



“To provide every child a classical and academically rigorous education while instilling a commitment to civic virtue and moral character”

***Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Savannah Classical Academy, Inc.
August 10, 2017***

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Savannah Classical Academy, Inc. was held at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, August 10, 2017, at Savannah Classical Academy, 705 East Anderson Street, on notice duly given.

The board directors present were:

Falen Cox
Dr. Jacobium Holliman
Scott McGhie
Ryan Dew
Dr. Gwen Miller-Smith
Benjamin Couch Payne, School Director

Absent with notice:

Terri O'Neil
Dr. Donna Isaac
Coren Ross
Roger Moss
Don Waters

It was determined there was a quorum as required by the bylaws for transaction of business.

Ms. Cox, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

Mr. Dew moved to accept the consent agenda, Dr. Miller-Smith seconded; all board members present agreed.

Ms. Cox announced that the Charter Renewal Committee met the day prior.. During that meeting a recommendation for formation of an ad hoc Charter Compliance Committee was made. The role of this Committee would be to monitor the charter through the year and provide reports to the Board. This committee would also be responsible for ensuring all charter related deadlines and maintaining compliance after the charter is granted. Mr. Dew moved to form the Charter Renewal Committee. Dr. Miller-Smith seconded; all board members present agreed.

Ms. Cox referenced a discussion from the previous board meeting, noting a proposal to form an Accreditation Committee. This Committee will be comprised of Board members as well as Faculty responsible for achieving and maintaining accreditation. Mr. Dew moved to form the Accreditation Committee. Dr. Holliman seconded; all board members present agreed.

Ms. Cox proposed to modify the agenda for tonight's meeting due the presence of several guests in attendance, many of whom were parents of current students, allotting time in the agenda for them. Stacie Jean Albano introduced herself as a SCA parent and spoke regarding her passion for SCA. She asked the Board for advice on how to become more involved with the school. Ms. Cox suggested Mr. Moss, Public Relations Committee head, would be a great point of contact. Ms. Cox also expressed appreciation for her passion and willingness to play an active role. William Hodges, another SCA parent spoke next, echoing Ms. Albano's comments. Ms. Cox spoke to the Board's goals and commitment to attending more PTSA meetings. Ms. Cox also wanted to ensure that the Board had the contact information of all guests in attendance and passed around a notebook asking everyone to leave their information. Dr. Holliman noted his appreciation and support of those in attendance. Mr. Payne presented to give a time line of the Board's planned actions. Ms. Cox provided a run down on the Board's agenda and primary goal for the evening: finalizing the Corrective Action Plan to be submitted to the Georgia Board of Education. Mr. Payne added that on August 30th, the Savannah Chatham County Public

*****All reports discussed in the minutes are kept on file and are available for review.*****

Schools Board of Education (“BOE”) has invited four Charter schools for a workshop. Mr. Payne noted that there will be a separate workshop at a later date exclusively for SCA.

Ms. Cox proposed continuing with the agenda, addressing the Corrective Action Plan. She invited all guests to stay, provide input feedback, and ask any questions they may have. Ms. Cox explained that the Charter Renewal Committee had met the night prior and developed a Corrective Action Plan, in which they are ready to present to the Board for feedback and approval. Mr. Payne presented the draft plan for review. He stated that there are three main elements the plan seeks to address: (1) Root cause analysis; (2) Action steps and time line of implementation; and (3) Board monitoring and oversight. Jennifer Restivo, an SCA parent, asked whether the Corrective Action Plan would be made public to parents and the greater SCA community. Mr. Payne confirmed it would once the plan has been approved by the Board and to the Georgia Board of Education.

Ms. Restivo inquired as to the school’s deficit, as well as future plans for Latin and Spanish offerings. Mr. Payne addressed the questions regarding Latin and Spanish. Ms. Cox acknowledged her concerns and offered to get back to her at another time regarding her question about the deficit. Dr. Holliman agreed and thanked all the guests for their concerns and questions. He offered there are committees in place addressing some of the same concerns, as they are the same concerns that the Board has. Ms. Restivo asked how probationary status is effecting enrollment and how that will impact SCA’s budget. Ms. Cox responded, ensuring that the enrollment concern is being addressed through the Corrective Action Plan. Mr. Hodges expressed his concern regarding realignment of curriculum, stating that there is concern among parents that SCA is changing what students and parents signed up for, in terms of not teaching to the test and the virtues of what SCA was built on. Dr. Holliman offered his agreement in their concerns and stressed that nothing is changing in terms of what students are learning, stating that the curriculum is just being realigned more closely to the Georgia Standards. Ms. Cox pointed out that the Academic Accountability Committee is involved in working with the DCI, ensuring that the curriculum outlined in the Corrective Action Plan will be implemented. She also added that the Committee will be the liaison between the DCI and the Board. Mr. Payne assured that SCA and the Board will be doing all in their respective powers to maintain the school's mission. Ms. Albano inquired as to rumors about the Board missing the charter renewal deadline. Mr. Payne, Ms. Cox, and Dr. Holliman assured that the deadline was not missed because an extension had been granted.

Ms. Cox brought the Corrective Action Plan to the Board’s attention for review. Ms. Cox asked whether all Board members were aware of their responsibilities and would be able to commit and meet those assignments. Board members present confirmed. Mr. Payne continued reviewing the Route Cause Analysis. Discussion around these items ensued. Ms. Cox then proposed moving to other items on the agenda and returning to the Corrective Action Plan as committee work after adjournment of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Payne began his Director's report noting the formation of the ad hoc Accreditation Committee. He stated that there should be two representatives from the Board on the Committee. Mr. Payne explained that the school will be split into two separate entities in Power School with two separate CCRPI’s. Mr. Payne confirmed that all 36 teachers met the first TKES deadline, with one exception due to a systems issue. He stated that pre-evaluation meetings will start on the 18th. Ms. Cox inquired regarding LKES. Mr. Payne explained that process would soon start. Ms. Cox stated that, if she passes the test, she will be able to review the school’s TKES data. Mr. Payne added that he would present TKES data at every subsequent Board meeting. Additionally, he will maintain those records and reports for compliance purposes. Mr. McGhie asked Mr. Payne to ensure that when the report is shared with the Board that all the data is complete. Mr. Payne agreed to do so. Mr. Payne went on to discuss enrollment, stating that the current count is at 459; however, Power School was still not fully updated. Mr. Payne discussed substitute teaching arrangements through Source4Teachers. He discussed the new contracts with vendors Savannah Healthy Vending and Ricoh. Mr. Payne also described contracts with True Cut for landscaping maintenance and Security Associates of Coastal Georgia (SACG) for security and other services. A brief discussion of the Move on When Ready program ensued. Mr. Payne presented a brief overview of SCA’s special education program and its needs.

Ms. Cox moved to the discussion of Unfinished Business which included the open DCI position and Dr. Paul Sidney’s interest in joining the Board. Dr. Holliman moved to go into closed session pursuant to O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (b) (2) at 7:52 p.m. Mr. McGhie seconded; all board members present agreed. At 8:16 p.m. Dr. Holliman moved to return to open session, Dr. Miller-Smith seconded; all board members present agreed.

Ms. Cox asked for a vote on the first item discussed in closed session. All board members present voted in the affirmative. Ms. Cox asked for a vote on the second item discussed in closed session. All board members present voted in favor. Ms. Cox confirmed that the Board will notify Dr. Paul Sidney in writing as to their decision whether to add him to the Board. Mr. Sidney thanked the Board and then left for the evening.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:18 p.m. by Mr. Dew, Dr. Miller-Smith seconded; all board members present agreed. A regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 24, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at Savannah Classical Academy, 704 East Anderson Street.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed copy on file)

Christina Orlandi under supervision of Ryan Dew, Secretary