

Southwest Georgia STEM Charter Board of Directors Meeting

January 20, 2022 at 5:30 P.M. - Media Center at SGSC

Meeting Minutes

**Meeting also offered through Teleconference Option due to COVID-19:
Dial-in Number 978-990-5080: Access Code: 6521665 advertised on
the School Website as well.**

Call to Order - 5:32 by Chairman Tony Lee

Recognition of All Members in Attendance - By Phone are: Chairman - Tony Lee and Grant Ward, In Person are: Chris Weathersby, Lisa Jones, Patricia Goodman, Russell Nuti, CFO - Lori Wilson, Guest - Elisa Falco. School Leader - Ginger Almon.

All members were present or called in for the meeting , none were absent.

Approval of December Minutes - motion made to approve the December minutes by Chris Weathersby, and 2nd Russell Nuti. All were in favor.

Recite the current SGSC Mission Statement

SGSC will provide distinguished and integrated instruction in an environment that cultivates respect, is inclusive of all, and lays the foundation for excellence and life-long learning

Public Comment - None

School Liaison (Ms. Fincher) -She was not present for the meeting, but she did send a message to School Leader Almon stating that there was nothing to comment on at this time.

School Leader's Report - Information Items

- Recent Successes and Celebrations - Information Item
 - Decrease in the number of COVID cases at the school since returning from Christmas Break
 - Featured in the January School Improvement Newsletter
 - Students are continuing to show progress when administering the STAR Reading and Math Assessments
 - Cognia Accreditation accepted the Readiness Review Diagnostic that was submitted and will conduct the Readiness Review (virtually) on February 2, 2022
 - January 26th will be the Renewal Interview and Grade Band Expansion Interview with SCSC
- Accreditation Update - Information Item
 - Cognia Accreditation accepted the Readiness Review Diagnostic that was submitted and will conduct the Readiness Review (virtually) on February 2, 2022. Any Board Members that are available on that date will need to attend virtually - more information once the agenda is set with Dr. Cynthia Anderson, who is the Lead Evaluator for the Readiness Review from Cognia Accreditation. She will also interview parents, teachers, staff, and students.
- COVID Update - information Item
 - At this time, we will continue with the current CDC recommendations for quarantining close contacts. If the student attendance does not improve throughout the remainder of January, we may have to review the current protocol and see what changes need to be made to limit the number of students being quarantined. Staff follows the protocol as well, but works directly with Mrs. Almon to determine dates for quarantine on an individual basis.
- Athletics Information (Mr. Crowdis) - Information Item

- Coach Crowdis provided the Board with a sheet related to current needs for improvement to the softball/baseball field. The Board is reviewing and will make some contacts to see if they can get some of the needs completed through donation of services. The scoreboard is working and will only require a \$250 - \$300 wiring repair. This is great news because we initially thought that the entire scoreboard would have to be replaced. The Board agreed that having Aggie Field on the scoreboard would work to include all sports.

Academic - Information Items

Attendance Information - Information Item -

- SGSC is currently averaging almost 90 students absent per day since returning from Christmas Break. Ahead of the assigned Virtual Day on January 14th, there were 134 students absent from school on the 13th. The School Leader and Board will continue to monitor attendance to see if the COVID protocol may require an amendment since the number of cases are not high, but the quarantine numbers are causing most absences. It is the hope of all that the numbers for COVID will decrease for the remainder of January.

Finance - Action Items and Information Items

Approval of December Financial Report - Action Item - Motion to approve Russell Nuti , 2nd by Patricia Goodman, all in favor.

- The General fund was reviewed. The school is 50.00% through the fiscal year. We compared the areas of the general fund to the fiscal year percentage to monitor spending. Revenues totalled 60.85%. Expenditures are closer to the percentage budgeted at 48.80%. However, professional development has increased to 109.99%. This is a result of professional training fees and the associated travel expenses.
- Monthly Cash Flow- The monthly cash flow compares the revenue and expenditures for July, August, September, October, November, and December. It shows that our variance in cash flow was \$25,060.65 for this month. The revenue for December did not fluctuate much. However, expenditures decreased. This is due to being closed for Christmas break.

