



CIRRUS EDUCATION GROUP, INC. ACADEMIC COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

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**October 17, 2024
10:00 AM**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85851981731?pwd=Cp0HvifMUTfn09i22jRw6TZKFyriPH.1>

**Meeting ID: 858 5198 1731
Passcode: 606850**

1. Call to Order

1.1. Attendance

Committee Member Kelly called the meeting to order at approximately 10:06 am. Committee Member Kelly, chairing in the absence of Chair Olagunju was present. Committee Member Taylor was also present. Mr. Williams, Ms. Edwards, and other Cirrus staff were present. Mr. Stevens was present and participating on Zoom.

1.2. Approval of Agenda

Committee Member Taylor made a motion to approve the agenda and Committee Member Kelly provided a second. The motion was approved unanimously by those present.

1.3. Approval of Committee Minutes from [August 8, 2024](#)

Committee Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Committee Minutes from August 8, 2024, and Committee Member Kelly provided a second. The motion was approved unanimously by those present.

2. Matters of Discussion

2.1. Academic Transition Updates

Following approval of the meeting minutes, Ms. Edwards provided the Academic Update for October. Cirrus is currently serving approximately 429 students across all grades, with students receiving tailored instruction through self-contained and subject-specific classes. Attendance rates remained strong, exceeding 95%, with first graders leading at 99.8%, ensuring consistent

instructional time. Teachers utilized early morning sessions from 7:30 to 8:20 to reinforce foundational skills in ELA and math. Aligned with the 2024-2025 plan, the school set ambitious academic goals, aiming to increase third-grade reading proficiency and raise the number of students classified as proficient or distinguished learners.

The school completed the acquisition of instructional resources, including i-Ready materials for reading and math, science textbooks, and other web-based tools. Staff members worked diligently to distribute these resources, ensuring teachers have what they need to begin a strong implementation phase. Professional development remains a key focus, with teachers receiving training on resource utilization and PBIS strategies. Additionally, professional learning sessions have incorporated personal well-being topics like financial literacy and mental health to support staff holistically.

The implementation of the PBIS program saw great success, with over 400 students participating in the recent popcorn bar event, which rewarded good behavior. This initiative significantly reduced disciplinary referrals, encouraging a positive culture among students and healthy competition among teachers. Staff members are also planning future PBIS events, such as ice cream socials, to maintain engagement.

The school continues to foster hands-on learning through its STEM initiative, which includes participation in robotics via the Starbase program and preparations for a school-wide science fair in December. Leadership aims to strengthen the STEM focus by visiting certified schools for guidance and incorporating best practices. Despite the challenges of new state standards, student performance on the Georgia Milestones assessment shows encouraging results, and staff remain committed to improving instructional quality and student outcomes.

2.2. Review Available SY24 Data

Next, Ms. Freeman discussed recently released Math scores for FY24. The school set three academic goals for the 2024-2025 year, focusing on literacy and proficiency. These include ensuring all students read on grade level by third grade, increasing the number of developing learners from 42% to 52%, and raising the percentage of proficient learners from 10% to at least 20%. She also outlined improvements in student behavior, thanks to the PBIS program, which has successfully motivated students through rewards such as popcorn bars.

Cirrus staff noted strong preparation for the science fair, with students working alongside teachers and parents to meet the October 31 deadline for research submissions. She emphasized the school's commitment to professional development, with teachers using i-Ready resources for reading and math and attending training sessions to enhance instructional practices. Additionally, the committee noted that staff absences impacted instruction, but recent maternity leaves had concluded, and teachers were returning, ready to improve outcomes.

2.3. Academic Committee Goals for SY25

2.3.1. Learning Resources Update

Ms. Edwards noted in the Academic Update that teachers had received all learning resources after a brief delay.

2.3.2. Professional Development Update

Ms. Edwards and Mr. Williams highlighted the leadership team's efforts to ensure all staff receive professional development throughout the year aligned with their personal growth goals and needs as identified through TKES.

3. Adjournment

3.1. Adjournment

At approximately 10:58, Board Member Kelly adjourned the committee meeting.
