



Revolution Academy
Board Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2023
3800 Oak Ridge Rd.
Summerfield, NC 27358

1. Call to Order – J Nosek called the meeting to order at 18:27.
Board members present: J Nosek, J Krieder, L Walker
Board members present on the phone: E Graziano, J Brewer
Staff members present in person: M Harris, J Gaulden, R Helms, E Chicka
Parents present in person: D Chapman (PTO president), and L Fite (PTO)

2. Reading of the Mission Statement – J Nosek read the Revolution Academy Mission Statement.

3. *Approval of minutes 1.19.23* -*

A motion was made by L Walker and seconded by J Nosek to approve the minutes from 1.19.23. The motion carried (5 – 0).

4. Public Comment – There was none

A motion was made by L Walker and seconded by J Nosek to close public comment. The motion carried (5 – 0).

5. Refinance presentation – RBC – J Nosek introduced Akshai Patel, a former school teacher turned charter school founder turned charter school financier. RBC is the leading underwriter for bond refinancing. They were recommended to us by our current bond holder. RBC has a charter school niche. Mr. Patel emailed and left copies of the presentation.

6. Principal's Report – M Harris presented the Principal's Report. The topics included operations, instruction, marketing, safety grant update, and enrollment numbers. The report is in the Board drive.

7. PTO update – D Chapman, PTO president, presented the PTO report. It is in the Board drive.

8. Board Committee Updates –

a. Finance –

i. R Helms reported that we are on track with the current budget. We were able to reclass our debt service payments to use state funds, which will greatly help our cash on hand

numbers. Our auditor, Mary Grace Keller, is reviewing our reports monthly to make sure we stay on track.

- ii. First Tryon discussion – J Nosek said that First Tryon, a company that helped us execute our original bond transaction, is open to helping again. Their fees are approximately \$25,000. The question is do we still need this?

A motion was made by J Nosek and seconded by L Walker to table this discussion until next month. The motion carried (5 – 0).

b. Governance – Mr. Nosek –

- i. Discussion and approval of Board training (April 24)/Governance packages – The Board discussed all of the training packages offered by Leaders Building Leaders.

A motion was made by J Nosek and seconded by E Graziano to choose the Building the Foundation Package. The motion carried (5 – 0).

- ii. *Discussion and approval of travel policy** - To keep up with inflation and current IRS guidelines, the Board agreed to increase the meal allowance.

A motion was made by J Kreider and seconded by J Nosek to increase the meal allowance while traveling from \$30/day to \$70/day. The motion carried (5 – 0).

- iii. *Discussion and approval of admissions policy** - to clear up some language as well as provide for a more timely admissions process, the Board agreed to require admissions packets to be completed within 72 hours of acceptance. The Board also clarified the time allowed to accept/decline a position when offered (from Lottery date until July 31, 48 hours. From August 1 through end of Q2, 24 hours).

A motion was made by J Nosek and seconded by J Brewer to approve the revised admissions policy. The motion carried (5 – 0).

- iv. *Discussion and approval of volunteer dress code** - M Harris discussed why we need a volunteer dress code (we have had a couple of incidents of inappropriate clothing being worn by volunteers in the classroom). She presented the new policy. The Board wants to add another bullet to say no explicit language, sexual themes, or drug or alcohol themes.

A motion was made by J Kreider and seconded by J Nosek to approve the new volunteer dress code policy as amended during the discussion. The motion carried (4 – 1) with Brewer dissenting.

- v. *Discussion and approval of leave days for staff and teachers** - M Harris asked the board if we can change our leave day policy from 4 leave days and 5 emergency days to 10 leave days with no differentiation. R Helms mentioned that the HR consultant suggested not having the differentiation to protect us from having to decide what constitutes an emergency. Increasing the days by one would help increase morale. The Board asked for more specific examples from other schools, utilization rates and substitute pay YTD.

A motion was made by J Nosek and seconded by J Brewer to table the discussion of leave days after some more research. The motion carried (5 – 0).

- c. Academic –J Gaulden reported that she recently provided a list of our curriculum with descriptions to D Crockett.
- d. 8th grade graduation planning – D Chapman discussed her notes from the latest planning meeting. Plans include an offsite gala on May 19, the Graduation Ceremony at school on June 8 at 9 AM in the school gym, and a cookout luncheon after graduation in the back of the school. J Nosek read a note from D Crockett who could not be at the Board meeting. There was more discussion about the ceremony and having an outside speaker or not. The Board decided that the PTO will still coordinate the gala and the luncheon, and the school administration will plan the ceremony. He thanked the committee for their hard work.
- e. Facilities –
 - i. Update on fences and gates – M Harris reported that the fences are in, and we are working on the gate.
 - ii. Playground update and discussion – M Harris asked if we can move this to closed session

A motion was made by J Nosek and seconded by L Walker to move the playground update to closed session. The motion carried (5 – 0).

9. Operations

- a. SIT and SIP update – M Harris reported that she shared our calendar once again with the SIT team because some parents want spring break to align with Guilford County’s. The SIT team discussed with all of their teammates. Overwhelmingly the staff wants to keep our calendar the same.

10. Closed Session*

A motion was made by J Nosek and seconded by J Kreider to go into closed session at 20:20. The motion carried (5 – 0).

A motion was made by L Walker and seconded by J Nosek to come out of closed session at 21:37. The motion carried (5 – 0).

At this point the Board revisited Agenda Item e.ii. Playground update and discussion. After reviewing the quotes that H Shuster obtained for grading and installing the ninja course playground, the Board voted to use On-Target Construction.

A motion was made by J Brewer and seconded by J Nosek to allow up to \$100,000 for On-Target Construction to grade for and install the ninja course playground. The motion carried (5 – 0).

11. Discussion and approval of closed session minutes from 1.19.23* - tabled

12. Adjourn*

A motion was made by J Kreider and seconded by J Nosek to adjourn at 21:52. The motion carried (5 – 0).

**Requires Board action*