

Southwest Georgia STEM Charter Board of Directors Meeting

July 21, 2022 5:30 P.M. - Media Center at SGSC

MINUTES

Meeting also offered through Teleconference Option due to COVID-19:

Dial-in Number 978-990-5080: Access Code: 6521665

advertised on School Website as well.

Call to Order - 5:32 pm - called to order by Chairman, Tony Lee

Recognition of All Members in Attendance/Note Those Not Present - Members present: Tony Lee, Chris Weathersby, Patricia Goodman, Erwin Thomas **Members by Phone:** Russell Nuti **Members Absent:** Grant Ward **Other:** School Leader - Ginger Almon, CFO - Lori Wilson, Athletic Director - Ben Crowdis

Approval of June Minutes - Motion to approve by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Russell Nuti. All were in favor.

Motion to amend the agenda - Patricia Goodman, 2nd Edwin Thomas- all 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

- **Recent Successes and Celebrations** - Information Item
SGSC is excited about the teachers coming back on August 3rd. We are excited about the testing data compared to the school's in our RESA area - we have placed in the top three in most grade levels and content areas. We are celebrating the fact that all of the staff has been hired and all positions are covered. We will be offering Spanish and Music this year as new courses.
- **Athletics Information (Mr. Crowdis)** - Information Item
Mr. Crowdis discussed the current progress with the athletic department to include upcoming softball and middle school football. There were items discussed, such as improvements that need to be made to the field - including the fence to be installed for softball. Chairman Lee stated that he would come to the school and help with the process. Mr. Crowdis mentioned that we are partnering with Coke to sell their products and work with them to receive a new scoreboard for the football field.
- **After School Program Follow Up** - Information Item
School Leader Almon read the reply email from the parent that requested the board and school try to provide after school care for students. She was satisfied with the board's response that because we have a local daycare that offers after school care at a reasonable cost, SGSC would not be offering after school care at this time.
- **Approval of the Student Handbook** - Action Item
Motion to approve by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Eriwn Thomas, all in favor
- **School Police Department through Board of Education** - Action Item
The Board requested to call this venture The SGSC Safety Department - Motion to approve by Patricia Goodman, 2nd by Eriwn Thomas, all in favor

Academic - Information Items

- **End of Grade Testing Results** - Information Item
SGSC scores for the Georgia Milestones Assessment and End of Course Testing showed that we outperformed the local school district in all areas in all grade levels, so we should receive all of the points allocated on the Comprehensive Performance Frameworks scores once they are released. We were also competitive with the State scores in all grade levels in all content areas and outperformed in many of the areas.
- **Pre-Planning Agenda** - Information Item
SGSC is excited about pre planning with staff. On Day One, we will be taking two buses to Stars and Strikes in Columbus, Georgia to complete a team building activity under the guidance of the Leadership Institute at Columbus State University. Other training include those related to MAP assessments, IXL for instructional practice, Stop the Bleed training, CPR training, and Ethics

training. These 5 days will be beneficial to all staff. The Board has agreed to provide breakfast to all staff on Thursday, August 9th (biscuits from Chick-Fil-A) and Mrs. Goodman will make cinnamon rolls as well.

Finance - Action Items and Information Items

- **Approval of June Financial Report - Action Item-** Motion to Approve by Patricia Goodman, 2nd by Chris Weathersby- All were in favor. The General fund was reviewed. The school is 100.00% through the fiscal year. We compared the areas of the general fund to the fiscal year percentage to monitor spending. The end of the fiscal year total revenues are at 108.93%. This percentage is elevated due to the school receiving 100% of the SCSC Reimbursement Grant and the 100% drawdown on the Charter facility grant. Student transportation is at 183.69%. This is due to the increase in fuel price and the purchase of a used bus that was not included in the amended budget. The final expenditure total is 100.00%. The total fund equity for June is \$2,306,592.22. Board members reviewed all of the financials for the General Fund.
 - **The monthly cash flow summary-** The monthly cash flow for June compares the revenue and expenditures for the entire fiscal year. It shows that our variance in cash flow is \$70,6001.15 for the month of June.
- **Approval of the June School Food Report - Action Item-** Motion to Approve by Patricia Goodman, 2nd by Chris Weathersby- All were in favor. The school nutrition fund was reviewed. The revenues total to 107.43%. The expenditures totalled less than budgeted at 90.08%. The fund equity total is \$148,791.87.
- **CPF Point Calculation at this time - Information Item-**The monthly cash flow for June compares the revenue and expenditures for the entire fiscal year. It shows that our variance in cash flow is \$70,6001.15 for the month of June.
- **ARP ESSER III Update - Information Item-** The board reviewed proposed budgeting plans for the ARP ESSER III grant. We will continue to discuss items to purchase with this grant.
- **Approval of Human Resources Handbook- Action item-** Motion to Approve by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Patricia Goodman- All were in favor. The Board reviewed and discussed the new Human Resources Handbook. The entire handbook is new to the school and will begin implementation in FY 2023.
- **Approval of Finance Policy Changes- Action item-** Motion to Approve by Chris Weathersby, 2nd Patricia Goodman. The Board reviewed and discussed changes to the finance policy. Some of the changes were minor grammatical edits. Some additional verbiage is added in areas to strengthen the policy and to make sure there are guidelines for new situations in effort to safeguard and prepare the school.
- **Approval of Fy 2023 Budget Advertisement Period- Action Item-** Motion to approve Patricia Goodman, 2nd Chris Weathersby- All were in favor. The Board approved the timeline of the public hearing advertisements regarding the FY2023 Proposed Budget that was included on the School's web page beginning May 31st, 2022 and advertised in the legal organ for 2 consecutive weeks.

Governance - Action Items and Information Items

- **Expansion of school grounds (update) - Information Item**
No new information at this time. Still working on the funding portion of the expansion.
- **Approval of the New and Amended Policies - Action Item**
Motion to approve all New and Amended Policies by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Patricia Goodman, all in favor
 - **Homeschool Students Playing Sports**
 - **Class Size Policy**
 - **Grade Acceleration Policy**
 - **Promotion and Retention Policy**
 - **Hospital Homebound Policy**
 - **Cell Phone Policy**
 - **Attendance Policy**
- **Discuss the school leader's performance related to LKES - Information Item**

The Board discussed Ginger Almon's performance related to INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP: The leader fosters the success of all students by facilitating the development, communication, implementation, and evaluation of a shared vision of learning that leads to school improvement. The Board feels that the school leader's performance on this standard is strong as SGSC test scores continue to improve each year and through evidence from staff remarks and accountability.

Amended Items: Motion to amend the agenda Patricia Goodman, 2nd Edwin Thomas- All were in favor.

- **Approval of Coca Cola Agreement- Action Item-** Motion by Patricia Goodman, 2nd by Chris Weathersby- all in favor. SGSC will enter into an agreement with Coca Cola to sell products in school vending machines and in concessions.
- **Approval of Enrollment Policy- Action Item-** Motion to approve all New and Amended Policies by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Patricia Goodman, all in favor
- **Approval to enter into Executive Session- Began at 6:33- Action Item-** Motion by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Patricia Goodman - all in favor.
- **Approval to exit Executive Session at 6:50 pm- Action Item-** Motion by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Erwin Thomas - all in favor. The Board agreed to correct a School Administrator's salary.

Adjourn Meeting - 6:51- Motion to adjourn by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Patricia Goodman