

Southwest Georgia STEM Charter Board of Directors Meeting

September 14, 2023 5:30 P.M. - Media Center at SGSC

Board 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 – 5:39 by Chairman – Tony Lee

Recognition of All Members in Attendance/Note Those Not Present – Chairman- Tony Lee, Vice-Chair - Chris Weathersby, Erwin Thomas-Board Member, Ginger Almon – School Leader, Lori Wilson – CFO, Kim Crowdis – Instructional Coach, and via call in Russell Nuti – Board Member

Approval of August Minutes – Motion to approve the August minutes made by Erwin Thonas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby, all were in favor.

Board discussed the need to make a motion to amend the agenda to include the action item of the **Approval of new/amended school policies** from the school attorney, school leader and CFO.

Motion to amend the agenda of the September 14 board meeting made by Erwin Thonas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby, all were in favor.

Approval of September Agenda – Motion to approve the amended agenda made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Eriwn Thomas, 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) - None

School Leader's Report - Information Items

Athletics Information - Information Item – We are having a middle school football game today. Next week will be homecoming with two middle school softball games, three varsity softball games, one middle school football game, and our Homecoming Football game at SGSC on Friday. .

Upcoming Events - Information Item – Next week will be homecoming, We will be crowning our first homecoming queen. We have a week filled with fun and ending with a pep rally. We will not be having the dance on Saturday, September 23rd due a scheduling conflict with a Bass Fishing tournament this same day. We have seniors on the team and did not want anyone to miss the dance. The dance will be scheduled for the following weekend, September 30th, being hosted by the Gill's at their venue in Parrott, GA. School pictures and Grow Randolph will be in the next few weeks

Enrollment Summary - Information Item - As of September 14th - 525 students. This is with a 32.76% non white enrollment.

School Safety Plan - Information Item –We are set to have an intruder drill this school year, scheduled for September 21st at 9:00 am. All intruder drills must be completed before October 1, 2023. Currently, Mrs. Almon sent our safety plan to the local EMA director Mr. Coleman. He and the local Sheriff approve the plan. The EMA director then sends the plan to GEMA on our behalf

as an approved plan. We will also be having fire drill and weather drills throughout the school year as required.

Academic - Information Items

MAP Data Presentation - Information Item - Kim Crowdis, instructional coach, presented the Beginning of the Year MAP data. The presentation focused on the comparison of Fall '22 with Fall '23 beginning of the year data for math and reading. She went into detail on what we are doing with the information that we are gathering and the changes that we have made this year based on the data. The presentation was very detailed and the board is very excited to see the middle of the year growth.

Finance - Action Items and Information Items

Approval of August Financial Report - Action Item - Motion to approve made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Erwin Thomas, all were in favor. The General fund reports ending in August 2023 were reviewed. The school is 16.66% through the fiscal year. We compared the areas of the general fund to the fiscal year percentage to monitor spending. Revenues total at 17.38%. Expenditures total at 16.16%. The total fund equity for August 2023 is \$3,841,043.81. Board members reviewed all of the financials for the General Fund. Fund equity has increased by \$235,041.47 when compared to July 2023.

- Cash Flow- The monthly cash flow for July 2023 through August 2023 shows that the total variance is \$226,463.70. The variance includes drawdowns from completion reports.

Approval of the August School Food Report - Action Item - Motion to approve made by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby, all were in favor. The school nutrition fund for August 2023 was reviewed. The revenues total to 9.68%. The expenditures total at 11.93%. The fund equity total is \$371,810.55.

CPF Point Calculation at this time - Information Item - The Comprehensive Performance Frameworks Score Prediction was reviewed. Based on the SCSC monitoring results, the CPF score is a 95 due to enrollment variance. There were no major changes in any of the CPF calculations for the month of August. The score remains at 95.

ARP ESSER III Update/Input - Information Item - ARP Esser Grants with carryover for FY 2024 were discussed. The ESSER REI Technology Grant will have around \$15K of unbudgeted funds. The Board discussed adding one more badge swipe entry door to the main building. This would leave \$5K that could potentially be used to purchase a needed smartboard.

Approval of Finance Policy Amendments - Action Item - Motion to approve made by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby, all were in favor. The finance policy amendment included the statement that, "Any expenses over \$25,000 will be approved by the Board and any expense over \$100,000 will be bid in accordance with the Law." This Statement was added to Section 9.

Approval of Federal Funds Policy Amendments- Action Item - Motion to approve made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Erwin Thomas, all were in favor. The addition of investigating loss or damage of equipment purchased by federal funds.

Governance - Action and Information Items

Expansion of school grounds (update) - Information Item – no new information at this time.

LocStop Parking Agreement- Action Item - Agreement to use the parking lot at the new LocStop in Dawson, GA as a pick-up/drop off point for students. Motion to approve made by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby, all were in favor.

Annual Conflict of Interest Review- Action Item - Policy B5 update. Motion to approve update to policy B5 made by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby, all were in favor. All members signed the Conflicts of Interest Questionnaire. Those not present have scheduled a time to meet with Lori Wilson to sign soon.

The addition of the approval of new/revised school policies provided - Action Item - Approval of several policies introduced by School Leader, Ginger Almon and CFO, Lori Wilson with the help of Hayden Hooks, School Attorney.

- **Policy S3 - Bullying** - Motion to approve amendment to Policy S3 Bullying made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Erwin Thomas, all were in favor.
- **Policy S30 - Suicide Prevention** - Motion to approve amendment to Policy S30 Suicide Prevention made by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby, all were in favor.
- **Policy O5 - Divisive Concept Act** - Motion to approve amendment to Policy O5 Divisive Concept Act made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Erwin Thomas, all were in favor.
- **Policy S5 - Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse** - Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse
- **Policy P8 - Infectious Disease** - Motion to approve amendment to Policy P8 Infectious Disease made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Erwin Thomas, all were in favor.
- **Policy O6 - Parents Bill of Rights** - Motion to approve amendment to Policy O6 - Parents Bill of Rights made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Erwin Thomas, all were in favor.
- **Policy S25 - Communicable Diseases** - Motion to approve amendment to Policy S25 - Communicable Diseases made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Erwin Thomas, all were in favor.
- **Student Code of Conduct** - Motion to approve amendment to Student Code of Conduct made by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby, all were in favor.

Approval of Handbooks - Action Item

- **Student and Family Handbook** - Motion to approve the updates to the Handbook made by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby, all were in favor.
- **Staff Handbook** - Motion to approve the staff handbook made by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby, all were in favor.

Discuss the school leader's performance related to LKES - Information Item – Tonight focus is on LKES #7 Fact Sheet #7- **Performance Standard 7: Professionalism** PROFESSIONALISM The leader fosters the success of students by demonstrating professional standards and ethics, engaging in continuous professional development, and contributing to the profession. Chairman Lee states that school leader Almon exhibits professionalism in working with the board, staff, students and parents. The board is pleased with her representation of the school on a daily basis.

Adjourn Meeting – 7:01 p.m. Motion to adjourn made by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby, all were in favor.