

The Emereau Foundation  
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Tuesday, April 18, 2023  
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337

Minutes

The Emereau Bladen Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. Members present: Ashley Dowless, Board Chair, Sandra Lewis, Vice Chair; Phil Byrd, Treasurer, Maurice Williams, and Dan Allen.

Participating virtually was Whitley Ward, Board Attorney

Members absent were Dennis Troy and Jennifer Whittington

Administrative staff present were Elizabeth Cole, Executive Director, Polly Hancock, Dean of Academics and Terri Raynor, Administrative Associate.

Other staff present were Amanda Bunch and Amanda Garner.

The Board Chair, Ashley Dowless called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Everyone joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mrs. Dowless.

Mrs. Lewis read the Mission Statement.

Mrs. Dowless read the Conflict of Interest Statement. There were no conflicts of interest noted.

Mrs. Dowless presented the minutes from the March 14, 2023 meeting for approval. Mr. Allen motioned to approve the minutes presented. Mrs. Lewis seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Dowless opened the floor for public comments. No comments were given.

Mr. Byrd presented the financial report for the month of March. He reported that finances looked good, that the net income is above normal and we will likely have a surplus at the end of the year, and there were no findings to report. He also stated that there were state funds that were available and suggested that new buses would be a good purchase with those funds. The board asked for more information and firmer prices on the buses to be presented at the next board meeting. Training with Dave Faunce during the week of June 19th was also discussed. The board members requested to train either June 20th or 21st. Mrs. Lewis motioned to approve the financial report for March. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cole presented the Board of Directors Meeting dates for 2023-2024. The meetings will continue to be scheduled on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm. Mr. Williams motioned to approve the meeting dates. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cole opened a discussion on Uniform Policy. She let the board know that Leinwand's was asking about ordering uniforms for the upcoming school year. She informed them that we have no contract with Leinwand's and that she was going to suggest to them that they order shirts only. There was discussion on items that needed to be changed in the policy so the board asked that the policy be revamped by the school improvement team and then presented to the board for approval. Mr. Allen made a motion to table the vote. Mrs. Lewis seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

In the Executive Director's report Mrs. Cole stated that there are some Board of Director terms that are expiring. Mrs. Whittington and Mr. Troy's terms expire June 2023. They are eligible to serve another 2 year term. Mrs. Dowless agreed to call and ask if they want to serve again, if they accepted we would vote on at the next board meeting. Mrs. Cole informed the board that Petway Mills was resigning as our auditor once all items were completed for this year, and that we would need to find a replacement. We are gathering information on 2 replacements and will give an update at the next meeting. She gave an update on rising enrollment and informed them that we will be sending enrollment packets out to start confirming numbers. She will be sending the enrollment chart to members via email. Mrs. Cole reminded the board that we are a TSI school and that we are working on improving and logging necessary documentation in NCStar. She will be sending NC Star login information to all board members so that they can review our School Improvement Plan and all required documentation. Mrs. Cole informed the board that our PTO is working on their bylaws and have several events scheduled. She also updated them on T. Bordeaux, we have counselors in place and have been given several donations to send to the funeral home to help with funeral arrangements.

Mr. Byrd motioned to go into closed session at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Lewis seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Allen motioned to come out of closed session at 8:16 p.m. Mr. Williams seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Under Personnel Recommendations, no actions were taken.

The June meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Allen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. Mr. Williams seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Raynor  
Administrative Associate