



Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
10.11.2022
27 Balm Grove Avenue
Asheville, NC 28806

Board Members: Gene Bell (Chair), Robby Russell (Treasurer), Susan Shanor (Secretary), Dwight Mullen (Director), Andy Barnett (Director), Kathey Avery (Director), Kerry Freidman (Director), Gordon Grant (Director), David Robinson (Director)

Present:

Gene Bell
Robby Russell
Susan Shanor
Dwight Mullen
David Robinson
Andy Barnett
Gordon Grant
Kathey Avery (arrived 6:09)

Absent:

Kerry Friedman

Additional Persons Present: Carlyle Stewart, Kidada Wynn, Camesha Minto, Malik Anderson, Tom Miller (by zoom)

I. Opening and Quorum:

The regular meeting was called to order by Gene Bell at 5:45 PM with seven of nine members present.

II. Public Comments:

PEAK parent Carlyle Stewart celebrates PEAK and expressed his appreciation for the nurture his child receives. He expressed his interest in continuing the conversation on more project based learning and community service projects. Gene committed to get back in touch with Mr. Stewart.

III. Approval of Consent Agenda and Minutes

Susan Shanor moved to approve the 10/11/2022 agenda, Andy Barnett seconds. All unanimously agree and motion carries to approve agenda. Susan Shanor moves to approve minutes from the 9/15/22 Board Meeting with the caveat that teacher candidate names be removed, Robby Russell seconds. All unanimously agree and motion carries to approve

minutes. Gordon Grant moves to approve the 9/15/22 Special Meeting Minutes, David Robinson seconds. All unanimously agree and motion carried to approve closed sessions minutes.

IV. Monthly Dashboard Report

Malik Anderson opened his report by explaining the theme this year is “pursuit of 50” – at least 50% of the students will score at our above grade level by the end of the school year. Most PEAK students start the school year below grade level.

In response to a question about percent of students on public assistance it was explained that many parents choose not to submit form that would allow PEAK to make determination. The Board instructed that a strategy be put into place to encourage parents to return the form since the data impacts PEAK’s Title I funding.

V. Testing Report

Camesha Minto reviewed the Testing Reports for each grade. Dwight Mullen expressed the need for instructional differentiation based on individual student scores. Camesha said that this would be addressed and monitored in the classroom based on test results.

EC has increased from 9 to 16 students since the beginning of the year. EC will strategize to receive resources to support and accelerate EC opportunities. Dwight Mullen stated that Dr. Erika Williams at Dogwood Trust has offered support for our EC students. Dwight and Kidada agreed that they would promptly follow up on this opportunity. Camesha is pursuing more Read to Achieve opportunities.

After Camesha presented, consultant Tom Miller made brief comments. PEAK must meet students where they are – many come in with deficits for a variety of reasons. Focus needs to be on growth from wherever the students started. Malik and Camesha need to get “out of the fire” and focus their attention on developing teachers and working with students.

VI. Financial Report (Robby Russell)

Financials for September were not presented since expenses were still being reconciled. Going forward, Robby Russell will approve all invoices. Dogwood grant will not be available until November (previously thought September) due to Dogwood audit committee review of conflict of interest issue. Board previously approved a short-term loan of up to \$100,000 through Mountain Bizworks until receipt of Dogwood funds.

ADM count on September 26 was 93 students. The conservative minimum count for budget purposes was 105 students. This results in approximately a \$100,000 budget deficit. PEAK also missed a more aggressive goal of 120 students, though the budget was not based on 120 students.

Susan Shanor pointed out that this year’s budget is highly dependent on ESSR funds that are not reoccurring. Kidada expressed her confidence in being able to secure new grants.

VII. Fundraising (Susan Shanor)

Susan Shanor reminded the Board of the October PEAK friend/fundraising event at UNCA. Susan cautioned the Board that some of the large donations last year were made to support the PEAK as a start-up and would not be reoccurring, thus she does not anticipate raising as much as the \$450,000 raised last year. Goal for community fundraising set by the Board earlier this year was \$250,000.

A revised video is being produced and will be shown at the October 26th event. UNCA Sportsfest was a great event. Biscuit Head has reached out about the possibility of designating a day that a percentage of profits will be donated to PEAK.

VIII. Facility (Andy Barnett)

Andy will look into the proration of water/energy bills to make sure being handled correctly. The PEAK building is supposed to be separately monitored. Gene reported that split unit has not yet been installed.

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IX. Marketing/Communications (Gordon Grant)

Gordon Grant with input from Kidada will write and distribute a press release announcing Kidada as PEAK's new School Director.

X. Closed Session

Susan Shanor moved to go into closed session at 7:09PM. David Robinson seconds. All unanimously agree and the Board moves into closed session. The Board moves back into open session at 7:51PM per vote in closed session.

XI. Additional Announcements

There were no additional announcements.

XII. Adjournment

Susan Shanor makes the motion to adjourn the meeting, David Robinson seconds. All unanimously agree and motion carries. The meeting ends at 7:54 PM.