

**Quality Education Academy (QEA)  
Board Meeting Minutes  
May 9, 2022  
Meeting took place via Zoom**

**Members Present:**

Chairman Dr. Jefferson Caruthers, Jr.  
CEO Tonya Bellanger  
John Foxworth  
James Gadson  
Adolphus Coplin  
Walter Weathers  
James Covington  
Dr. Kendra March  
Interim CEO Dr. Tamara Turner

**Absent Members:**

Roy Oliphant  
Ronald Jessup

**Staff (S) / Parents (P) / Visitors (V)**

M. Johnson (S)	D. Evans (S)	S. Woodruff (S)	P. Jordan (S)	T. Piper (S)
J. Mitchell (S)	K. Poindexter (S)	E. Shinholster (S)	S. Vaird (S)	L. Hart (S)
J. McCain (S)	T. Howard (S)	T. Troxler (S)	J. Greer-Kodja (S)	
J. Gould (S)	K. Brabham (S)	A. Gould (S)	D. Bishop (S)	B. Roberts (S)
D. Williams (S)	J. Kerr-Henry (S)	C. Jordan (S)	L. Floyd (S)	T. Hinton (S)
B. Mack (S)	M. Staton (S)	A. Kirkpatrick (S)	M. Farquharson (S)	
S. Rooks (S)	L. Garriga (S)	N. Adams (S)	I. Turner (S)	
D. Sweeper (S)	T. Bluee (P)	Y. Shepherd-Reid (P)	S. Vaughn (V)	
T. Loyd (V)	D. Gibson (V)	V. Hairston (V)	V. White (V)	
M. Gomez (V)	R. Donahue (V)	M. Flowers (V)	M. Moore (V)	
W. Brown (V)	T. Clarke-Brooks (V)			

**Welcome**

The QEA meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm. It was determined a quorum of Board Members was present, thus, the meeting continued. The Chairman proceeded by asking if there was anything in tonight's agenda that would present a conflict of interest to any of the attending Board Members. There was no stated conflict of interest by any of the attending Board Members. He also asked Board Members if there would be any additions to tonight's agenda. There were no additions to tonight's agenda. The Chairman called for the reading of our mission, vision, and core values statements. These statements were read by CEO Ms. Bellanger.

**Review and approval of April 19, 2022 and April 25, 2022 Board Minutes**

The Chairman gave Board members an opportunity to review the Board Meeting Minutes from the previous April 19, 2022 and April 25, 2022 Board Meetings. It was noted in the April 19, 2022 Board Meeting minutes on the second page under the heading "New Business", Ms. Bellanger's name was missing from the second sentence. The text should read "Ms. Bellanger reviewed newly published data". Once the error was noted, Dr. Caruthers called for a motion to receive the minutes into public record.

Mr. Coplin made a motion to receive the April 19, 2022 and April 25, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes into public record with the stated correction. Mr. Weathers seconded

the motion. The vote was put through using the roll call method. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **From the Chairman**

The Chairman stated he would like to commend the staff as a whole for their continued hard work as we swiftly move towards the close of this school year. He especially wants to recognize our teaching staff for daily enriching the lives of our young scholars.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business to complete.

### **New Business**

There is no new business at this time.

### **Chief Executive Officer's Report**

The CEO addressed the Board in the following areas:

#### **Academic**

Ms. Bellanger informed Board Members that according to the check-in data, there are noticeable improvements in the areas of Math and ELA. Ms. Bellanger added now more than ever, there is a strong push to continue with the increased efforts to help our scholars to master the skills needed as we move towards these last two weeks of instruction and into EOG/EOC testing. In an effort to ensure that each student is getting the extra support they need, small groups, afterschool tutoring, and skills and drills are being encouraged daily.

#### **Operational**

Ms. Bellanger shared with Board members of some of the important events taking place throughout the month:

- May 19<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup> will be EOG and EOC Testing
- May 28<sup>th</sup> – Senior Graduation (10:00 am in the High School Auditorium)
- May 30<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day (No School)
- June 3<sup>rd</sup> – Pre-K, Kindergarten, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduations

Ms. Bellanger notified Board Members it is time once again to vote on the mask mandate Policy. Ms. Bellanger's recommendation is that we stay with the mask optional policy. The mask optional policy leaves it up to the discretion of the scholars and staff as to whether or not they choose to wear a mask. Ms. Bellanger said she has noticed that more people are choosing to wear masks since we have given them the option to choose. The Chairman called for a motion on the current mask optional policy. Mr. Coplin made a motion to continue with the mask optional policy. Mr. Foxworth seconded the motion. The vote was put through using the roll call method. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Enrollment**

As of April 30, 2022, QEA has an enrollment of 591 Scholars. We have had a total of 72 students transfer out and a total of 32 new enrollees. 475 scholars have confirmed they

will be re-enrolling at QEA for the upcoming school year and we have had 156 new applicants apply.

### **Staff**

QEA's staff count is 104 as of April 30, 2022. For the coming up 2022 – 2023 school year we have open positions in the areas of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, 9-12 English, and Specialists (in the areas of Spanish, PE, and Music). We are also seeking a Guidance Counselor for K-8. All positions available will be posted on the QEA website.

### **Financial**

Ms. Bellanger reviewed the Financial Report for March 2022. She also reviewed the Financial Audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. There were no findings or corrective actions noted. All Board Members were mailed the 2021 audit report.

### **Governance Policies**

Ms. Bellanger informed Board Members the Consolidated Program Monitoring Official Report is back. The review went very well with no corrective actions and two recommendations.

The IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) Annual Performance Report for the 2021 year was shared with Board Members and QEA met all requirements.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions. There were no questions. He then called for a motion to receive the CEO's report and the finance report. Mr. Gadson made a motion to receive the CEO's report and the finance report. Mr. Foxworth seconded the motion. The vote was put through using the roll call method. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Closed Session**

At 6:38 pm, the Board went into a closed session to discuss the transition of school leadership and Account Signatories.

### **Return to Open Session**

The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:20 pm. The Chairman called for a motion that Account Signatories for Quality Education Academy would consist of the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Board Chair and Board Finance Chair. Mr. Coplin made the motion and Dr. March seconded. The vote was put through using the roll call method. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjournment**

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. Dr. March made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Foxworth seconded. The vote was put through using the roll-call method. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

### **Announcement**

The next Quality Education Academy Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:00 pm. A notification to all Board Members will be sent prior to the scheduled meeting. A copy of the previous month's minutes will be emailed to all Board Members in addition to the meeting notification.

Minutes recorded by S. Adams