



**Anderson Creek Academy
Board of Directors' Meeting
Minutes
April 21, 2021**



The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:01pm at Anderson Creek Academy virtually due to COVID 19. He welcomed board members, staff and guests. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present:

Ken Adelberg
Dr. Kerry Agnello
Andy Barr
Lisa Hamilton
Dr. Mary Majors
Wes Martin
Grace Merkle
Erica Morgan
Steve Shotz
Ann Stein
John Werderman

Guests: Mrs. Sheeley, Ms. Laughlin, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Haggard, Ms. Young, Ms. Weymouth, Mr. Wheeler, Ms. Rossignol, Ms. Matthews, Ms. Danielo, Ms. Morgan Portlock (Leal), Mrs. Werderman, et al.

Mr. Adelberg moved, Mr. Martin seconded, to approve the previous month's minutes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Committee Reports

Academic Mr. Werderman welcomed the new ACA First Grade teacher, Mrs. Morgan Portlock (Leal) He reviewed the lottery and confirmed enrollments with 240 on the waitlist. Mr. Adelberg moved that pursuant to Section 5.a of Mr. Council's At Will Employment Agreement, to terminate said agreement and execute the proposed severance and release agreement; Mr. Barr seconded. Mr. Werderman confirmed that each board member has received the severance and release agreement. **Motion passed unanimously.** Dr. Agnello moved, Mrs. Hamilton seconded, to reinstate Dr. Majors as the Head of School/Principal of ACA, effective immediately. **Motion passed unanimously.** Mr. Werderman began a discussion of summer school. Dr. Majors confirmed that ACA has funding for Read to Achieve funding (\$16k and \$5k), Kindercamp, Math & Science Remediation (5k), Rising 3/4/5 STEAM+ (\$3k), and Literacy and Leadership (\$2k) for rising 5th Graders. Dates may adjust to accommodate all. Mr. Werderman discussed financing, as Kindercamp will have a cost to families; the remaining programs are part of ACA's budget. Dr. Majors confirmed that there may be funding earmarked from the state. Mr. Werderman asked for feedback; Ms. Weymouth had a question on dates, and reiterated that the Math & Science Remediation is a great camp. Mr. Martin stated that as a parent, he is satisfied with the dates, but would like to hear from the teachers. Ms. Morgan agrees with Ms. Weymouth. Mr. Werderman confirmed that no child would be excluded due to cost. Dr. Majors compared Local Educational Authority options, with the office of charter schools due to send more detailed information. Dr. Majors confirmed that there are overarching social and emotional pieces to this discussion. Mrs. Stein asked for teacher feedback. Ms. Laughlin said 30 days might conflict with family and teacher schedules—recommends that some courses be optional. Ms. Johnson concurred with optional classes and reiterated that we will find a way to make it work. She stated that having parents offer financial support for STEAM+ gets pricey fast. This will be a wonderful way to get the community in our building. Mr. Weymouth says we look at solid summer

programs to meet our academic needs and give a break where needed. Ms. Johnson said it is important to make it not feel like school, make it feel like summer camp. Mr. Werderman said he would leave it to Dr. Majors and the teachers to work the program. Dr. Majors said ACA needs to do something innovative and creative to have professional development time—previously ACA had a scheduled early release time for professional development. ACA calendar for SY2021-2022 not ready for presentation. Dr. Majors stated that for the next 2 years it is very important to teach the students the science of reading and the draft will be inclusive of this. Dr. Majors stated Ms. Matthews has a draft calendar with ½ grade considerations still under waitlist review. Mr. Werderman said SY2021-2022 will be the most challenging budget to date. Mr. Werderman recognized Mrs Piro-Duffin. Dr. Majors stated when she hired Ms. Pyro-Duffin, she was very impressed with her teaching certificate and healthy living. Ms. Pyro-Duffin passed all three teaching examinations and all the Exceptional Children work. Dr. Majors is very proud of her advancement and NC certificates.

