

MEETING MINUTES

Board: Scintilla Charter Academy
Board Meeting: December 17, 2015

School(s): Scintilla Charter Academy

The minutes of Sunshine Law meetings need not be verbatim transcripts of the meeting. These minutes are a brief summary of the events of the meeting.

Date:	Start	End	Next Meeting:	Next time:	Prepared by:
December 17, 2015	6:10 pm	8:40 pm	December 17, 2015	6:00 PM	J. Denham
Meeting Location:					
2171 East Park Ave., Valdosta, GA 31602					

Attended by:	
Jerry Jennett Jeremy Baker Eric Tillman Enid Santana Zachary Cowart Garrett Copeland	Cass Robinson, Inspire Educators/Founding Leader Mandy Avera, Dean of Students & School Support Julie Hiers, Principal Jennifer Denham, Communications Manager Lauren Baker, 2 nd Grade Teacher Others: Rusty Griffin – Friend of SCA Lars Leader - VSU Creation Devine, Parent & After School Program Director Anita Russell – True North Companies Ann E. Lukens – School Liaison- Moody AFB Michlene Lee – SCA Parent
Highlights:	

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to public notice, the meeting commenced at 6:05 P.M.

I. Administrative Functions

- Approve Minutes from November 17 meeting
 - Motion was made by Enid Santana, second by Eric Tillman, the motion passed with a unanimous vote.
- Approve Agenda for December 19 meeting
 - Motion was made by Jerry Jennett, second by Eric Tillman, the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

II. School Related Reports

- Student Enrollment Update: Mandy Avera shared the current school enrollment numbers 388 students — 84 in kindergarten, 78 in first grade, 78 in second grade, 74 in third grade and 74 in fourth grade.

- She also stated NWEA testing took place and is being used to universally screen students and plan for remediation or acceleration.
- Mrs. Avera explained that we are in the process of having our Title 1 application completed.
- Next, she explained that that we are working to purchase Journey's reading series, which will be adopted school-wide over the course of 6 years.
- Furniture Update: FF&E moving forward and rolling out on time.
- Nutrition Update: Jennifer Denham updated the board on the work being done to get SCA in compliance with the state for school nutrition. She has been working with Joyce Akin, a nutrition consultant, to submit the reimbursement numbers to the state for the months of September and October and continues to qualify student for free or reduced lunch.
- Professional Development Room: Jennifer Denham explained that the office adjacent to the main office will now be used as a conference and professional development room. It will be used for parent and teacher meetings and is a great place for board committees to meet as well.
- Safety Update: Zachary Cowart explained that he conducted a walkthrough with Sims Fence Company and they determined that we need 6ft. fencing around the entire back of the school to comply with safety recommendations put forth by VPD. He informed the board that the finance committee had approved the purchase and installation of the fence and it should be installed before students return from holiday break.
- Behavior Plan: Amanda Miller discussed the behavior plan that has been put into place to provide intervention and support to scholars. The plan sets forth the interventions for negative behavior as well as positive behavior program that encourages leadership and overall character development.

III. Financial Report

Financial Report: Eric Tillman met with finance committee to determine a time for state-offered auditing for charter schools at no expense to the school and we are looking into qualifying for that so that we do not have to go through a RFP process.

Eric Tillman discussed retirement plans. Eric present a plan to adopt a 457, 403B to allow additional retirement contributions outside of TRS. Eric presented the plan document to the board for approval. A motion was made by Enid Santana, a secong was made by Jerry Jennett. The motion passed unanimously.

Eric Tillman presented to the board the need to change the signature card for the bank account at Guardian Bank. Mandy Avera and Stephanie Mullis should be added as signature card users for this account. A motion was made by Enid Santana. Garrett Copeland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS –

- None

V. NEW BUSINESS – Enrollment timeline was discussed by Jennifer Denham. Re-enrollment for current students taking place from December 8 – January 8. New

student applications will be accepted January 11 – 29. The lottery will be held on February 4.

VI. OPEN FORUM

Lars Leader discussed that research shows that enrollment in charter schools across the US shows that minority applicants go down year after year and some legislation in GA may require recruiting minorities. Jennifer Denham let him know that there is a plan in place to publicize the – working to push out the enrollment info.

GA did not pass legislation but it was presented. He stated that the proposed legislation would allow charter schools to give priority to low income.

Jennifer Denham shared free/reduced demographics when asked by Mr. Leader. The school has approximately 52% of scholars receiving free-reduced lunch.

VII. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be on 1/28/16 at 6pm in the SCA Media Center.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Eric Tillman to adjourn, seconded by Enid Santana. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 6:28 pm.

Zachary Cowart, Board Chair

Date: _____