



CIRRUS EDUCATION GROUP, INC.
GOVERNANCE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Minutes
www.cirrusacademy.org

January 9, 2024
6:00 PM

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84337224596>

1. Call to Order

1.1. Attendance

Board Chair Kelly called the meeting to order at approximately 6:16 pm. Board Members Present: Shirlynn Kelly, Latrell Taylor, Nathan Lewis and Tosin Olagunju. Board Candidates Lisa Golphins and Rhonda Finley were present. Dr. Fowler, Cirrus Academy Charter School staff, Ms. Porsche Chisley, Mr. Gregg Stevens and members of the public were also present.

1.2. Approval of Agenda

Board Member Olagunju made a motion to approve the agenda and Board Member Lewis seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of those present at approximately 6:21 pm.

1.3. Approval of [Board Meeting Minutes from the December 12, 2023, meeting](#).

Board Member Olagunju then made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2023, Board Meeting and Vice Chair Taylor provided a second. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of those present at approximately 6:22 pm.

1.4. Approval of [Board Meeting Minutes from the Called December 15, 2023, meeting](#).

Board Member Lewis then made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2023, Board Meeting and Board Member Olagunju provided a second. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of those present at approximately 6:22 pm.

2. Community Comment

2.1. 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.

3. Action Item(s)

3.1. [Confirm New Board Members](#)

Board Chair Kelly then introduced two candidates for the Cirrus Academy Charter School Governing Board, Ms. Lisa Golphins and Ms. Rhonda Finley. Both Ms. Golphins and Ms. Finley expressed excitement in joining the Board and each candidate expressed the commitment to improving education for students and the Cirrus community. Board Chair Kelly then noted that Ms. Lisa Golphins and Ms. Rhonda Finley each completed their respective background checks pursuant to Board policy and were confirmed as Board Members pursuant to the school's bylaws and December vote.

3.2. Policy Review

Next, Board Chair Kelly introduced the Governing Board's revised policies to be considered in accordance with its policy review calendar. Following the introduction of the Grievance Policy and Nondiscrimination policy, the Governing Board discussed several recent factors, such as preliminary SCSC monitoring results, additional board members, and further opportunities for collaboration that require additional deliberation to ensure all policies are consistent with intended practice and desired performance.

Board Member Olagunju made a motion to table consideration of the proposed Governing Board policies until February to provide additional time for further review, revision, and clarifications and Vice Chair Taylor provided a second. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of those present approximately 6:45 pm.

- 3.2.1. Consider for Adoption (Summary Document): [Grievance Policy](#), [Nondiscrimination Policy](#), [Review of Administrative Procedures](#), [Transparency in Meetings and Records](#), [Maintaining Board and School Records](#), [Board Training and Development](#), [Board Recruitment and Onboarding](#), [Role of the Lead Administrator](#), [Compensation and Salaries](#), [Mandatory Reporting](#)

4. Matters of Discussion

4.1. Committee Reports

Board Chair Kelly then noted that Cirrus Academy Charter School Governing Board Committees met prior to the board meeting, and she requested that each Committee Chair provide a report of the committee meeting.

4.1.1. Academic Committee Report

Academic Committee Chair Olagunju provided the Academic Committee report. Chair Olagunju reported that Cirrus is making academic progress and that the Academic Committee meeting is working closely with Dr. Beasley to analyze student data and identify measures of success for students throughout the year.

4.1.2. Finance Committee Report

Finance Committee Chair Lewis provided the Finance Committee report. Chair Lewis reported that the school's financial statements were not available at the time of the committee meeting and that the Finance Committee will schedule a called meeting later in the month to review the school's financial statements for December. Additionally, Chair Lewis noted that members of the finance committee, staff, and support consultants will schedule two additional meetings – one to discuss and review the FY24 Amended Budget and FY25 Operational Budget, and one meeting to discuss and review key financial policies.

4.1.3. Personnel Committee Report

Personnel Committee Chair Taylor provided the Personnel Committee report. Chair Taylor reported that the school is gathering the job descriptions and vendor contracts in

accordance with the committee's expectations, and that the committee is in the process of revising the Employee Handbook for the spring.

4.1.4. Operations Committee Report

Operations Committee Chair Kelly provided the Operations Committee report. Chair Kelly reported that school building is in need of some repairs to the roof and that the repairs to the playground and doors are underway. The Board then discussed the facility grant and its use for addressing immediate building needs. Following a brief discussion regarding the SCSC on-site monitoring visit, Chair Kelly and the Board noted that the school recently received a low-performing score for operations as measured by the SCSC Comprehensive Performance Framework. Noting that this score is generally not indicative of Cirrus performance, the Board expressed the expectation that the school's operational score continue to improve.

4.2. CEO Report

Dr. Fowler then provided the CEO report. Dr. Fowler noted that Cirrus recently had several enrollments following the winter break, despite a strong a difficult flue season. Dr. Fowler highlighted Cirrus' recent performance under the SCSC CPF, emphasizing that the school met academic standards for the 2022-2023 school year. Chair Kelly emphasized that the school's operational score must improve, including its policies and procedures for drawing down grant funding. Dr. Fowler then noted that Cirrus recently received its annual monitoring from the SCSC and that school staff will work closely with the Board and its consultants to provide a thorough and timely response.

4.3. Policy Review

Board Chair Kelly then requested that Mr. Stevens ensure that Governing Board policies be carefully reviewed and brought back to the Board at its February meeting in accordance with the Board's expectation for additional context and clarity.

4.3.1. Initiate Review: Budget Development, Budget Calendar, System of Internal Controls, Risk Management and Indemnification, Board Communication with Administration, Board Actions and Resolutions, Performance Evaluations, Succession Planning, Emergency Continuation of Operations, Confidentiality Policy, Social Media Policy, Divisive Concepts, Parents Bill of Rights Policy

5. Executive Session

- 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.

At approximately 8:15 pm, Chair Kelly called for a motion to enter into executive session as authorized by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2) to discuss personnel. Board Member Olagunju made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel and Vice Chair Taylor seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of all present.

At approximately 9:51 pm, Chair Kelly called for a motion to exit executive session. Board Member Lewis made a motion to exit executive session and Board Member Olagunju seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of all present.

Board Member Lewis then made a motion to adjourn the meeting that was seconded by Board Member Olagunju. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of those present at approximately 9:51 pm.

6. Adjournment

6.1. Adjournment

Board Member Lewis then made a motion to adjourn the meeting that was seconded by Board Member Olagunju. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of those present at approximately 9:51 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 public.comment@ceginc.org, 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.