

Hope Charter Leadership Academy (HCLA)
Minutes of Board Meeting (Final—approved February 27, 2019)
January 23, 2019
Media Center
7:45 a.m.

Members Present: Allene Adams, Chip Anderson, Barbara Engram, Pamela Jamison, Joel Kamyra, Leonard King, Tucker Mann, Willette Morman, and Walt Sherlin

Members Absent: Delores Fogg, Anna Dunn Fonville, Mike Gray, Ken Mack, Tom Mann, and Robin Vincent

Non-voting Members: Clarissa Fleming and Beth Burrus

Staff: Cher Perry

Guests: Crawford Crenshaw and Kwan Graham

- I. **Welcome, Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance:** The fifth Board meeting of the 2018-19 school year held at Hope Charter Leadership Academy was called to order at 7:51 a.m. by Mr. Sherlin who asked Mr. Tucker Mann to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **Approval of Board Agenda: Action: Mr. Sherlin noted a correction to the Agenda for a Review, instead of Approval, of the November Board minutes. Mr. Sherlin also noted that the Presentation/Discussion with Representatives of PAVE SE be moved to the Public Comment line item of the Agenda. He asked if there were any other additions or changes to the Agenda. There being none, Mrs. Jamison then moved that the Agenda be approved with the noted correction. Mr. Kamyra provided the second for the motion. Motion carried unanimously (9 – 0).**
- III. **Public Comment:** Since there were no requests for public comment, this item was replaced with **Presentation/Discussion with Representatives of PAVE SE:** Mr. Sherlin provided an overview of Hope circumstances since the announcement of its closure. He then welcomed two members from the PAVE SE Board—Kwan Graham, a founding PAVE SE Board member and Crawford Crenshaw, known as a supporter of Hope and of the students and families that both schools serve.

Mrs. Graham has interacted with our parents at a PTO meeting January 22, the evening before this meeting and believes that parents are now more comfortable that they have met and have been able to ask questions of a PAVE Board member, administrators, teacher and parents (6 of the PAVE team were in attendance). Mrs. Graham is the Community Outreach Director of Parents for Educational Freedom in North Carolina (PEFNC) a non-profit organization that is an advocate for quality educational options through parental school choice. She was able to impart her deep understanding of parent concern in finding a good school option for their children. Her goal was to help them understand that PAVE looks at the whole child and want to address all their concerns until they are satisfied that PAVE is the best school option for their children. She is committed to Hope parent satisfaction and to another meeting if needed to help Hope parents make their decision.

Mr. Crenshaw has long been a Hope supporter and is known to some members of the Hope Board and administration. He has a deep understanding of both schools and confirms that the mission, values and heart of both schools are in the same place. He firmly believes in the human factor and knows it has to go well for this transition to be successful. He has noted that PAVE SE can learn from Hope and that it has a lot to offer PAVE. He believes that both schools have the same goals and wants to work together for the benefit of our students

which he recognizes have not been served well by our country. Mr. Crenshaw was very excited to learn of Hope's Leader in Me Lighthouse recognition and acknowledged that accomplishment for our school community. He's made it known that the PAVE SE Board will be expanding and it would welcome Hope Board members who may have interest in serving.

IV. Review of November 28, 2018 Board minutes: Action: Mrs. Jamison presented the minutes of the November 28, 2018 meeting which were approved unanimously (12 – 0) by email vote on November 29, 2018 and asked if there were any exceptions to the approved Minutes. There being none, Mr. Sherlin moved that the Minutes stand as approved by email vote on November 29, 2018. Ms. Morman provided the second for the motion. Motion carried unanimously (9 – 0).

V. Principal's Report:

Ms. Morman, on behalf of the Personnel committee, and Mrs. Fleming gave special recognition and appreciation to Mrs. Perry who as interim principal from 12-10-18 to 1-11-19 "steered the ship" masterfully during Mrs. Fleming's convalescence and recuperation and the announcement of the Hope closure at year end. The big news of the day was the naming of **Hope Charter Leadership Academy as a "Lighthouse School"**! This news was met with applause and kudos to Mrs. Fleming and all Hope staff for the importance of this recognition of Hope as the second school in Wake County and the first charter school in North Carolina to receive this highest rating from the Leader in Me Program. Plans are underway for announcements and recognition of Hope and its staff and its commitment to leadership development in its students.

Mrs. Fleming highlighted several key dates of school programs, testing and other events during the first quarter. Some of the important dates are the memorial service for Mr. Sutherland on January 26; Middle of Year Assessments (m-Class for K – 3 and Math for K – 2) from January 28 to February 20; and, Leader in Me and other Leadership events from the end of February through March. Two of the most important events during this time are the Leader in Me Symposium February 27 – March 1 and Leadership Sprit Week from March 18 – 22. She provided additional information in the following areas:

a. Enrollment

- Enrollment has been maintained since the announcement of school closure.
- One Kindergarten student withdrew due to transportation needs outside the bus route.

b. Staffing

- Three vacancies in critical areas were filled quickly with strong candidates by Mrs. Fleming and Mrs. Perry to start the second half of the school year.
- Fifth Grade teacher—Mr. Derrick Stevenson has 23 years of teaching experience in Halifax and Nash counties in elementary, middle and high school with extensive experience in 5th grade.
- Third Grade Instructional Assistant—Mr. Sherrod Rogers recently relocated from Memphis where he had extensive experience supporting at-risk students. He will also support the Y-Learning after school program.
- Front Desk Attendance—Ms. Atonya Smith assumes this responsibility in addition to her janitorial duties that she will maintain after school hours. She received very positive feedback during her substitution in this role.
- Administrative Intern—Ms. Maya Alexander, a student at Peace University will be shadowing the Hope administrative team and supporting grouping/instruction in the testing grades. This volunteer support is extremely beneficial for the second semester test preparation focus.

c. Y-Learning Program – Mrs. Fleming reported that all is going well with Y-Program.

d. Academic/Testing Update – Mrs. Perry shared the results of the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) which was administered on December 6 – 7 and the subsequent Academic Plan to address the areas that need to be strengthened. The plan is attached to the minutes.

