

Minutes for Grace Schools Charter Authority, LLC Board Meeting April 22, 2022

Call to Order

A regular meeting of Grace Schools Charter Authority, LLC was held on April 22, 2022, in McClain Hall, Room 109. The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. (EST) and was presided over by Paul Blair as delegated by Vice Chair of the Board, Joy Lavender.

Attendees

Roll call of voting members in attendance included Dr. Dennis Gaerte, Joy Lavender, and Paul Blair.

Member not in attendance was Dr. John Lillis.

Staff in attendance included Dr. Tim Ziebarth and Sarah Tillman.

Guest in attendance was Rick Padgett, Headmaster of Otwell Miller Academy.

Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the Agenda as presented was made by Dennis Gaerte and seconded by Joy Lavender. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes

No additions or revisions were made to the November 7, 2019, minutes.

A motion to approve the November 7, 2019, meeting minutes was made by Joy Lavender and seconded by Dennis Gaerte. The motion was unanimously approved.

Status of Quorum

Paul Blair declared the status of quorum had been met for this public hearing.

Director's Report

The Director's Report was given by Tim Ziebarth.

New Business

- A. Rich Padgett provide the board a presentation that included the history, challenges, opportunities, and vision moving forward for Otwell Miller Academy. Interaction between Rick and the board took place as it related to follow up questions to better understand the scope and direction of Otwell Miller Academy.

No action taken.

- B. Letter of Resignation was presented by Dr. John Lillis. A motion to approve the Letter as presented was made by Dennis Gaerte and seconded by Joy Lavender. The motion was unanimously approved.

Board expressed their appreciation for Dr. John Lillis' service to the public in his role as a board member.

- C. Dugger Union Community School – Director Tim Ziebarth announced that the staff had received the official renewal application for Dugger Union. Discussion was had regarding the renewal process and two board members scheduling a site visit to the school. Tim Ziebarth will work with school officials to coordinate a date in May.

No action taken.

- D. New Charter School Application Schedule – The staff presented the board a proposed Application Schedule for new Operators seeking a charter in the State of Indiana.

Step 1 – Letter of Intent: May 1, 2022 – May 10, 2022

Step 2 – Request for Prospectus: May 24, 2022

Step 3 – Full Proposal (2-week window): July 1, 2022 – July 15, 2022

Step 4 – Interviews and Public Hearings: July 16, 2022 – September 3, 2022

Step 5 – Grace College Authorizing Charter Decision(s) will be made within 75 days of receipt of full application. – No later than September 14, 2022

A motion to approve the Application Schedule as presented was made by Dennis Gaerte and seconded by Joy Lavender. The motion was unanimously approved.

- E. Smith Academy made a request to adjust the school grade level along with the addition of allowing girls to attend. This request is being made in conjunction with the strategic efforts of Smith Academy to relocate their school to better serve their population of students. A silent capital campaign has been in process to raise the needed funds to renovate and build.

A motion to approve the change request with a written plan by Smith Academy (approved by the Staff) was made by Dennis Gaerte and seconded by Joy Lavender. The motion was unanimously approved.

Announcements

The next board meeting will be on May 26, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. (EST)

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dennis Gaerte and seconded by Joy Lavender. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 11: 40 a.m. (EST).



Dr. Dennis Gaerte, Secretary
Grace Schools Charter Authority, LLC


Date of Approval