

Quality Education Academy (QEA)
Called Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 11, 2021
Meeting took place via Zoom

Members Present:

CEO, Tonya Bellanger
Chairman, Dr. Jefferson Caruthers, Jr.
James Gadson
John Foxworth
Ronald Jessup
Walter Weathers
Adolphus Coplin
Roy Oliphant
Kendra March

Absent Members:

James Covington

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

A. Salvador(S)	A. Martin (S)	T. Turner (S)	S. Vaird (S)
Y. Reid (P)	M. Gomez (P)	C. Carr (S)	B. Cohen (S)
D. Williams (S)	D. Palmer (S)	A. Cromartie (S)	B. Williams (S)
E. Ammons (S)	J. Blake (S)	J. Mitchell (S)	J. Rhyne (S)
J. Greer – Kodja (S)	J. Chisholm (P)	C. Jones (S)	K. Poindexter (S)
N. Brabham (S)	L. Garriga (S)	M. Ross (S)	B. Adams (S)
N. Jackson (P)	N. Giles (S)	O. Ruiz (S)	O. Dixon (S)
N. Williams (S)	T. Cromartie (S)	C. Wagner (S)	J. Kerr-Henry (S)
D. Damon (P)			

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. The Chairman stated the purpose of this called meeting is to address and reassess the reentry of our scholars into the school buildings for in-person instruction for the remainder of this school year given the new strand of the Corona Virus and the recent spike in cases currently being reported.

CEO, Mrs. Bellanger began the discussion by presenting the most recently published COVID-19 statistics for NC as a whole and for Forsyth County. In the past 14 days there have been 887 positive cases (per 100,000 residents) with a positivity rate of 13.7 % as of 01/10/21.

Mrs. Bellanger reminded Board Members of the current plan for scholars to return to in person instruction on Wednesday, January 21, 2021. However, given the recent spike in the COVID-19 statistics and due to the fact she would like to exercise a little more caution in the decision to return to the school buildings, Mrs. Bellanger proposed a second option to delay the reentry of scholars to in-person instruction until Monday, February 15, 2021. This will allow staff members as well as scholars and parents a little more time to prepare for the transition back into the school classrooms and to get more comfortable with the social distancing and 6 feet rules.

Public Comment

There were two public comments: Ms. Meagan Gomez, a parent, and Ms. Bridgett Williams, a staff member, regarding their personal concerns, feelings, and fears about the returning of the scholars to the school buildings for in person learning.

Board Discussion/Reassessment of Plan

The Chairman then asked each Board Member to state any questions, concerns, or apprehensions they may have regarding the re-entry of the scholars into the school buildings. Each Board Member stated their concerns, if any, and also stated their preference as to whether they preferred to go ahead with re-entry on Monday, January 21, 2021 or delay re-entry until Monday, February 15, 2021.

After a brief group discussion, the Chairman stated he is very concerned with our scholars falling behind due the time they have missed in-person instruction. He added the Board will address the learning gap at the next Board Meeting.

The Chairman called for a motion to vote on the re-entry date for the scholars to return to the school buildings for in-person learning. Mr. Weathers made a motion to select option #2 with scholars delaying return to in-person learning until Monday, February 15, 2021, allowing more time for the Staff, Parents and Scholars to prepare for this transition. Dr. March seconded the motion. The vote was put through using the roll call method. The vote for scholars to return to in-school learning of Monday, February 15, 2021 was unanimous.

Adjournment

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Oliphant made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Gadon seconded the motion. The vote was put through using the raising of the hand. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:47 pm.

Announcement

The next Quality Education Academy Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2021 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.

Upcoming Board Meetings

Monday, February 8, 2021
Monday, March 8, 2021
Monday, April 12, 2021
Monday, May 10, 2021
Monday, June 14, 2021

Minutes recorded by **S. Adams**