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## BOARD MEETING MINUTES October 10th, 2023

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Members Present: Simon Johnson, Barbara Batts, Alvin Breeden, Nadine Clipper and Superintendent Eugene Slocum

Absent: Connie Sanchez

Others Present: Guests

### **Call-To-Order (5:00 p.m.)**

#### **Welcome**

Board Chair, Simon Johnson acknowledged and welcomed the board members and all attendees.

**Invocation:** Mr. Simon Johnson, Board Chair

#### **1. Consideration to approve previous meeting minutes.**

Board Chair, Simon Johnson recommended to forego reading and approval of the previous minutes until next month's board meeting.

#### **2. Finance Report**

A copy of the budget was previously sent to all board members. Supt. Slocum provided an overview of the funding for the month and year. The state Budget has passed, there is a (increase unknown) of 2-7% for teachers, we are not sure what charter school allotments will be at this moment.

Discussion on Title 1 budget changes due to funding issue caused by last year's free-reduced-lunch program enrollment numbers. This caused a cross hair because we started our lunch program late last year, we should have received around \$260,000 but received a reduced amount of \$26,000.

#### **3. Superintendents Report**

Discussion on Student enrollment and lower than expected enrollment numbers. We believe the reduction came from a decrease of about 40 High Students and beginning of the year outreach effects. Alpha Academy sent about 15,000- 20,000 mailers to our target market to promote enrollment for the 2023-2024 academic year. We were told that an employee at USPS was charged with destroying mail. We are assuming about ONLY 1/3 of mailers were actually delivered and the other 2/3 were undelivered/destroyed.

Discussion and update on teacher/staff shortages for this academic year.

Discussion on the North Carolina General Assembly recently passed Senate Bill 49: Parents Bill of Rights. We would be reviewing and updating our policies accordingly to ensure they meet the new requirements put forth in the controversial new Parents' Bill of Rights.

Discussion and update on Alpha Academy being up for Charter Renewal. We have paid our \$500 Charter Renewal Fee we are ready to start the Charter Review Cycle and look forward to getting a favorable Renewal recommendation.

New Business Information

Discussion on the Purple Star and planned activities/events throughout the year.

Other Business

Discussion on Alpha Academy updating Polices/Procedures in reference to Parental/ Maternity Leave. After careful review, we will not be opting in to the States' reimbursement program discussed in our last board meeting. We want to continue to offer a fair Maternity Leave Plan that benefits all full-time employees for a set period of time.

**Ms. Nadine Clipper made a motion to move to pay Maternity Leave to all full-time employees at 50% of pay for a 6-week period, Mrs. Barbara Batts seconded: Voted: TMA**

Discussion on Alpha Academy's' Dress code Policy. We just want to confirm that we have a Policy in place that states: boys can't wear earrings and/or nose-rings. We have not made changes to this policy and it currently is in place for this academic year.

**Mr. Alvin Breeden made a motion to accept the Superintendent Report, Ms. Nadine Clipper seconded: Voted: TMA**

**4. Public Comments**

No public expression for comment at this time.

**5. Comments**

No other comments.

**6. Adjournment**

**Mr. Simon Johnson made Motion to adjourn**

Respectfully submitted,

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Simon Johnson, Board Chair

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Eugene Slocum, Superintendent, Alpha Academy MA