Medical Dr. Agnello presented a COVID update: as the state and county goal is 80%-85% immunity, current vaccination is 25% for NC and 26% for country. By June, we should see about 50% immunity and new infections should level off. Expected by the end of August is 85% immunity. At the last meeting, teachers and staff were in the middle of vaccinations. As of now, all who wish to be vaccinated are. Since the last meeting, ACA has had 14 quarantines. Currently ACA has 0 positive cases and 3 quarantines. All ACA has been doing still applies. Dr. Agnello will be available-if there are questions. Dr. Agnello asked Ms. Laughlin about graduation, including Kindergarten. Ms. Laughlin has researched options, including split schedules, outside events. Dr. Agnello reported that as part of Strong Schools NC NCDHHSK12 for schools with antigen testing office hours. Mrs. Sheeley and Mrs. Wheeler were part of a statewide 5 expert panel on testing. ACA was selected because of the testing program. Mr. Werderman asked Dr. Majors to consider remote possibilities for next year. ACA still has remote learners. For an additional average daily membership, the burden of also remote students, Mr. Werderman asked Ms. Laughlin for feedback. Ms. Laughlin stated ACA would make it work, with remote options easier to retain for grades 3, 4 and 5. Mr. Werderman acknowledged it has been a very challenging year and asked all to give thought to the options. Dr. Majors asked for specialist teachers to contribute. Mr. Haggard ha a plan to engage in person and virtual students. Ms. Johnson says a half day or time out of school for planning and preparation is the best of both worlds. On a ½ hybrid, K/1 hybrid, the original though is to let students try harder work. Mr. Werderman talked with teachers on strategies and options.

Uniform Mrs. Stein reported that uniform donations continue. The committee will clean out the lost and found after school ends and offer uniforms during registration.

Public Relations Ms. Morgan stated that ACA completed Month of the Military Child. ACA is completing yearbooks. Scholastic Book Fair and school photographs are this week. Ms. Laughlin recognized Ms. Rossignol for setting up an in person and a virtual book fair.

Human Relations Mr. Werderman asked Mrs. Merkle for the status of the leave policy. Mrs. Merkle reported that she met with Mrs. Hamilton and Mr. Martin. Ms. Merkle asked for feedback. Mrs. Hamilton asked for teacher liaison to the board. Mr. Werderman said Mrs. Merkle's committee to meet with the finance committee as part of contracts.

Building Mr. Barr began his report, but dropped off. Mr. Werderman recommends that the projected triple flagpole and digital signage projects be placed on hold due to cost. Mr. Werderman recognized

significant erosion in the parking lot. Mr. Adelberg will help with signage and course of action development.

Financial Report Mr. Werderman said that without grants, ACA is at a break even point financially. Mr. Martin moved, Dr. Agnello seconded to approve the financial reports. **Motion passed unanimously.** Mr. Werderman reported that the waste contract was 4 years. Mr. Adelberg moved, Mr. Martin seconded to accept the waste contract. **Motion passed unanimously.** Mr. Werderman stated the committee is working on a proposed retention bonus. Dr. Agnello moved, Mr. Martin seconded, to approve a special education assistant for Mrs Piro-Duffin. **Motion passed unanimously.** Dr. Agnello moved, Mrs. Hamilton seconded, to approve a teacher's assistant for Educational Children. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Head of School Report Dr. Majors reported the academic committee met with Mrs. Merkle, Mrs. Hamilton and Mr. Adelberg. She asked the rhetorical question: what is the curriculum? ACA uses the most recently approved NC standards. Teacher take standards and work to meet the needs of the students. We want all students to make growth and to be life long learners. Dr. Majors stated ACA will purchase books on the 5 languages of appreciation in the workplace. Mr. Werderman asked for that information in writing to be used for community relations and asked for an update following MAPS testing on 3 May. Ms. Johnson said it was great to see new teachers. Ms. Rossignol stated the book sale goal is \$5k, with \$5,089 already met. Ms. Young reported that school pictures are coming up, including for remote learners. Dr. Majors said there is a field audit on impact aid funds.

Old Business none.

New Business none.

Public Comment Mr. Werderman asked for any comment. Dr. Majors thanked all the volunteers.

Closed Session none.

Adjournment Dr. Agnello moved, Mr. Adelberg seconded, to adjourn. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Next Board Meeting May 19, 2021