



Revolution Academy
Board Meeting Minutes
October 28, 2021
3800 Oak Ridge Rd.
Summerfield, NC 27358

1. Call to Order

J Nosek called the meeting to order at 18:38.

Board members in attendance in person: John Nosek, Lisa Walker, Elaine Graziano

Board members in attendance online: John Kreider

Staff members in attendance in person: Mary Catherine Sauer, Michele Harris, Jaime Gaulden Robin Helms, Christina McCarl, Elizabeth Robles

2. Reading of Mission Statement

J Nosek read the mission statement

3. J Nosek allowed time to review the minutes. There was no discussion.

A motion was made by L Walker and seconded by E Graziano to approve the minutes from 9.16.21 and 9.30.21. The motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by L Walker and seconded by J Nosek to move agenda item 8b to be next. The motion carried 4-0.

4. MC Sauer introduced Christina McCarl, 6th grade teacher and School Improvement Team (SIT) member. C McCarl read a letter she wrote on behalf of the teachers and SIT to summarize the unanimous decision to ask the Board to change the time school ends to be 3:00 (rather than 3:15). Last year we shortened the day to end at 2:00 for Covid reasons. This year is so much harder. Keeping up with students as they come and go for quarantining, teaching students who are 1 – 2 grade levels below, tutoring extra. J Nosek asked a few questions including when does instruction end now (3:05). MC Sauer explained this request would have minimal impact on instruction time. E Graziano said we do go more days than other schools, and this sounds reasonable. MC Sauer said in her research she has found that around the world the feelings are that this school year is more difficult. J Nosek asked how many are below grade level. At least 1/3. J Kreider asked about the parent feedback. R Helms explained that everyone she spoke with said either it would not affect their schedules or it would be helpful (getting to appointments/extra-curricular on time). MC Sauer said the impact on parents is minimal, yet the impact to teachers is great. J Kreider asked where would the time come from. MC Sauer said from transition time, not from core instruction. J Kreider asked if we thought about more than 15 minutes. While the teachers would like that, it would greatly impact core instruction and the overall schedule. J Nosek suggested waiting until November 8 to implement.

A motion was made by L Walker and seconded by E Graziano to approve the change in the school day schedule. The motion carried 3-1 with J Kreider dissenting.

5. Public Comment – There was no public comment
6. MC Sauer presented the principal’s report. She responded to board member questions. We have a fee schedule for renting our facilities. Summerfield Rec Association will be renting the gym soon.

We currently have 6 students out positive with Covid. Only two of those had been at school, and a handful of students had to quarantine. As conditions are improving, we are ready to invite lunch parents in. We will host training sessions and perform background checks on everyone who volunteers.

There was a long discussion about celebrations. MC Sauer said she wants to change the educational culture of being everything to students to teaching the students and not being the parents. E Graziano mentioned that celebrating birthdays together builds community, teaches sharing, it can be done during lunch which does not affect learning time. MC Sauer explained that each grade level has a way to recognize the birthday child (a crown, a song, reading the special book, etc.) that does not include a class birthday snack. J Gaulden added that there are many reasons for not allowing birthday snacks – allergies, multiple birthdays on the same day, parents appreciate not feeling pressure to send something in. L Walker would like MC Sauer to provide a list of what each grade level does for the birthday students. MC Sauer said we have plenty of other celebrations built in to the curriculum with culminating activities (for example, the 4th grade Medieval Day).

The board discussed the discipline report. L Walker asked if any of the discipline resulted in withdrawals. MC Sauer said yes, that they would include that in a report next month. Fall surveys will be sent out next week to parents and staff. J Nosek tasked E Graziano to spearhead the staff surveys.

7. Finance

The state still has not approved a budget. We have received some emergency money to operate. We received Guilford County’s money, but we think they calculated it incorrectly. MC Sauer is looking into that as we think it is \$70 - \$100,000 short. We received the EOY report. The estimated amount of surplus is close to \$200,000.

8. Academics

No report this time

9. Operations

- a) MC Sauer presented the SIT staff members and explained their selection.

A motion was made by L Walker and seconded by J Kreider to approve the SIT members. The motion carried 4-0.

- b) MC Sauer presented a draft anti-bullying policy. She said that we should have a policy, but we don’t. The board decided to table this discussion to give them more time to review it.

- c) MC Sauer explained that the Board is legally required to approve the policy each month. J Nosek read the current policy. L Walker said it is just reaffirming our commitment to follow legal directives. J Kreider said there has been no change in any guidance. MC Sauer said Covid numbers are going down.

A motion was made by J Nosek and seconded by J Kreider to keep the current face covering policy in place. The motion carried 4-0.

10. Closed Session

A motion was made by J Nosek and seconded by L Walker to go into closed session. The motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by E Graziano and seconded by J Nosek to come out of closed session. The motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by L Walker and seconded by J Nosek to approve the substitute list presented, hiring Corie Gordon, and the contract amendment for T Montgomery. The motion passed 4-0.

11. Adjourn*

A motion was made by L Walker and seconded by J Nosek to adjourn at 20:18. The motion carried 4-0.

*requires Board action

Principal's Report

October 28, 2021

Facilities

Construction	Phase III is underway and expected to be done by March.
Rentals	We have come to agreements with a couple of groups to rent the gym for events. We are still working on fee structures and arranging cleaning procedures.
Cleaning	The new cleaning crew has started and we are working on getting procedures ironed out.

Operations

COVID Protocols	<p>While we have had students continue to test positive for COVID, we have only had the two clusters (one amongst the staff and one in 3rd grade.) The cluster status rolls off after 28 days, which should be on or before November 1st.</p> <p>As COVID numbers continue to improve, we are considering letting parents in as lunch volunteers.</p>
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Celebrations	We have continued to keep in place our restrictions on individual classroom celebrations that were put in place as a result of concerns with COVID. We also have a different approach to holidays that some parents are becoming familiar with.
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Instruction

Testing	We have finished our NWEA testing in all grades. We are working with teachers on how to use results to help student learning. A report should be available next month.
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Discipline

The discipline report is attached. While we have had an increase in office referrals, the severity of incidents is still low.

Marketing

Information Meetings	We have scheduled Information Meetings on November 15 th and January 11 th at 6:30 pm.
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Tours	We have stopped doing the tours during the day but do allow parents to look at the classrooms after the Information Meetings.
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Enrollment

2021-2022

Grade	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Applications	188	137	59	94	70	77	41	28		781
Spaces	80	80	81	81	81	81	81	81		646
Returning	4	64	47	39	28	49	41	50		322
Open Spots	76	16	34	42	53	32	40	31		324
Wait List	40	121	25	52	17	45	1	(3)		298

2022-2023

Applications	96	18	15	17	11	8	19	3	4	191
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Staff

Positions

We have one 5th grade position and one tutor position open. Mr. McCall has started his position as 5th grade teacher and Mrs. Bardsley has transitioned to her role as Instructional Coach.