did have some effect on their decision.
- C. Evergreen Charter's Ron Kelly and Communication Director came to LNC to get some information from us about an Innovation Grant proposal. Tom Tillis was behind this idea and is looking to bring this forward in October to the legislature.
- D. Shannon thanked the Callaghan's donation to help students who could not afford the iPad fee.
- E. Shannon commended the high school for the Lake Norman Charter School number one graduation rate in the state in our cohort size. We were honored at a luncheon in Raleigh, and we were the only charter in the state that received an honor at this luncheon.
- F. Leadership Lake Norman group will visit LNC on October 24th to learn about LNC and charter schools.
- G. Shannon was happy to report that we reached an agreement to purchase land from CHS, looking to do this in phases, first thing to look at is getting another entrance and then potentially a parking lot for the HS.
- H. Terri: Two great things to recognize: First, our three National Merit Scholars Semi-finalist-Michael Clark, Morgan Samler, Sravya Uppalapati. North Meck has three from their IB program who received this award, but no area other school had any other students. Second, Michael Dorsainvil-named one of top 100 young black men in Charlotte, received the Elite Scholar award for this, great press for us to put our students out there, reflects well on the school.
- I. Michelle: Gender Class Pilot presentation by Mr. Kendrick and Ms. Chaffier
 - i. Kendrick-described the history of how he discovered success with separating boys and girls into different classes in his Algebra classes. He found that there is no true discrepancy between boys' and girls' aptitudes, but found out in these studies that a girl's confidence is affected when put in coed situations.
 - ii. Nikki- Since Kendrick had great success the last four years, the 7th grade team approached Michelle to see if the 7th grade team could all try this. Each teacher on the team has at least one gender-specific class. Since boys are reluctant readers at the middle school age, it allows teachers to bring in texts geared for a more male audience; gives them a lot more leeway
 - iii. Michelle- Teachers are able to swap kids during a certain unit as well so each teacher can experience an all boy and an all girl setting. Every student gets to experience at least one gender-specific class.
 - iv. Shannon asked how will you measure success and Nikki stated by MAPS testing, student voices, growth at the end of the year, parent emails. Kendrick-the qualitative will be focused on more-children's self-

confidence and self-efficacy.

- v. Cynthia-example of the beauty of charter to allow staff, students, parents, and teachers to come together and see what is beneficial for all children.
 - vi. Kyle stated his son said he wants more opportunity for gender specific classes
 - vii. Michelle stated that since we are a charter school we have the ability to run with new ideas and test them out unlike other schools.
- J. Terri received an email two days ago saying that the state had considered four different options for choosing the cut scores for the state testing last year. Terri shared the Board's selection with the LNC Board. In the past years, students needed to receive a 3 or 4 to be considered proficient by the state. Last year LNC finished very strong, with average proficiency rates in most areas exceeding 95%. She then shared where those same students would fall given the new standards. Based on the projections by the new adopted scale, LNC could expect proficiency rates would drop by roughly between 15-30% given the new scale. Shannon stated that state test questions didn't seem to be consistent with the Common Core/Essential standards and Terri mentioned that the state has changed tests and curriculum before, but they never did it all at once.
- K. Bill-the top schools of graduation rates were charters and nontraditional schools, such as Mooresville City schools or smaller schools. This is something to notice and think about; size seemed to be a component.

VI. Finance Update

- A. Harrella-audit, projects underway, CMS numbers came back as expected.
- B. The audit committee meeting discussed donations coming to the school, open and closing banking statements, the lack of an investments policy. Sent out a questionnaire to try to get people's views - return expectations, discussed inflation concerns with tying up cash reserves.

VII. Strategic Planning Committees

- A. Cross cultural – none
- B. Partnership – has meeting next week, get job shadowing going, Shannon will work with them
- C. Communications – none
- D. College Counseling – Laurie-meeting next week and we decided to meet monthly, start working on cheat sheets to put together careers and the schools that are known for it
- E. Technology- 3 page handout, summarize for the board, follow the progress over the course of the pilot, finding out what things are frustrating, learning and growing pains, overcome issues they did not anticipate, bumps in the road. Some challenges with preparing iPads for state testing, but found workarounds.

Talked about ways to take some of the pressures off the staff, Scott and Kim had some good ideas to spread the workload to make a more unified deployment, seeing a lot of people put forth effort, for a pilot it is doing everything a pilot should be during, some apps work some do not, kids are being creative, purchased the core apps that work well like Keynote and Pages, no show stoppers at this point, not seeing anything that would change direction in the pilot, made a good decision, no perfect way to go, Shannon-next communication will be about technology and talking about the pilot.

VIII. Old Business

- A. Construction update, resubmitted the drawings for the parking lot, nothing major, biggest fear to go forth with rain garden and parking lot and not actually get it done on time, if do not make it by Dec 31st, extend the bond, \$5,000 projected cost to complete due diligence.

IX. New Business

- A. Parking Lot Expansion: Simon and Watson competitive bids expected for the grading, \$88,474 approve to move on with this project, 41 spaces in between new addition and the road.

Eddie motioned to approve the parking lot expansion, Cynthia seconded, motioned passed

- B. 2013-2014 Calendar Change Proposal: Moved middle school testing dates to May 19-21st to comply with new state law of completing testing within the last 10 days of school.

Eddie motioned to move the calendar dates to the end of May, second by Kevin Lambert, motioned passed

- C. Field trip policy is not being voted on; the Board will no longer have to approve field trips, but will be made aware of any new field trips

- D. Lottery Policy: the law giving options to the lottery, needed to define our time period, application, sibling preference-define what it is, legacy siblings, acceptance window, 7 to 10 days Charter best practice we recommend 5 business days to verbally accept & another 5 business days to complete paperwork

Laurie motioned to approve the lottery policy, Eddie seconded it, motioned passed

- E. LNC By-Law Revisions: discussion about the terms and how long different officers could be allowed to hold an office, allowing for longer terms, tabled until next meeting

Motion to adjourn by Eddie, seconded by Cynthia, motion carried meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Jim Cuttino (assisted by Danielle Derwich)