



MOVEMENT SCHOOL

MOVEMENT SCHOOL | 2701-B FREEDOM DRIVE | CHARLOTTE, NC 28208 | P:704.585.1356

MOVEMENT SCHOOL BOARD | MEETING MINUTES

10.7.19

Board Members: Casey Crawford, Frank Martin, Garrett McNeill, Montel Watson, Tim Hurley, Michelle Crawford

School Leadership Team Members: Jamie Sumter, Barbara Robinson, Alisha Carr, Gabrielle McCall Riley, Cecilia Armour

Members Present: Frank Martin, Montel Watson (via phone), Casey Crawford (via phone), Michelle Crawford, Garrett McNeil, Jamie Sumter, Tim Hurley, Alisha Carr, Gabrielle Riley, Barbara Robinson, Cecilia Armour

Guest Attendees: Kimberlee Bielan, Nicole Houchen (PTO members)

Meeting agendas passed out at 8:55
Meeting was called to order at 9:02 by TH.
Members reviewed the minutes from the 9.11.19 meeting.

TH motioned to approve the 9.11.19 minutes. FM seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

Movement West Business

Academics

JS shared that first quarter has just ended and the school is headed into fall break next week. The school team reviewed data that shows that things are somewhat the same as they were this time last year. This year the school undertook STEP testing, a reading assessment to determine students' reading levels that has been used by high performing schools within the country. STEP data has shown that teachers have somewhat overestimated students' levels in some grades, as well as shed light on students who need specialized attention from teachers regarding testing anxiety. TH shared that he is confident in the data we are receiving from STEP and is excited that teachers can target their instruction earlier in the school year. Reading and decoding are in a good place, but comprehension is still an area of need. JS is confident the adoption of a new reading program Lifelong Readers will help develop students' comprehension this year. Additionally, JS is looking to leverage the co-teaching model school-wide so that students receive more small group instruction throughout the day. Additionally, JS is happy that coaching and feedback is happening with teachers. Teachers receive feedback at least twice a month, which is helpful. The school is using Whetstone which is a platform that houses the feedback and actions steps for teachers, and when they need follow up from a coach.

JS and team will be working on the school improvement plan, which will be built around the changes that have already been implemented. The plan will be given to the Board soon. It is due in November.

Culture

Behavior

AC shared a chart to illustrate referrals so far this year. Overall, there is a downward trend in most grades, which is good.

New students, particularly those in third grade, who have transferred in are making up the largest percentage of students receiving referrals. AC recommends having a commitment meeting for transfer students/new students before the school year begins (as done with kindergarten students/families). AC continues to work on this and will work with JS and TH to see what other measures can be put into place (i.e. a separate orientation for older students, pairing new students with current students). She is also working to put systems in place this year. She has several ideas that she plans to share with JS, TH, and the leadership team.

Attendance

AC shared that attendance is going well. Tardies have also improved. AC has worked with the social worker to ask what is being done differently. There is more parent ownership and parents who are more stable (housing and transportation), so their students can ride the bus. AC is confident this improvement will increase. The system has been tightened.

Financial Update

GR shared a quick update on the budget. The system Acadia uses is down, so the report presented is not the most up to date. Once GR has it, she will send it out to the Board. The red areas within the budget are expected for the beginning of the school year- instructional supplies and instructional equipment. GR is working with JS to only purchase items that are needed and to explain this to teachers.

KB asked if the PTO can support teachers by purchasing items for their classrooms. She will connect with the leadership team to discuss details.

Facilities

Expansion Project

Investors for the expansion of West for the middle school and community center

TH shared that JS and AC will need to think through a contingency plan for three classrooms for the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year. JS and AC believe there are two spaces that can be used, so there will only be the need for one additional space.

MC's gym is hosting a golf tournament next week as fundraiser and proceeds will go to supporting the school, particularly with this contingency plan.

The timeline for drawings, permitting, and construction is being developed. GM will update the Board as progress is made.

Access to Community Park

GM reported things are in the works to make the access between the school and the community park nearby happen. He will report back to the Board once the connection is complete.

Washer/Dryer Connection

AC will continue to work with other vendors to get the washer and dryer connected.

Movement East Business

BR, GM are meeting with the City Councilman for District 4 today to follow up on ways we can work together for the East Charlotte community.

BR will participate in RELAY Intersession 1 next week, which will take place in Charlotte. Intersessions are opportunities for continued learning and development in the RELAY structures and processes. There will be three additional intersessions throughout the year.

TH shared a draft revision of the weighted lottery plan for Movement School East and asked for Board input. He also shared the Educational Need and Targeted Student Population section of the charter application to show the Board that the intent of the revised weighted lottery plan aligns with the mission of the school.

The revised weighted lottery includes a proposal to weight for families with a combined household income of less than \$40,000 as well as those with a combined household income of greater than \$40,000.

GM and MC expressed their support and trust of the School Leader, and her vision for the school as long as it stays within the brand of who the school is and wants to be

FM shared that his vision is more aligned with Uncommon Schools, schools that are focused on eradicating generational poverty, however, he defers to the leadership of the school. He also shared concern regarding whether weighing for household incomes greater than \$40,000 will impact the NC ACCESS grant awarded to Movement School East.

The Board agreed that it does not want the school to be disqualified from the NC ACCESS grant, and would like more information before making a decision regarding the revised plan.

BR expressed her thanks to the Board, and clarified that regardless of who Movement School East serves, who we are and what we do-our program will not change.

TH and BR will follow up with Jay Whalen, the Director of the NC ACCESS grant and Ashley Baquero in the Office of Charter Schools to discuss the proposal and ask for guidance regarding our ability to weigh for combined household incomes of less than and greater than \$40,000. TH will follow up with the Board and advise from there. The goal is to have a vote before November 1st.

Facilities

Movement East has a fence around the property. We received our civil permit which means we can now really start construction. Permits will be in two phases. Things will move quickly. A pad will be built by mid-late November.

Network Business

Preschool

TH shared that he met with a representative from MeckPreK, which is looking to expand, and possibly partner. Most preschools are private providers. There is a meeting in the spring for partners who may want to be PreK providers. Notification to partners goes out in May with a plan to open the facility in August. TH shared that Movement School could have 2-3 classrooms to start and grow from there.

NH shared that if Movement is looking to possibly open a preschool in the future, it should investigate Head Start, which services children birth to age 5.

Two years ago, a law was passed to allow charter schools to partner with preschools. TH will keep the Board updated

Recruitment

Applications will open mid-October for both schools. Teacher recruitment will begin in November, which is a bit earlier, but because Movement School East is launching this year, we are posting positions earlier.

TH moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:25.

Closed Session(s): None.