

Cherokee Charter Academy
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2021

In attendance: Chair Michelle Clark, Suzanne Turner, Sue Turner, Roger Miller, AK Parker, Carlton Bridges

Chair Clark called the meeting to order at 5 pm. Roger Miller led the group in opening prayer. Carlton Bridges read the CCA Mission Statement. Chair Clark welcomed all to the meeting and gave an opportunity for public comment. 4th grade teacher Travis Horton spoke to the group and said he was speaking for “some teachers.” Mr. Horton spoke of his feeling of some low teacher morale, needed cameras and projectors that have not been installed as of the meeting, that he did not see the School Director much, he wanted the focus on test scores from the state to be more on learning, and discussed the need for an older student self-contained classroom among other issues. The Chair and board thanked him for his comments.

AK Parker moved to approve the minutes from September 9, 2021, with a second from Sue Turner. The vote of approval was unanimous.

Janine Dunlap, First Grade Teacher gave the Academic Report. She spoke of leveling her students and all of first grade students by MAP scores for growth and instruction. She spoke of CKLA, Core Knowledge, Eureka Math, and Core Virtues. She also spoke for herself as being very happy at CCA and addressed her decision to drive over an hour to work at CCA because of the atmosphere and curricula.

School Director Tessa Waldrep gave her Director’s Board Report. The school had 507 students enrolled on October 7, 2021. Director Waldrep addressed staff assignment movement, 5th grades “Too Good For Drugs” Program, SC Lead Orientations, Science of Reading and Phonemic Awareness Training schedule for Kindergarten through 3rd grad teachers on October 22, the Parent Forum’s successful Skate Night, as well as Facility, Testing, and COVID 19 updates.

Tony Helton gave a Tutelage update by announcing the hiring of a Marketing Firm, Rhodes Branding to help attract students for CCA as well as the hiring of a Dean of Academics for Tutelage Education Solutions to work with Tutelage schools, specifically the Instructional Coaches at each school. Dr. Jennifer Economos formerly a professor at St. Joseph’s University training teachers, will begin December 1, 2021.

Roger Miller presented the amended budget and discussed the work on the budget by the Finance Committee and others. Mr. Miller moved to approve the amended budget with a second by Sue Turner. The vote of approval was unanimous.

AK Parker moved to go into Executive Session for contract discussion with a second by Roger Miller, the vote was unanimous.

Suzanne Turner moved to come out of Executive Session with a second by Roger Miller, all were in favor.

Roger Miller moved to adjourn with a second by Sue Turner, the vote of approval was unanimous.