



Board Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: Thursday, September 16, 2021, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Location:

Zoom Virtual Meeting

(<https://zoom.us/j/93894143318?pwd=RnlTMTB2L0hHamN2MWJSekJTSEJSZz09>)

Phone: +1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 938 9414 3318

Password: 107590

- I. Call to Order/Welcome __Stephen Wilson__ at __6:32__ p.m.
- II. Board Member Attendance Roll Call

Name	Present	Absent
Stephen Wilson	X	
Beckye Barnes	X	
Jonathan Pace	X	
Julie Johnson	X	
Demetria Pollard	X	
Chad Davis	X	
Sara Jane Arnett	X	
Sally Thornton	X	
John Thompson		X

Others in attendance:

Melissa Rabon – Executive Director, PACE Academy

Dr. Melanie Vaughn – Academic Director, PACE Academy

Michelle Crane – Disability Services Director, PACE Academy

Nichole Arnott

Chrystalina Tosada

Pamela Brown



Shelby Hindrickson (SPED)

Jacob Porter

Lizzet Perez

Mark Crawford

- I. Read Previous Meeting Minutes. **Motion:** *Approve Previous Board Meeting Minutes: 1st motion by __Stephen Wilson __ to accept minutes as read with spelling error corrected by __Sally Thornton__ 2nd motion by __Sara Jane Arnett __ at _6:41p_.*
- II. Public Comment Section (none present)
The official meeting of PACE Academy Board of Directors is, by law, a public meeting. The Board values community input. To protect the integrity of the meeting agenda, public dialogue will be restricted to the *Public Comment* section of the agenda or as directed by the Board Chairman. Policy is as follows:
 - a. Each speaker has 3 minutes to speak
 - b. Speakers may not address an individual board member individually or directly
 - c. Speakers may not ask questions of the Board
 - d. Board members may not engage speakers in discussion
 - e. Disruptive/abusive language or behavior is not permitted
- III. Public Comment:
 - a. Mark Crawford: no comment at this time
 - b. Lizzet Perez – Believes it is official that students must wear masks for their time at school; Ms. Rabon clarified the question
 - c. Nichole Arnett: wished to speak on the mask ordinance; discusses issues with her student’s problems wearing a mask; feels comfortable with the air filtration systems keeping the students safe; will have to ultimately have to pull her child if her child is forced to wear a mask; wants to commend PACE for health and safety guidelines; She is being responsible by keeping him at home if there is a close contact with his siblings.
 - d. Chrystalina Tosado: Question about Richland County mask mandate; feels her son will need to be pulled if there is a mask mandate
 - e. Jacob Porter: Reiterates that he would hate to have a problem with mask mandates in the future
 - f. Pamela Brown: Asks if there is a possibility of mask breaks for students who need to wear masks.
 - g. Shelby Hindrickson: No comment

- h. Emily Davison: Has one child at PACE; does wear mask; Does not have a problem with it at this point. Very concerned about packets of work if students have to be out. Notes that masks have been very politicized. Is there some sort of compromise? Feels very frustrated with the lack of concern by some families.
- IV. Update: Melissa Rabon:
- a. Richland County Ordinance: applies to people who are 11 years and older – responsibility to enforce masks falls with parents. All questions must be referred to Richland County. Contact information included on PACE website.
 - b. Schoolwide shutdown due to large number of staff quarantines. Current numbers are 8 students positive, 4 student quarantines; 0 positive staff, 1 quarantined staff for close contact. PACE continues to contact trace and follow CDC guidelines.
 - c. Enrollment: 186 students with funding for 184
 - d. Listed cleaning and safety procedures to keep students safe; lunch in classrooms has been added; students not congregating together.
 - e. School has hired another full-time substitute to help avoid another shut down; looking for more substitutes to be available on an as needed basis; substitutes are paid a daily rate
 - f. Playground installation has begun
 - g. Academic update: Project Read being implemented; students responding very positively to the multi-sensory learning; students carrying learning from ACE groups to regular education classrooms; MAP testing starting on Friday. Most curriculum has arrived, but some is on back order (or alternates in place); Dr. Vaughn appreciates the teachable moments that they've found in the building; Ms. Rabon shared that the faculty is working on making certain that other shutdowns will be smoother and attempting to make it more student-centered.
 - h. Quarantined students (individual) – parents will hear from ACE leaders, utilize Nessy program; asks that teachers send work commensurate with what students are learning in class.
 - i. Special Education Update: (M. Crane) – all students with IEPs on contingency plan as are students with 504 plans; teachers will be scheduling times with quarantining students as necessary.
 - i. 120 student (65% of population) have IEPs
 - 1. 49 with speech services
 - 2. 13 with OT
 - 3. 3 with PT
 - 4. 2 with Vision Therapy, 1 assessed for VT (will owe compensatory time)
 - ii. 10 students with 504 plans (between 5 and 10 are in the evaluation process)
 - iii. 2 students being tested
 - iv. 3 multi-lingual students



- j. Financials: Charter district underfunded for July and August, and the next payout should correct the shortage. Ms. Rabon plans to have the accountant change the format for the financials data so that it breaks down the budget more accurately.

- V. *Executive Session* – Entered Executive Session at __8:04p____motion by ____Jonathan Pace____; seconded by ____Chad Davis_____

Executive sessions allow the Board of Directors to discuss sensitive matters while maintaining confidentiality when necessary. Items that may be discussed in Executive Session are as follows: Employment, Appointment, Compensation, Promotion, Demotion, Discipline or Release of an Employee, Contractual Agreements. While the Board Chairman may brief board members absent from Executive Session, no other board members may report or discuss Executive Session items with anyone not in attendance of the session as all items are deemed confidential. Closed executive session at __8:17____. Motion to close executive session by ____Stephen Wilson_____; second by ____Sally Thornton_____.

- VI. Next Meeting scheduled for Oct 21, 2021 at 6:30 PM, via Zoom; we will call an emergency meeting as necessary
- VII. Close Meeting **Motion: Adjourn Meeting** 1st motion to adjourn by _Stephen Wilson____ at _ pm; 2nd motion by _Sally Thornton ____ at __8:18__pm.

Meeting Minutes taken by Sally Thornton, Board Secretary