

The Emereau Foundation  
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen  
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Tuesday, December 17, 2019  
5:00 p.m.

Minutes

The Emereau: Bladen Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 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 Members Absent: Sandra Lewis and Maurice Williams

Administrative Staff Present: Elizabeth Cole, Executive Director; Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate; Alley Rich, PE Teacher/Athletic Director

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

Mission Statement: Mrs. Lisa 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 November 21, 2019 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 November. Mrs. Dowless motioned to approve the budget report. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Executive Directors Report: Mrs. Cole informed the Board that the Amendment to the Charter Application had been submitted. A Discipline update was given stating no suspensions were given. Mrs. Cole gave a curriculum update. Bus drivers toured Carolina Thomas Bus Manufacturing Plant in High Point, NC on December 17<sup>th</sup>. 156 Chrome Books and seven carts have been received for the 6-8 grade students. Conference calls for construction are continuing weekly. Lotterease has increased from 58 to 81. February is National School of Choice month.

Adding of Ninth Grade: A conference call was held with Dave Faunce with Prestige Finance Solutions and discussion was held about adding ninth grade for the

2020-2021 school year. On January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm, a public hearing will be scheduled for parents of all rising ninth graders in the community that are interesting in attending Emereau Bladen. Topics of discussion will include building, sports and academics. At the February 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting a decision will be made if ninth grade will be offered at Emereau Bladen for the 2020-2021 school year.

Approve Sports for 2020-2021:

Mrs. Cole asked for board approval to add Volleyball to next year's athletic program. Mrs. DeVane asked if tennis could be offered to middle school students. Mrs. Rich responded no other middle schools in the area offer tennis and there would be at least a two-hour travel time. Mrs. Rich also stated she was trying to get Emereau added to a conference but since basketball is not offered, it is difficult. Discussion centered on a facility to play sports in. Mr. Madden suggested to poll parents at the public hearing to determine how many would be interested in sports not being currently offered at Emereau, such as basketball, tennis, etc. Discussion also centered on partnering with a local church to lease their facility/gym to play sports. Mrs. Dowless made a motion to approve to add volleyball and basketball to the athletic program contingent on securing a lease for a facility/gym to play in. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was approved. Mr. Madden verified that the following sports would be offered for the 2020-2021 school year: Girls and boys' soccer, baseball, softball, volleyball, cross-country, mountain bike, golf and possibly boys and girls' basketball, and tennis.

Closed Session:

Mrs. DeVane motioned to go into closed session. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Motion to return to Open Session:

Mrs. Dowless motioned to return to open session. Mr. Hilton seconded and the motion was approved.

Personnel Recommendation:

No personnel recommendations were made.

January Meeting Date:

The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Maurice Williams, Secretary

Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate