

The Emereau Foundation  
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Tuesday, January 14, 2025  
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337

Minutes

The Emereau Bladen Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. Members present: Dan Allen, Chair, Dennis Troy, Vice Chair, Phil Byrd, Treasurer, Maurice Williams, Secretary, Dr. Lisa DeVane, Ashley Dowless, Tanya Head and Whitley Ward, Board Attorney.

Participating virtually were Jack Brown, Prestige School Solutions

Administrative staff present were Polly Hancock, Executive Director, Theresia Wright, Dean of Upper School, and Terri Raynor, Dean of Operations

Other staff present: Ms. Bunch and Mr. Morrison

Visitors in attendance: Freddie and Ilka McElveen

The Chair, Dan Allen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Everyone joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Allen.

Mrs. Hancock, Executive Director, read the Mission Statement.

Mr. Allen asked if there were any Conflicts of Interests for tonight's meeting, there were no conflicts of interest noted.

Mr. Allen asked for a motion to adjust the agenda moving all votable items and closed session to the beginning of the meeting. Dr. DeVane motioned to amend as needed. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Allen presented the minutes from the November 12, 2024 meeting for approval. Mr. Troy motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Allen opened the floor for public comments. Mrs. McElveen addressed the board requesting that the staff be involved in some type of diversity training. Mr. Allen thanked her for coming and said the request would be discussed.

Mr. Brown presented the financial reports for the month of November and December. Mr. Brown reported we would continue to exhaust state funds first then move to local. County Allocations are coming in slowly, they are running late throughout the state and it appears that we are being funded at the same rate as last year. He said that we are on track for this point in the year. There was a discussion on funds used to purchase our bus and building as well the insurance reimbursement for our claim which was tabled and rescheduled to cover with the Finance Team. Mr. Byrd motioned to approve the financial report for November and December. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mr. Byrd presented the 990 Tax Form for approval. After no discussion, Mrs. Dowless made a motion to approve and give Mr. Byrd the authority to sign. Mrs. Head seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mr. Allen asked for a motion to ratify the December bonuses. After no discussion, Mrs. Dowless motioned to approve the ratification. Dr. DeVane seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Hancock asked for a motion to approve Draft 2 of the 2025-2026 School Calendar. After no discussion, Dr. DeVane motioned to approve the calendar. Mrs. Dowless seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Hancock asked for a motion to approve the Delta Dental Insurance Renewal. After no discussion, Mrs. Dowless motioned to approve the renewal. Mrs. Head seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mr. Williams motioned to go into closed session at 6:20 p.m. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Head motioned to come out of closed session at 6:34 p.m. Mr. Williams seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Dowless made a motion to approve all recommendations in closed session. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Hancock gave the Facilities report. Mrs. Hancock asked what the next steps were that the Board wanted in going forward with the Gymnasium & Arts Center. The Board asked that she meet with Chad to have plans drawn up, start on clearing and site prep as well as having the property lines surveyed.

In the Curriculum report, Ms. Wright reported on Celebrations, MOY i-Ready testing, walk-throughs, observations, and instructional rounds. (Report on file)

In the Executive Director's report Mrs. Hancock reported on student and staff intent forms, School of Choice Week, PowerSchool Cybersecurity Breach, Mid year conferences, and Beta. (Report on file)

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Williams motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m. Mrs. Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Raynor  
Dean of Operations