Approval of the December School Food Report - Action Item - Motion to approve Chris Weathersby, 2nd Patricia Goodman, all in favor.

- Deficit Plan Current Status - The school nutrition fund was reviewed. The revenues total to 103.23%, which is higher than the amount originally budgeted. The expenditures were also higher because of larger food purchases. This total is 53.29%. The fund equity total is \$71,879.22. The school received the Emergency Operation funds on November 4th. The amount was roughly \$12,500. This also contributed to the increase in revenue total percentage increase.

CPF Point Calculation at this time - Information Item

- The Comprehensive Performance Frameworks Score Prediction was reviewed. The school has earned the final “5” points for enrollment variance. The CPF score is now a “100.” This month shows no drastic changes in any of the score determination areas.

Motion to AMEND the AGENDA to include actions on two resolutions- Motion to amend again by Patricia Goodman, 2nd by Lisa Jones.

- Motion made to adopt Resolution - Motion made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Russell Nuti, all in favor.
- Motion made for Resolution to Banking Account - Motion made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Patricia Goodman, all in favor.

Additional Mobile Unit(s) - Information Item -

- Board members reviewed 3 different options of modular buildings to purchase to accommodate the school's enrollment numbers. Board members agreed that their top choice out of the three options is the layout and price of Mobile Modular's offer. We are discussing another option with T&R Custom Inc. Once we have an offer from this company, we will compare it with Mobile Modular to make a firm decision.

CARES III Update - Information Item

- GADOE performs progress monitoring on Cares grants. Cares III was initially approved. We are submitting data from the past 6 months of expenditures paid with CARES III. We are also waiting for the amended budget to be approved. We have submitted the required information.
- Board members were reminded of the current budgeted items and asked if they had any additional input related to items that may need to be considered for the budget. There were no additional comments or input related to the budget at this time. No public was in the meeting to provide additional commentary either.

Governance - Action Items and Information Items

21-22 Renwal Interview - Information Item

- This is coming up next Wednesday. Board has all of the areas where they will be asking questions. We do not know what questions to anticipate. As of right now this will still be in person in Atlanta.

Expansion of school grounds (update) - Information Item -

- SRJ Architects provided a Quote for services. This is a 16 million dollar project. This allows us to know the amount that will need to apply for approval with the USDA loan. This will continue to be reviewed with the board members as it was just received.

Governance Training Update - Information Item -

- Mr. Tony Lee and Mr. Russell Nuti are still needing to complete the in person training and this is scheduled to take place in February. The online components are still needed to be completed by all members. This is a 4 hours of virtual training.

Amend dates of the Finance and Governance Subcommittee Meetings - information Item

- To reduce the number of meetings in a month the board has been talking about changing the meeting dates and times. It has been decided that the new dates for the Finance and Governance meetings will now be on the Monday of the week of the board meeting. The Governance will begin at 5:30 with the Finance meeting following at 6:00. Board asked if this needed to be voted

on and Ms. Falco stated that it did not, but notice needed to be posted of the changes on the website to inform the public of the changes.

Discuss the school leader's performance related to LKES -

LKES Performance Standard 2: SCHOOL CLIMATE -The leader promotes the success of all students by developing, advocating, and sustaining an academically rigorous, positive, and safe school climate for all stakeholders. Chairman Lee stated and he along with everyone else were pleased with School Leader Almon's Performance. She thanked them and stated that during the last few weeks it has been really hard. She asked the board if they had any suggestions to help with the school morale. She asked that they contact her if they do have any to please contact her as she is open to all ideas.

Adjourn Meeting - 6:17 pm. Motion made to adjourn by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Russell Nuti, all in favor.