

The Emereau Foundation
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Tuesday, May 21, 2019
5:00 p.m.

Minutes

The Emereau: Bladen Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Eddie Madden, Chair; Lisa DeVane, Vice Chair; Phil Byrd, Treasurer; Maurice Williams, Secretary; Ashley Dowless and Dean Hilton.

Board Member Absent: Sandra Lewis

Administrative Staff Present: Carla Fisher, Executive Director; William Findt, Advisor; Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate; Polly Hancock, 5th grade; Pam Taylor, EC Director; Amanda Garner, 2nd grade; Brittany Dockery, 3rd grade; Stephanie Griffin, 2nd grade; Ashley Davis, 3rd grade; Quentin Lovette, Music; Richard Bouldin, MakerSpace and Carey Patrick, Associate Teacher.

Call to Order and Welcome: Mr. Madden called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Mission Statement: Ms. 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 April 23, 2019 meeting. Ms. DeVane motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Public Comment: Regina Culbreth, Connie Howell, Adam Smith and Shelly Wittenborn addressed the board with issues pertaining to the non-renewal of personnel contracts, and the bus transportation program. Quentin Lovette, Music teacher spoke in support of adding a non-performance based music class to the 2019-2020 curriculum fulfilling the state standards. Parents have also expressed interest in having this program available for students. Students would be meeting all state requirements but not participating in outside performances.

Closed Session: A motion to go into closed session was made at 5:16 p.m. by Ms. Dowless. Mr. Williams seconded and the Board unanimously voted to go into closed session per NC General Statute 143.318.11(a)

for the purpose of discussing a potential personnel contracts: A public body may close a session for the following purpose: to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or a proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other materials terms or an employment contract or a proposed employment contract.

Motion to Return to Open Session:

Mr. Williams made a motioned at 6:10 to return to open session. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Budget Report:

Mr. Byrd presented the budget report. Ms. DeVane motioned to approve the budget report presented. Mr. Williams seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Byrd informed the board that Petway Mills & Pearson would be on campus conducting the school audit on June 13, 2019.

Projected Budget 2019-2020 SY:

Mr. Byrd presented the projected budget for the 2019 – 2020 school year. The 2019 – 2020 budget projection is based on the ADM of 578 and 57 EC students with no increase from the state. The budget projection included adding 3% salary increase in funding for all returning staff and adding the following positions: one kindergarten teacher, two eighth grade teachers, one music teacher, two associate teachers, one EC associate teacher, one finance officer and one guidance counselor. Ms. Dowless motioned to approve the projected budget. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Change of Financial Service Provider:

Mr. Byrd shared services provided by Prestige School Solutions and compared them to services currently being offered by Acadia NorthStar. Prestige School Solutions is cloud based, provides more updated services, and integrates with the Department of Public Instruction. Mr. Byrd recommended the board look more into Prestige School Solutions and inquire about the PowerSchool and Lotterease services. No further action was taken on this matter.

Discussion and Approval of Term of Non-Binding Sheet for financing of School Facilities and Purchase of School Property:

Chair Madden informed everyone that Emereau Bladen is currently being leased from Gardner Altman and Trey Greer, and shared information on how to best secure financing of the school for long term. Options that have been explored include traditional financing, USDA financing, and bond financing. Through this process, Emereau has been presented with a term sheet, which states the exact detailed information for the amount being financed in a non-binding term sheet. Chair Madden introduced Mr. Altman. Mr. Altman stated it was his goal to allow the school to own the property within the first five years and be supportive of having the current the loan paid. Mr. Hilton motioned to approve the non-binding Bond Agreement at no

cost to Emereau, to include the opportunity to discuss the ambiguous technology and terminology of the agreement. Further, for all regulations to be reviewed by the school's legal counsel and financial team. This is in no matter an agreement to proceed with a bond deal, however to continue negotiations. Ms. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

2019-2020 Contracts/EC Program:

Ms. Taylor presented the following contracts for EC services: Speech Solutions Inc., Barbara B. Bell Psychological Services, Margaret A. Zastrow, PT and Associates, and Integrated Pediatric Therapies, LLC. Mr. Hilton motioned to approve the contracts presented. Mr. Williams seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

AlphaBest Education After School Program:

Ms. Fisher presented a contract for the AlphaBest Education After School Program. The AlphBest Education After School program will provide afterschool care for parents of students that need afterschool care. Mr. Hilton motioned to approve the contract presented. Mr. Williams seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Summer Employment:

Ms. Fisher expressed the need for Wanda Everette, Tomye Su DeVane, Pam Taylor and Carey Patrick to work part time hours from June 13, 2019 thru July 22, 2019 to prepare for the opening of school on August 1, 2019. More information will be presented at the June meeting.

Executive Director's Report:

Ms. Fisher gave an update on enrollment in Lotterease. The projected enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year is 578 with 620 confirmed in Lotterease. Ms. Fisher reported that the school has been approved for the Target Support and Improvement (TSI) Grant for \$10,000. Funds from the grant has to be spend on professional development. Ms. Fisher reported that Olivia Herring, 2nd grade teacher is the recipient of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom Going Local Grant (\$500). Ms. Fisher informed the Board that EOG tests would begin on May 29-30 and 5th grade Science on Friday, May 31st.

Consultant's Report:

Dr. Findt reported that banking proposals from First Bank and BB&T have come in for banking services for the 2019-2020 SY. The proposals will be evaluated and a decision made by July 1, 2019.

June Meeting:

The June meeting will be held Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at 5:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn:

Mr. Williams motioned to adjourn. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maurice Williams, Secretary

Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate