**Mallard Creek and**

**Southwest Charlotte STEM Academy**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**February 22, 2023, Live Via ZOOM at 6PM**

6:00 Call to Order

Attendance: Tyrone Harmon, Christy Condon, Kellen Nixon, Deanna Smith, Shekeria Barnes

Also in attendance: Justin Matthews, Jennifer Lucas

Absent: Jose Garcia, Shelly Domenech

6:05 Approval of Minutes from last meeting January

Correction needed, Tyrone was absent at last meeting but noted as present. Tyrone made a motion to approve with the correction. Kellen seconded the motion. The correction is being made. Motion approved unanimously.

6:10 Public Comment

Chastidy McIntosh-Miller from SCSA: This is her 2nd year here. Concerned about students in the wait list. What are the numbers going to look like here next year. Classrooms are at 20 kids per class. Wants to know how the waitlist will impact enrollment. Will be reviewed during Principal reports.

6:20 Principal Reports:

Deanna Smith

Welcomed everyone, and said we are working great as a sister school. Enjoys working together and sharing wisdom and knowledge and strategies. We are seeing that by moving schools and in particular academically. MCSA is working on math madness. They are working on identifying standards and those specific to the students needs. Staffing is stable and fully staffed. One of the things that MCSA did was register for the UNC teacher fair. Attending the job fair and see how the new graduates are and hope to get good quality new staff. We have been interviewing for a few positions that we know they are going to need. As far as facility goes, they are working on a permitting on the sunshade. Question from the shade company related from the distance to playground. Discussed the after school tutoring camps for students at no charge. Having a 3rd grade parent meeting to discuss the upcoming EOG and how the tests work and what the scores mean and what happens if they don’t pass. Will also talk more about the summer reading camp after.

Operations: No concerns and no issues in safety protocols and parent communication is going great. We have 100% participation/right contact info. ES doing pastries with the Principal to get to know the families.

Athletics: Sports are going great, and it is championship week. MCSA hosted 2 games yesterday and is looking forward to making it to the championship games.

Mr. Sanders gave a full update on the sports at MCSA. The girls were champions in cheerleading. We are planning some clinics and prep work for upcoming sports.

Deanna wanted to remind everyone about the accreditation visit to see if any board members can attend. They don’t require it but it would be helpful and mean a lot to the process if possible. Visit will entail interview with admin team, leadership. Parents and students as well as staff.

Finally- celebrations! Daddy daughter dance and the amazing parent partnership group did a great job planning it and they are planning the mother son dance is going to be great. It is called a SNEAKER ball. They will also put information out for the Gala in May. The culture and school environment is going great and parents are doing great. Student attendance is an issue so we will work on addressing it and sharing it. This is a new issue this year so this is a new focus for support.

Shekeria Barnes:

Welcomed all. Thanks Mrs. Miller for attending and speaking. Reviewed current applications and confirmed new students. Moved into granular data dive about how we are preparing students and addressing their deficiencies based on data reports and how students in 3-8 grade have their interventions and support and how the k-2 students are receiving intervention and support. There is a link in the board report to the data itself. Working on how to communicate to parents and see how we support parents with the assessments and work at home for students (I Ready Study Island). Discussion on professional development for all staff. ELL department is working hard on the ELL support and adding curriculum and assessment for them.,

New scoreboards are in and they are awesome! Thanks to Clay Sanders and Tyrone Harmon. Kids are in the gym in a game TONIGHT! There are no staffing updates, and we are very steady.

Barnes has been doing weekly zooms with parents in each grade level to maintain positive communication.

Student Sports: Clay Sanders reported. We are in the thick of playoffs right now! If they win they will advance to the championship game tomorrow. Scoreboards and partitions are up and they are great. Provided an enhanced experience. Girls Soccer, Flag Football and track and field are coming up this spring. 73 players for track. Sports are huge at SCSA with tons of participation. Winter championship celebrations are coming up. Barnes celebrated her academic gains. Celebrated the STEM Fair and shared pictures for the team.

Board questions: Question for Barnes from Ty Harmon asking when official tour dates are for the new parents looking to visit. Barnes has already done a number of tours. There was another in February. Monday a new sign up list will come out for the 3 upcoming tours and parent sessions. Those invites got to new families who have applied already.

Christy asked Barnes about her challenges for recruiting new highly qualified teachers for next year. We are working on creative ideas or recruitment ideas.

Facility updates: Tyrone led discussion related to campus lighting. Shared options on cost strategies. Kellen asked about other options and total cost. Justin added that we are very excited to see some of the new items. Indoor scoreboards came out great and outdoor scoreboard is getting ready to get posted outside. New audio and remote lighting is coming up. We are still working on permitting and approvals for a turf field for MCSA.

Financials: Justin addressed the board.

Balance sheet is the summary of school assets (have value) and liabilities (cost money) SCSA financials first: The School sitting on cash and can use the cash to pay for the field amenities. Liabilities in payroll are right on track. The next document is the BVA (PandL) in a regular profit business) Look at the bottom line and see the school is operating at a half million surplus. Making sure they have cash for upcoming expenses and other needs like amenities, resources and staff.

Board questions about the budgets. Difference between SCSA revenues for aftercare vs MCSA? Justin reminded board that MCSA in houses care program and SCSA contracts out. The second question related to additional revenues. Justin reminded board about ESSER funds which are coming to an end. MCSA financials is substantial cash surplus and will be able to use it for the field. These schools are so fortunate to be able to pay for the things they need. AP is their liabilities is mostly payroll accrual for 12-month staff. The BVA on MCSA is operating at north of $750000 surplus. They also benefitted from Covid dollars and using it to improve academics and the program. Both schools have the ability to do what’s best for children and benefit the program.

Hoping to get news on the soil borings and field geotests to build the field. It will take to the end of the year for final approvals. No update on the new playground equipment.

No board questions regarding the budgets.

Final board question about the lights and paying for them in advance with Duke. Option to lease or purchase. It is based on the availability of the materials and the personnel so we are waiting for final info from Duke. Tyrone is helping to determine what is the best option for both schools. Both schools can afford either program option. Both Schools will have perimeter lighting as soon as we can Duke to move on either option.

Jose made the recommendation that the next meeting is held live at whichever school wins the final championship!

7:00 Kellen made the motion to adjourn and Christy seconded the motion. No further questions or discussion. Meeting was adjourned at 7:02