

The Emereau Foundation
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Tuesday, November 1, 2022
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337

Minutes

The Emereau Bladen Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Members present: Ashley Dowless, Chair; Sandra Lewis, Vice Chair; Phil Byrd, Treasurer, Dan Allen and Whitley Ward, Board Attorney.

Participating virtually was Christy Nickolauson with Prestige School Solutions.

Members absent were Dennis Troy, Jennifer Whittington and Maurice Williams.

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

Other staff present were Amanda Bunch, Amanda Garner, and Pam Taylor.

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. Cole 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 September 13, 2022 meeting for approval. Mr. Allen motioned to approve the minutes presented. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

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

Mrs. Christy Nickolauson presented the financial report for the month of September. October and November reports will be discussed at the December meeting since they were not available. She reported that there is 75% remaining. That there were budget adjustments made in some areas and that we are still in the negative due to waiting on state funds. There was discussion on whether the receivables for local and state funds would balance out due to USDA loan payment and why there was a discrepancy between the third and fifth months of our USDA reserves. The discussion was tabled until more information was gathered. Mr. Byrd motioned to approve the financial report presented. Mrs. Lewis seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cole reported on the Equity Plan. She reported that there were not many changes made to the plan other than workdays for Professional Development. She informed the board that an Improvement Plan was required to be submitted due to our grade of a D. Administration is currently doing observations as well as Peer feedback. Our School Improvement team has completed the School Improvement Plan which reflects the school working on growth in all areas. We are taking the plan and our data, putting it together and presenting to our teachers.

Special attention is being given to our beginning teachers to make sure they have what they need to push students to grow. Mrs. Hancock reported that we are using I-Ready, Benchmarks, and Growth Monitoring of individuals to watch for growth. Benchmarks are aligned with Pacing Guides so that we can see true mastery. Mrs. Lewis motioned to approve the Equity Plan. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cole informed the Board that we have a parent who wants to make a donation for our school sign. There was discussion on what we want the sign to look like, and that the staff and Board should make a joint decision on the final product. The Board asked for quotes and options to be brought back to the Board for approval. The vote was tabled until further information could be presented.

In the Executive Director's report Mrs. Cole shared the current Discipline Report; a few minor incidents, no major ones. She also shared past and upcoming events, Book Ball, Red Ribbon Week, Emereau tent at Beast Fest, Beta Club Fun Day, Band/Chorus concert, 4th/5th grade Choral Concert, Beta Inductions and PTO meeting. She also informed the Board of our new email address designated for questions about Emereau. The address will be posted on our website. There was a discussion of putting yard signs out to inform people of our lottery. Decision was made to wait until requirements were checked on via the Town Planning Board. Mrs. Cole also asked the Board about available dates in December to meet with Dave Faunce. Dates were given for Mrs. Cole to schedule.

Mr. Byrd motioned to go into closed session at 6:25 p.m. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Allen motioned to come out of closed session at 6:42 p.m. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Under Personnel Recommendations, Mrs. Lewis motioned to uphold the recommendation of the administration. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

The Board was informed about the The Weekly Pilot and The Weekly Update that was sent out to teachers and parents to keep everyone informed about what was going. The Board requested that this be sent to them so they can stay informed weekly as well.

The December meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. The Finance Committee will meet December 8, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Byrd motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Lewis seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Raynor,
Administrative Associate