

# CIRRUS EDUCATION GROUP, INC. GOVERNANCE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

# **Minutes**

www.cirrusacademy.org

October 10, 2023 6:00 PM

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#### 1. Call to Order

Board Chair Kelly called the meeting to order at approximately 6:03 PM.

#### 1.1 Attendance

Board Members Present: Shirlynn Kelly, Latrell Taylor, Tosin Olagunju, and Nathan Lewis (joined at approximately 6:25) were present via Zoom. Also present were approximately 12 members of the public, staff, and stakeholders.

# 1.2. Approval of Agenda

Vice Chair Taylor made a motion to approve the agenda, and Board Member Olagunju seconded the motion. The motion was approved at approximately 6:04 by a unanimous vote of all present.

Board Member Olagunju made a motion to amend the agenda to add a report from the Cirrus Governance Retreat on September 29-30, and Vice Chair Taylor seconded the motion. The motion was approved at approximately 6:04 by a unanimous vote of all present.

# Cirrus Board Governance Retreat Report

Chair Kelly provided an overview of Cirrus' governance retreat on September 29-30. Chair Kelly noted that the purpose of the retreat was for the board to receive additional training to better understand, support, and collaborate with the school administration to set expectations for performance that are aligned to Cirrus' contractual performance measures. Chair Kelly noted that the work of the administration with the support of Dr. Beasley provided the board a new understanding of actions needed to improve performance, including focusing on data and continual progress monitoring for improvement.

# 1.3. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from the September 12, 2023, meeting.

Vice Chair Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 12 meeting and Board Member Olagunju seconded the motion. The motion was approved at approximately 6:11 by a unanimous vote of all present.

1.4. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from the September 22, 2023, meeting.

Vice Chair Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 22 meeting and Board Member Olagunju seconded the motion. The motion was approved at approximately 6:11 by a unanimous vote of all present.

1.5. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from the September 29-30, 2023, meeting.

Board Member Olagunju made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 29-30 meeting and Vice Chair Taylor seconded the motion. The motion was approved at approximately 6:11 by a unanimous vote of all present.

#### 2. Matters of Discussion

## 2.1. SCSC Corrective Action

Next, Board Chair Kelly asked Gregg Stevens, governing board liaison, to discuss the Corrective Action Plan. Mr. Stevens stated that the State Charter Schools Commission identified noncompliance and will require the governing board to take action to improve compliance. Mr. Stevens noted that the governing board and administration focused its discussions throughout the governance retreat for the purpose of identifying the objectives, actions, and measures included in the draft corrective action plan. Mr. Stevens noted that he worked closely with Dr. Fowler and Dr. Beasly to identify actions across academics, finances, and operations to improve the board's ability to establish policies and practices to support performance as well developing a system to hold staff, partners, and itself accountable for performance.

Mr. Stevens discussed that the draft corrective action plan build upon the steps the board and administration have taken to improve collaboration, organization, and structure. Mr. Stevens emphasized that the corrective action plan requires the board to continue to add board members and to use a committee structure to work more closely with staff and to monitor compliance and progress under the action plan.

The governing board discussed the draft corrective action plan and noted that the board would benefit from additional detail regarding the specific measures of accountability. The board stated that the actions and objectives were aligned with its strategy for improvement, but that firmer measures of progress would provide the board greater accountability to ensure actions are completed.

The board noted that the deadline for submitting the plan to the SCSC is on Friday, October 13. Mr. Stevens then stated that the board could request an extension to file the corrective action plan, and that requesting an extension for the purpose of strengthening performance measures would be likely to be approved given the evidence of due diligence and action that the draft establishes.

Board Member Olagunju requested for the board to consider calling a meeting for Thursday or Friday to further discuss or act on the corrective action plan should a request for an extension not be approved by the SCSC. Board Chair Kelly agreed that it would be prudent to call a meeting, and she directed Mr. Stevens to work with the board to ensure a called meeting for Thursday or Friday was scheduled and noticed.

Chair Kelly tabled further discussion of the SCSC Corrective Action Plan pending the outcome of a request for an extension from the SCSC.

## 3. Action Item(s)

3.1. SCSC Corrective Action

The SCSC Corrective Action was tabled and no action was taken.

# 4. Community Comment

4.1. The Governing Board will reserve no more than 30 minutes to listen to public comment. Individuals who want to speak during Community Comment must register in advance as described below. Individuals speaking during Community Comment will be limited to 3 minutes each.

The Governing Board did not have any registered Community Comment, and no attendees desired to speak.

#### 5. Executive Session

Prior to receiving a motion to enter into executive session, Chair Kelly noted that the addition of a called meeting later in the week would provide an opportunity for the full board to discuss executive session matters.

Vice Chair Taylor made a motion to table the executive session, and Board Member Olagunju seconded the motion. The motion was approved at approximately 6:28 by a unanimous vote of all present.

5.1. The Governing Board will enter into executive session pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2) for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee.

### 6. Adjournment

6.1. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:36 PM.

## **Community Comment Registration**

- 1. The Governing Board will include Community Comment on the agenda for each regularly scheduled Governing Board Meeting, and the Governing Board may choose to hold Community Comment during called meetings.
- 2. The Governing Board will devote no more than 30 minutes of each meeting to

- Community Comment, and individuals are limited to 3 minutes of speaking time.
- 3. The Governing Board will maintain decorum during its meetings by requiring individuals to sign-up for public comment periods (Community Comment) in advance of speaking at the meeting.
- 4. Individuals who wish to speak during Community Comment must register by no later than 5:00 PM the day before any board meeting with Community Comment.
- 5. Individuals may register in advance by sending an email to <a href="mailto:public.comment@ceginc.org">public.comment@ceginc.org</a>, with the name and email address of the individual who will speak during Community Comment.
- 6. Only individuals registering in advance of the meeting will be afforded the opportunity to speak during Community Comment, unless granted an exception by the Board Chair at the Meeting.

## Additional Options to Join the Meeting

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