



Board of Directors

Meeting Time: February 23, 2023 @ 4:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Location: Join on Zoom: Meeting ID: 825 9887 1257 Passcode: 658125

Roll Call by Secretary: Ashley Goverman (present,) Rosemary Herold (present,) George Hynd (present,) Bob McFerran (present,) Chris Ott (present,) Stephanie Sams (present), Sedric Webber (present, few minutes late)

Admin & Staff: Jean Castelli, Lindajeanne Schwartz, Rachel Jones (Notary,) Cindy O’Sullivan, Kiki Allen

Regarding the swearing in of new members:

Elected members sworn in by notary – Jason Brisini, Rosie Herold, Ashley Goverman, Chris Ott

Appointed members sworn in by notary – Bob McFerran, Jane Walsh, Sedric Webber

Executive board nominations and vote. List names & positions.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide an exceptional, evidence-based, multi-sensory education for students with dyslexia to open the gates to their academic potential in an environment that empowers students to develop a positive and socially conscious self-image.

1. Call to Order at 4:53pm by Stephanie Sams.
2. Mission Statement & Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda for February 23, 2023 by Bob McFerran 1st, George Hynd 2nd. All in favor.
4. Swearing in of New Board Members
 - a. “Raise right hand and repeat after me I do solemnly swear that I am duly qualified according to the constitution of this state to exercise the duties of the office to which I have been elected and that I will to the best of my ability discharge the duties thereof and preserve, protect, and defend the constitution of this state and the United States, so help me God.”
 - b. Election results: Jason Brisini, Rosie Herold, and Ashley Goverman

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- c. SS makes a motion to appoint Bob McFerran, Jane Walsh, and Sedric Webber to the Gates BOD. Unanimous vote of approval.

5. Establish the Executive Board

- a. Nominations for the Board Chair: George Hynd nominates Stephanie Sams. Rosie Herold 2nd. No discussion. SS abstained from vote. All in favor.
- b. Nominations for Vice Chair: Stephanie Sams nominates George Hynd. Chris Ott 2nd. No discussion. All in favor.
- c. Nominations for Secretary: Bob McFerran nominates Ashley Goverman. Stephanie Sams 2nd. No discussion. All in favor.
- d. Nominations for Treasurer: Ashley Goverman nominates Chris Ott. George Hynd 2nd. No discussion. All in favor.

6. Motion to adopt minutes from January 26, 2023 meeting by Chris Ott. Jane Walsh 2nd. All in favor.

6. Public Comments (2 minutes per speaker; please state your name and address)*: No public comments.

7. Principal's Report / SPED Update

- a. Jean Castelli - Principal's Report
 - i. First annual Read-a-Thon is currently ongoing. Students have read just about 10,000 in their free time. They have raised almost \$4k in donations. Will be circling back to the GFA and how to allocate those funds. Tomorrow afternoon will be a celebration with the Kona Ice truck.
 - ii. March 2nd - Read Across America Day - Recognition of Dr. Seuss' birthday. Tim Lowry will be performing for our students in 2 sessions. Lowcountry resident who performs nationwide.
 - iii. Janice Nicholas will be retiring. She will be greatly missed.
 - iv. Rachel Jones will be moving into that position of Director of Operations.
 - v. Hired a new front door receptionist named Lisa. Beginning her role on Monday.
 - vi. Progress reports go home tomorrow.
- b. LJ Schwartz - SPED Update
 - i. Tomorrow we will be off to the College of Charleston Teacher Employment Expo with George and Stephanie.

8. Stephanie Sams motions to approve 2023-24 School Calendar. Bob McFerran 2nd. All in favor.

8. Board Chair's Report

- a. Thank you to the Alliance for conducting our election. Greatly appreciates everyone who volunteers to serve on the Board. Reminder that we are a volunteer role. Thanks to the parents and staff for voting in the election. Recognizing outgoing board members: Eric Bentson and Trey Zimmerman. They were imperative founding members and will be missed.



- b. The Board would like to pass on sympathy to Janice on the passing of her mother.
- c. Looking to schedule a Board Retreat soon.
- d. Working on a Spring Fundraiser and more to come with that.
- e. New board members will need to take Board training with SCDE online.
- f. No financial report this meeting in order for the new Treasurer to meet with the accountant and outgoing Treasurer.
- g. Thank you to Cindy O'Sullivan and Kiki Allen that have joined the meeting as teachers.

9. Executive Session: No need for executive session.

10. Motion to adjourn at 5:25pm. Bob 2nd. All in favor.

Minutes submitted by Ashley Goverman.