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## BOARD MEETING MINUTES September 19th, 2023

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Members Present: Barbara Batts, Connie Sanchez, Alvin Breeden, Nadine Clipper and Superintendent Eugene Slocum

Absent: Simon Johnson

Others Present: Guests

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

#### **Welcome**

Superintendent, Eugene Slocum acknowledged and welcomed the board members and all attendees.

**Invocation:** Mrs. Barbara Batts, Board Member

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

Ms. Nadine Clipper made motion to move and approve previous meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Connie Sanchez Voted: TMA

#### **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.

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

Discussion on Student enrollment and current ADM of less than 1,100 students. We have seen a decrease of about a quarter of the High School students due to us not offering as many activities as the traditional schools.

Discussion and update on increase of Covid among staff and students. It's not mandatory but we see staff and students wearing masks which is good and we continue to take precautions.

Discussion and update on teacher/staff shortages in which we are still hiring teachers. Some staffing challenges came from losing staff to military moves, other counties, and retirement. We have new people coming in and we hope when everyone gets in we would be fully staffed.

### New Business Information

Discussion on items received from NC Department of Human Health & Services (DHHS), with the help of our Nurse. We have received about 7 or 8 pallets of male/female hygiene products, cleaning products, and several air filter systems, which will purify the air where the units are located.

### Other Business

Discussion on Alpha Academy being up for Charter Renewal. We are looking forward to this 2-year Cycle that starts now and ends next year.

Discussion on the SBE Change in the Charter Advisory Board to Charter School Review Board.

Discussion on Cognia Conference in Charleston, South Carolina.

Discussion on Policies/Procedures for Parental Leave for our staff and teachers. The State has a program that covers a percentage of this leave expense for teachers only, if we opt-in. Additional information will be research as we want to offer a fair Parental Leave Plan that also helps staff members as well. If the funding covers the teacher salary, then we should considered it. Supt. Slocum will continue to research for clarity.

Ms. Nadine Clipper made a motion to move forward and OPT-IN to the States' Parental Leave Program for teachers if the funds cover the teacher salary and also offer a New Parental Leave Plan to all full-time employees, Ms. Connie Sanchez seconded: Voted: TMA

Ms. Connie Sanchez made a motion to accept the Superintendent Report, Mr. Alvin Breeden seconded: Voted: TMA

#### **4. Public Comments**

No public expression for comment at this time.

#### **5. Comments**

No other comments.

#### **6. Adjournment**

**Mr. Alvin Breeden made Motion to adjourn**

Respectfully submitted,

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Simon Johnson, Board Chair

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Eugene Slocum, Superintendent, Alpha Academy MA