- Overall growth data for all testing grades was depressed versus (v.) the results last year at this time.
 - In Math, 60.3% (32 of 53) of students showed growth v. 86% (43 of 50) last year.
 - In Reading, 47.6% (20 of 42) of students showed growth v. 69.3% (34 of 49) last year.
 - Reading is of great concern as noted the low growth performance.
 - As over testing is an issue, the use of easy curriculum based measurement is being used to assess along the way, diminishing more formalized assessment.
 - Data sharing with students and parents and acquisition of EOG prep books which even includes science are being employed as well.
 - In English Language Arts/Reading the Academic Plan is to focus on vocabulary – its acquisition and use, and informational and literary text – by addressing key ideas, details and language.
 - The strategies implemented include small group instruction, weekly vocabulary, daily reading, strategic grouping and a new strategy of student testing. Eagledemics groups have been adjusted based on the new MAP data with focus on bubble and high proficiency students.
 - A new strategy as a part of student testing is to improve student motivation/desire to do well. One of the catchy visible phrases is “Students do well for Yourselves, Parents and Teachers!” In addition, a motivational video has been created by the Student Lighthouse team to be shared for upcoming school wide assessments.
 - In Math, the focus is on operations and algebraic thinking, measurements and data in 3rd grade, geometry, measurement and data in 4th grade and number and operations and measurement and data in 5th grade.
 - Strategies to address the math focus are small group instruction, daily skill and drill, daily problem solving and strategic grouping. Eagledemic groups have been adjusted also for Math using the most recent MAP data.
 - A major curriculum change for both academic areas is the implementation in January of the North Carolina EOG READY program which is updated with new NC standards, student workbooks, teacher guides, eBooks, and assessments for each standard.
- e. **Other** – Mrs. Fleming noted the following actions that were initiated to begin the second semester and set the tone and focus for the remainder of the school year.
- At the opening staff meeting on January 11 Mrs. Fleming introduced the theme that will take Hope to the end of year—“**Finishing Strong while Leaving a Legacy**”.
 - Detailed discussions of the “Operation Team Go Efforts” and academic grouping were had to get ready for EOG test prepping.
 - Mrs. Fleming and Mrs. Perry had class chats with all grade levels, but particularly with 3, 4, and 5 in which academic and behavioral expectations were reviewed and they also conducted a wellness check with regard to the loss of Mr. Sutherland and the school closure announcement.
- VI. Transition Planning**—Mr. Tucker Mann shared the plan which incorporates necessary tasks by Board committee required to support school closure. Mr. Mann emphasized that it is a living document and has encouraged members to recommend and update where necessary. He also noted that PAVE has offered and Hope has accepted its assistance with some of the transition items.
- VII. Education Committee Report**—Mrs. Jamison requested the dates of critical testing for the remainder of the year—they are June 17, 18, 19 for End of Grade (EOG) testing and May 1 – 3 for MAP assessment. Mrs. Fleming made a request for academic mentors who can consistently (on an established schedule—normally weekly) be present to support testing grade groups. Other education matters are noted in the Academic/Testing Update in the Principal’s Report.

- VIII. **Personnel Committee Report**—Ms. Morman commended Mrs. Fleming and Mrs. Perry for meeting and resolving the hiring/personnel needs in a manner such that school was fully ready with staff in place for the opening of the 2nd half of the year. Personnel matters are noted in the Staffing portion of the Principal’s report.
- IX. **Finance Committee Report**—Mr. Tucker Mann stated that it is important to be vigilant in monitoring financial resources this year and reported the following:
- Budget needs for the transition year will require that Hope raise \$50 K. About \$40 K has already been done.
 - An additional \$20 K has been committed from the Board.
 - It is anticipated that the expected cash position at fiscal year-end will be about \$50 K.
- X. **Development Committee Report**— Development efforts are noted in the Finance report.
- XI. **Transportation/Building Committee Report** –Mr. Sherlin reported that there are no concerns or issues with the bus and transportation and that all is going well. However, he further reported that on January 22, early morning staff found a building with no heat on one of the coldest days of the winter. A heating malfunction occurred due to a missing furnace part. The part had been ordered, was on hand but had not yet been installed. It had not been a problem while waiting for installation because staff was able to over-ride the mechanism and the furnace was operable and able to heat the building. However, this particular morning, the over-ride took much more effort, but was finally accomplished and heat was restored. The part was installed that day and students did not have to miss a day of school.
- XII. **Old Business**— An informal discussion of PAVE Board expansion took place with the recognition that Hope Board members with interest would be considered.
- XIII. **New Business**—None
- XIV. **Adjourn**—**No Executive Session was required. Action: There being no further business, Mrs. Jamison moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. King provided the second for the motion. Motion carried unanimously (9 – 0).** Mr. Sherlin adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Upcoming Board meeting dates: February 27, March 27 (tentative), April 24, May 22, and June 26

Submitted by: Pamela Jamison