

The Emereau Foundation
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Tuesday, August 28, 2018
5:00 P. M.

Minutes

The Emereau: Bladen Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, August 28, 2018. Members present: Mr. Eddie Madden, Chairman; Mrs. Lisa DeVane, Vice Chair; Mrs. Ashley Dowless, Mrs. Sandra Lewis, Mr. Dean Hilton and Mr. Phil Byrd, Treasurer.

Board Member absent: Mr. Maurice Williams, Secretary.

Administrative staff present: Mrs. Carla Fisher, Executive Director, Kayla Gooden, Assistant Executive Director and Mrs. Wanda Everette, Administrative Associate.

Also present were: Richard Bouldin, Ashley Davis, Julie Sasser, Pam Taylor, Alley Rich, Tomye Su DeVane, Amanda Garner, Brittany Dockery, Carey Patrick, Peyton Schultz, Polly Hancock, and Smiley Butler.

Board Chair Eddie Madden welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Chair Madden read the Mission Statement and the Conflict of Interest Statement. There were no conflicts of interest noted.

Chair Madden presented the Minutes from the July 24, 2018 meeting for approval.

Mr. Dean Hilton motioned to approve the July 24, 2018 Minutes. Mrs. Ashley Dowless seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Carla Fisher asked for the Board's wishes on increasing the insurance coverage for the 2018-2019 school year. Mr. John Ramsey with The Insurance People gave an update at last month's meeting comparing coverage and prices.

Upon a motion by Mr. Hilton, seconded by Mrs. Sandra Lewis the Board voted unanimously to increase the Umbrella Coverage from \$1M costing \$1,026 per year to \$2M at a cost of \$1,570 per year.

Chair Eddie Madden presented pest control contracts submitted by Down East Pest Control and McDuffie Pest Control for Board action.

Upon a motion by Mr. Dean Hilton, seconded by Mrs. Lisa DeVane, the Board unanimously approved the contract submitted by Down East Pest Control.

Chair Eddie Madden presented the July Budget Report. Chair Madden informed everyone that Acadia NorthStar provides Emereau Bladen's financial services and PowerSchool management services. Board Member Phil Byrd informed the Board he had looked over the budget from last year and had concerns that the Board was led to believe they were operating within the budget but ended with a

deficit. Chair Madden expressed the need for improvements and requested that a representative with Acadia NorthStar attend the next meeting to explain the budget more in depth.

Upon a motion by Phil Byrd, seconded by Mr. Dean Hilton, the Board unanimously approved the July Budget Report presented.

Chair Madden then presented the Lease Amendment with an interest rate of 16%. Chair Madden explained that most Charter Schools cannot get traditional financing for the first three years. The lease payment is made on a monthly basis and been programmed in the budget. Additional debt has had to be incurred therefore creating short-term obligations in a short period. Mr. Phil Byrd has gone through the proposal from investors with the interest rate being lowered from 16% to 12%. The difference of the payment will go directly toward satisfying the short-term debt getting out of debt sooner.

Upon a motion by Mr. Hilton, seconded by Mrs. Ashley Dowless, the Board unanimously approved the Lease Amendment.

Under Executive Director's Report Mrs. Carla Fisher shared that the enrollment is 474. Mrs. Kayla Gooden then gave the Board an update on BOG Testing. Mrs. Fisher shared that teacher assistants will be pulling small groups and working with students in areas needed. Mrs. Fisher shared a comparison with Bladen County Schools on schools report cards and based on last year results Emereau is looking great with 59%, which equates to a "C" Report Card. Mrs. Pam Taylor gave an Exceptional Children's Report stating that the EC Department is serving 57 students. Mrs. Allie Rich then gave an Athletic Report. Boys Soccer games have been scheduled. Mrs. Rich asked the Board's direction on paying the coached a stipend. Chair Madden asked that Mrs. Fisher bring to the Board a recommendation. Mrs. Rich also asked if the 5th grade could be included in the athletic program this year to maintain more players. Mr. Smiley Butler then updated the Board on the Transportation Program sharing costs for repairs and inspection. Mr. Butler also shared there were no water fountains included/ installed in the new additions of the building.

Chair Madden gave a Facility Update. The construction is completed and draining issues are being corrected.

Board Chair Eddie Madden opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals addressed the Board: Mrs. Sheila Greggs, Mrs. Kamila Rygid and Mr. Jeff Kulp.

Chair Madden asked for a motion to go into Closed Session.

Upon a motion by Mrs. DeVane, seconded by Mrs. Lewis, 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 contract: 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.

Upon a motion by Mr. Byrd, seconded by Mr. Hilton, the Board voted unanimously to return to open session.

Under Comments from the Chair, Chair Madden informed everyone that when the Charter Application was written the Uniform Policy was included to maintain consistency and that Leinwand's would be the vendor for the purchasing uniforms. As far as the question concerning the cafeteria, most Charter Schools do not have cafeterias and Glenda's Just Desserts are providing lunches. Chair Madden informed everyone that Mrs. Kayla Tipton, 6th grade teacher, has submitted a letter of resignation.

Mrs. Lewis motioned to accept the letter of resignation from Mrs. Kayla Tipton, Mr. Hilton seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Carla Fisher recommended hiring Mrs. Holly ShanKool to begin on September 5, 2018.

Upon a motion by Mr. Hilton, seconded by Mrs. Lewis, the Board voted unanimously to hire Mrs. Holly ShanKool to begin September 5, 2018.

Upon a motion by Mrs. DeVane, seconded by Mr. Hilton, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maurice Williams
Secretary

Wanda Everette
Administrative Associate