

The Emereau Foundation
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337
Virtual Meeting of the Board of Directors
Tuesday December 15, 2020
5:00 p.m.

Minutes

The Emereau: Bladen Board of Directors met on Tuesday, December 15,, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was held virtually due to COVID 19.

Board Members Participating: Eddie Madden, Chair; Phil Byrd, Treasurer; Dean Hilton and Ashley Dowless.

Board Members not Participating: Maurice Williams and Sandra Lewis

Administrative Staff Present: Elizabeth Cole, Executive Director; Polly Hancock, Dean of Academic Initiatives; and Wanda Everette, Administrative Assistant.

Other Members Virtually Present: David Wall, Board Attorney; Christy Nicholauson, Prestige School Solutions; Jennifer Laney, Prestige School Solutions, and Julie Sasser, Coach/Athletic Director.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mrs. Cole led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mission Statement: Mrs. Cole read the Mission Statement.

Conflict of Interest Statement: Mr. Madden read the Conflict of Interest Statement. There were no conflicts of interest noted.

Minutes: Mr. Madden presented the October 27, 2020 and November 19, 2020 minutes for approval. Mr. Byrd motioned to approve the minutes presented. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Financial Report: Ms. Christy Nicholauson and Ms. Jennifer Lane with Prestige School Solutions gave the board a financial update. Mr. Byrd motioned to approve the financial report presented for November. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

USDA Finance Update: Mr. Madden gave an update on the USDA financing in detail. All information required for the application has been submitted

except for an update on the financials for the Feasibility Study to reflect a change in the interest rate to 2.125%.

- Lease Agreement for Phase IIIB: Mr. Madden presented an agreement with Bladen Community Services for the financing of Phase IIIB. Attorney David Wall asked for clarification in the wording of the lease agreement, specifically from Exhibit F, 2(d), (2e) and Exhibit H. Questions arose from the Board regarding the Exhibits. Mr. Byrd motioned to table the Lease Agreement for Phase IIIB to allow the financial committee and Attorney David Wall to clarify the wording of Exhibit F and Exhibit H. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- Financial and Development Services Agreement for Phase IIIB: Mr. Madden presented an Addendum to the Agreement for the Development and Management of Charter School Facilities Project dated June 1, 2016 with Advantage Capital Development, subsequently assigned to Bladen Community Services. Attorney David Wall asked to clarify wording in the agreement. Mr. Byrd asked to remove the wording "and consulting services" under Item I of the Agreement. In addition, the Board asked to change the wording under Item 2 to the following: "Charter School will compensate BCS up to the amount of (\$100,000) for its services, due within five (5) business days of this agreement." Mr. Byrd motioned to approve the changes in Items 1 and 2 of the agreement. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- Athletic Information Update: Mrs. Julie Sasser gave the board a Basketball update. Nine girls and 12 boys are on the Emereau team with nine games scheduled. The team's practices and games will be played at Elizabethtown Baptist Church Gym. Mrs. Sasser then shared a detailed financial worksheet for all sports.
- Beginning Teacher Plan: Mrs. Polly Hancock presented the Beginning Teacher Plan for approval. Mr. Hilton motioned to approve the Beginning Teacher Plan. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- COVID Work Policy: Mrs. Cole shared two policies for employees working during the COVID pandemic. The Employee Teleworking Agreement would be used in instances in which administration has determined that an employee may temporarily telework as a means of social distancing to avoid viral transmission, lack of appropriate childcare, and /or documented medical concerns. The policy is very specific and covers hours worked and the responsibility of the employee and has to be signed by employee and administration. Mrs. Cole presented the COVID Travel Policy/COVID Guidance for employees, which includes pre travel notification, the purpose of

their travel, if employee plans to attend gatherings of ten (10) or more, the mode of transportation and their expected return date. Mr. Byrd motioned to approve the two policies presented. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Post Winter Break Schedule: Mrs. Cole asked to clarify if the school would remain on schedule for students and staff returning after winter break, January 4, 2021. Parents have asked if changes are made that they be notified in time to arrange daycare. Mrs. Cole recommended staying on schedule unless the governor issues other orders. Mrs. Dowless motioned to remain on schedule following the protocols in place to keep students and staff well. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Executive Director's Report: Mrs. Cole informed the board that Emereau has joined a pilot program with DHHS to administer COVID test. Mrs. Ashley Bryant, School Nurse, will be giving the antigens/COVID test. The test would only be given to staff and students (with parental permission) showing symptoms. Mrs. Cole gave an enrollment update. Curriculum nights were given through zoom and google meets in November. Mrs. Pam Taylor submitted the Exceptional Children headcount (96). Lotteries opened on November 1 for the 2021-2022 school year and will close February 28, 2021.

Closed Session: No closed session was held.

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Byrd motioned to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maurice Williams, Secretary

Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate