Limestone Charter Association Full Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 1:00 pm, Limestone University and Virtually

Directors Present

Jeremy Whitaker

Bridgett Fowler

Lee Sowell

Sedric Webber (Virtual) Phyllis Pelzer (Virtual)

Directors Absent:

Michelle Combs Wendy Wells

Others Present:

Angel Malone, Superintendent of the Limestone Charter Association Donna Manning, Director of Student Accountability Kelly Richardson, Director of Finance, Limestone University Cindy Williams, Director of Information Systems Tabitha Taneyhill, Director of Federal Programs and Special Education Jackie Washington, Office Manager Mindy Connolly, Special Education Coordinator Tracey Cline, Federal Finance Coordinator

Bridgett Fowler called the meeting to order.

Ms. Fowler asked if public notice had been made of the meeting, Jackie Washington answered that it had. There was no public comment.

The Limestone Charter Association Mission was stated on the agenda.

Action: Motion to adopt the agenda – all were in favor -- Approved

Action: Motion to accept minutes from January 11, 2024, board meeting, no additions or corrections to minutes – all were in favor – Approved

Superintendent's Updates - Angel Malone

Ms. Malone gave an update on things that we've had going on within our district while in the midst of charter applications.

- LCA was able to attend the Senate finance hearing meeting held in Columbia on March 20th along with some of the team members and one board member; Bridgett Fowler was able to attend as we represent limestone charter association.
- Angel indicated that we have been open for under a year and a half and during that time we started out with 3 schools. After that first year this year we added 4 additional schools to serve. Next year we will have 4 additional schools open, which will bring us up to at least 11, maybe more.
- We had 36 letters of intent, out of the 36 we had 15 applications that were reviewed.
- LCA Master of Education in partnership with Limestone University, we have it to where teachers are selected to be a part of that program from our members schools, and they attend at no expense or cost to them. This Spring we will have our first graduate.
- We had a Teacher from Coastal High School receive the Miliken Family Foundation

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award, her name is Sara Vicini, she was presented with a check for \$25,000.

- The Report Card Ratings --- all our schools either had an average good or excellent rating.
- School Authorization & Development Update

Donna Manning gave an update on the applications received.

Action: We have 6 charter amendments that the schools have proposed.

Coastal High School – they are proposing 2 changes to their charter.

- The first one is to be able to expand to support middle school students grade 6 through 8 for the 2025-26 year. They are currently in the construction phase of building a new high school and the old facility will be used to house those middle school students.
- The second amendment is to change their educational model from a traditional ratesbased system to a proficiency-based system.

Motion to approve amendments – all were in favor; Approved.

Goucher Charter Academy – amendment to expand grade level offerings to include a 4K program beginning 2024-2025.

Motion to approve amendment – all were in favor; Approved

Mountain View Preparatory – amendment to expand their grade levels to include 12th grade for the 2024-25 academic year.

Motion to approve amendment – all were in favor; Approved

SC Preparatory Leadership School – amendments

- Expand to include 12th grade for the 2024-25 academic year.
- Change the Educational model from a traditional based system to a proficiency-based system.

Motion to approve amendments – all were in favor; Approved

Marshview Academy – amendment is to delay the school opening until the 2025-2026 school year

Motion to approve amendment – all were in favor; Approved

Southern Collegiate Academy – amendment to delay the school opening until 2025-26 school year.

Motion to approve amendment – all were in favor; Approved

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LCA Charter Applicants 2024

Action: Harrisburg Global Academy presented their application.

Motion to approve opening in 2025-26 school year.
all were in favor; Approved

Action: Grand Strand Charter Arts High School presented their application.

Grand Strand still had items that LCA would like to still work with them to resolve. The staff would recommend conditional approval which would include rectifying those outstanding items and having them completed by May 30th of this year.

Motion for conditional approval.
All were in favor; Approved

Donna indicated that we had 3 additional applications that were submitted to us, SC School and Work, Academy for Performing Arts and Pathways in Education. It was determined that they were not ready yet and they requested to withdraw their applications.

Kelly Richardson gave Finance updates. A copy of the financial report was available in the board packet and there were no questions concerning the report. Kelly gave an update on our 990; we did file for an extension because our audit is not due until December 1st. A draft should be ready by mid April and then filed well in time of the May 15th deadline and copy to the board once that is completed.

Emily Heatwole Keeney gave Legislative updates.

Executive Session – Ms. Fowler indicated that there was no need for an Executive Session.

Motion for meeting to adjourn, all were in favor – approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridgett Føwler.

Secretary to the Board of Directors

Limestone Charter Association

Jackie Washington

Office Manager

Limestone Charter Association