

The Emereau Foundation
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Tuesday, July 21, 2020
5:00 p.m.

Minutes

The Emereau: Bladen Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

- Board Members Present: Eddie Madden, Chair; Lisa DeVane, Vice Chair; Phil Byrd, Treasurer; Ashley Dowless, Dean Hilton and Board Attorney, David Wall.
- Board Member Absent: Maurice Williams, Secretary; Sandra Lewis
- Administrative Staff Present: Elizabeth Cole, Executive Director; Polly Hancock, Dean of Academic Initiatives; and Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate
- Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Byrd led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Mission Statement: Mrs. DeVane read the Mission Statement.
- Conflict of Interest Statement: Mr. Madden read the Conflict of Interest Statement. There were no Conflicts of Interest noted.
- Approval of Minutes: Mr. Madden presented the minutes from the June 16, 2020 meeting. Mrs. DeVane motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- Public Comment: The floor was opened for public comments. No comments were made.
- Budget Report: Mr. Byrd presented the budget report for June. Christy Nicholauson and Jennifer Laney with Prestige School Solutions participated by Zoom. Mr. Byrd motioned to approve the budget report. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- Financing Options-Hamlin, PNC, USDA, W.K. Dickson & Co., Legacy Impact Capital: Mr. Madden opened the floor for discussion on refinancing options. Mr. Byrd motioned to approve W K Dickson contract for professional services for \$1500 per hour contingent that if artifacts are discovered and State Clearing House is involved it would be \$3500. Mr. Hilton motioned to approve the Legacy Impact Capital contract, Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- Phase I ESA Proposal: Mr. Madden presented the Phase I ESA Proposal required by USDA. Mrs. Dowless motioned to approve and Mr. Byrd seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Revised 20-21 School Calendar: Mrs. Cole presented a revised school calendar changing the start date for students from August 3, to August 10. Mrs. DeVane motioned to approve the revised calendar. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Return to School Options: Mrs. Cole shared survey results from parent and staff on the remote learning plan. 347 responses were received. 72.9% are ready to return to campus, 27.1% are choosing to do remote learning. Four options were presented: Option 1-AB schedule where students alternate A-Monday and Wednesday, and B-Tuesday and Thursday with remote on Friday. Option 2-AB Schedule where students alternate A- Monday and Tuesday, B-Wednesday and Thursday and Friday remote. Option 3 AB Schedule where students alternate A- Monday and Tuesday, remote on Wednesday, and B- Thursday and Friday. Option 4 divide students in Group A and Group B rotating weeks releasing early on Friday to deep clean the school. Mrs. Cole recommended Option 3 or Option 4. Mrs. Dowless motioned to approve Option 3. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. Discussion then centered on offering student devices. Mrs. Dowless motioned to amend the agenda to add purchasing of student devices. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was approve to amend the agenda.

Purchasing of Student Devices: Mr. Hilton motioned to authorize Mrs. Cole to spend up to \$75,000 with Steve Joyner to provide synchronize and interactive learning. Mr. Byrd seconded and motion was unanimously approved.

Remote Learning Plan Approval: Mrs. Cole presented a Remote Instruction Plan required by the Department of Public Instruction for the five days of remote learning built into the school calendar. Mr. Hilton motioned to approve the Remote Instruction Plan. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

School Improvement Plan Approval: Mrs. Cole presented a School Improvement Plan required by Title I and recommended approval. Mr. Hilton motioned to approve the School Improvement Plan. Mrs. DeVane seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Federal Program Assurances: Mrs. Cole presented Federal Program Assurances and recommended approval. Mr. Hilton motioned to approve, seconded by Mrs. Dowless. The motioned passed unanimously.

Title I Spokesperson: Mr. Hilton motioned to allow Mrs. Cole to sign off on Federal Programs and be the spokesperson for Title I. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Executive Directors Report: Mrs. Cole updated the board on the Safety Initiatives Partnership with Bladen County Schools and that she has withdrawn. Mrs. Cole

informed the Board that yearlong classes will be offered instead of semesters with the exception of the electives. Enrollment currently is 652 with 79 on the waiting list.

Closed Session: Mrs. DeVane motioned to go into closed session at 6:55 p.m. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Motion to Return to Open session: Mrs. Dowless motioned to come out of closed session at 7:05. Mrs. DeVane seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Personnel Recommendations: Mrs. Dowless motioned to approve Johana Cashions, Spanish teacher. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

August Meeting: The August meeting will be held August 18, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn: Mrs. Dowless motioned to adjourn. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maurice Williams, Secretary

Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate