



“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.  
September 28, 2017***

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Savannah Classical Academy, Inc. was held at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, September 28, 2017, at Savannah Classical Academy, 705 East Anderson Street, on notice duly given.

The board directors present were:

Falen Cox  
Scott McGhie  
Ryan Dew  
Dr. Donna Isaac  
Coren Ross  
Dr. Gwen Miller-Smith  
Terri O’Neil  
Paul Sidney  
Benjamin Couch Payne, School Director

Absent with notice:

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 5:37 p.m.

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

Mr. Payne distributed copies of the Director's report. Important notes include:

- Enrollment notice was given to siblings of current students and children of current staff.
- An Art Elementary Teacher and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Paraprofessional positions still needs to be filled. There is an additional need for an IEP teacher to fulfill current and new student needs. This would be an addition to the full time SpED teacher that is also still needed.
- TKES second round deadline is December 4<sup>th</sup>.
- MAP window closes tomorrow. Mr. Payne will share data once available.
- Signing is next week for REACH Georgia scholarship winners. Three of these will be from Savannah Classical Academy.
- Chicago Classical Academy will be visiting on October 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>.
- Received a \$2,500 “Here to Be.” grant and \$2,000 from The Classical Association of the Atlantic States to support a Savannah Symposium on African American History and Liberal Arts Education.
- November 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for the Georgia DoE Annual Report.
- Leadership Team is keeping a RACI report that will be shared.

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

- There is a need to sign teachers by March for employment for the next school year. Mr. Payne requested this be taken into consideration during budget planning for school year 2018-2019.
- Mr. Payne will distribute the Agenda for tomorrow's Charter Approval Compliance meeting.
- Corrective Action Plan dashboard was discussed as Mr. Payne wanted to ensure it is being used effectively.
- Ms. Cox notified the Board that she will be assigning the requests from the Director's Reports to the appropriate committees.

Ms. Cox asked for all committee heads to send the dates and times of their committee meetings to Mr. Dew so he can post. Mr. Moss was not present to speak on behalf of the Community Relations committee, but his goals were shared.

Mrs. Ross spoke on behalf of the Development committee, stating that there are several items at a standstill. She reported that there are grant applications in place; however, they are on hold pending critical elements needed to move forward. Ms. Cox offered to send out an updated roster to help with the grant process. Mrs. Ross noted a commitment to the Spartan fund with a goal for 100% participation from the SCA community. Ms. O'Neil asked how the Development committee is tracking the Board's donations. Mr. McGhie said that he will be working with the current Business Manager and their next step will be to get together with the Foundation Board to work on tracking donations.

Mr. McGhie reported on behalf of the Finance committee, stating that auditors came into do a field audit this week. He noted that he would share the results once available; however, nothing unexpected came up while they were on site. He announced that things are working well with the current Business Manager, and moving forward, starting at the next Board meeting, he will present more of a reporting package. Mr. McGhie noted a need to get comparable data for salaries, staffing levels, and Health Care plans as budget planning starts for next year.

Mr. Dew stated that he had nothing new to report at this time from the Governance committee. Ms. Cox added that there are resources available to help pay for funding for Board training. She noted that there is still a need for LKES certification from Board members. Ms. Cox stated that she will send out dates for mandatory training as soon as they are available and asked all Board members to report back as to which date they will attend. She reminded that there is an action item coming up in October to have a Training Plan approved.

Ms. Cox gave notice on Dr. Jacobium Holliman's resignation due to him moving out of the area. Due to this, she announced that the Policy and Procedures committee meetings will need to be rescheduled. She asked Board members with interest to take over his roles.

Ms. Cox reported on behalf of the Charter Renewal ad hoc committee, discussing the letter received from the State regarding the announcement for the one year extension. She stated that a report is due to the State department by October 16<sup>th</sup> outlining implementation. This will be a top priority for the Charter Renewal committee. Ms. Cox announced that she will be sending out assignments and responsibilities with a goal of next Thursday to have a completed report for review. Mrs. Ross offered to join the Charter Renewal ad hoc committee.

Mrs. Ross passed along that Martha Nesbit offered to join the Academic Accountability meeting and asked if we could send her information on dates and times of the committee meetings.

As a part of the Corrective Action Plan Review, Ms. Cox stated that she will be using the dashboard to focus on deadlines. She added that it will be reviewed incrementally so there can be a more in-depth review of items. The DCI and School Director's responsibilities were discussed. Ms. Cox reported that the LKES training item is outstanding and there is a need for training for the Board. Ms. Cox reviewed at risk items including a school wide interim assessment, hiring of DCI, and interim goals. It was noted that Barry Lollis will be starting on October 6<sup>th</sup> as the new DCI. Mr. Payne confirmed that the District will let SCA use Unity once all the details are ironed out. Mr. McGhie asked about getting full access. Mr. Payne noted that he is working on getting full access.

Under Unfinished Business the DCI candidate was discussed. Mr. Barry Lollis signed on as the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for SCA. He will be starting on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Payne asked for recommendations from the Board on reporting this to the SCA community. Ms. Cox recommended Mr. Payne doing this in person at a faculty meeting. Mrs. Ross asked about who the Consultants and DCI will be working together. It was suggested that they work hand in hand to support the DCI in implementing changes. Mr. Payne noted that the DCIs will be on site on Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. It was also suggested that the Consultants help as a

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

coach as they have been gathering data and making observations that they can pass on. Mr. McGhie asked if there was a need to extend the Consultants contract. Ms. Cox offered that they meet first and develop a plan before they look into any extensions. Mr. Dew asked if the DCI and Consultants should develop a joint transition plan. The Board all agreed that this should be sought out and implemented. Mr. Payne added that a primary focus should also include getting consistent data from the classrooms and that the Consultants could help develop this. Ms. Cox confirmed that she will reach out the Consultants to let them know that they should still plan on being on site on the 9<sup>th</sup> and requested that the Board send her any items for her to request from them.

A discussion ensued about moving the regular scheduled Board meeting from Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> to Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> when the Consultants will be here and on site to attend the meeting. There was a consensus to move the meeting to the 9<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Cox said that she will reach out for written consent and approval.

Mr. Dew proposed to execute the DCI contract. Mrs. Ross moved to approve the Contract, Mr. Dew seconded; all board members present agreed.

Ms. Cox discussed the Training Plan and stated that there is a goal to approve a plan in October.

In New Business, the resignation of Dr. Jacobium Holliman was announced. Mrs. Ross asked if the Board will be looking to fill his position on the Board. Ms. Cox confirmed that the Board will be looking for a new member. Mrs. Ross spoke on behalf of Ms. O'Neil announcing that Dr. Levett will be a invited as a guest to the Hospitality tent at the Picnic in the Park event. She also announced that SCA students will be performing as a part of the Symphony.

The School Climate report was circulated for discussion. Ms. Cox addressed a need to improve the score and a goal should be made to do so.

Aretha Rhone-Bush attended tonight's meeting. She offered that she was available to the Board for help and support, noting that she would like to work on this together. The Board thanked her for her time in attending and support.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:23 p.m. by Mrs. Ross, Mr. Sidney seconded; all board members present agreed. A regular meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 8th, 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