



Agenda for Regular Board Meeting on December 21, 2021

Location: Virtus Academy of SC

2407 Pisgah Road
Florence, SC 29501

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98400522869?pwd=eStKYzArOXJkdUx3NGNGQ2xqLzVjQT09>

Meeting ID: 984 0052 2869

Passcode: 5XicJN

Mission Statement: Virtus Academy will power student potential through project-based learning, leadership development, community service, and the spirited pursuit of excellence.

Announcement regarding Public Comment

1. Welcome/Opening; Meeting began at 6:05PM
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2. Dr. Thomas Ducey, Board Chair: Reading of School Mission
3. Roll Call (qurim was stated and approved at 6:05 PM)
 - Dr. Thomas Ducey
 - Mr. Don Strickland
 - Mr. Glenn Hill (via Zoom)
 - Mrs. Stacey Coleman
 - Mr. Scott Kozacki
 - Mr. Les Echols
 - Mr. Carlos Washington (via Zoom)
4. Approval of Agenda
 - Emergency meeting notes on November 24th- approved statement of former employee need to be added
 - motion to approve agenda with the addition of an amendment passed
5. Public Comment
 - no public comment
6. Approval of Minutes
 - November 30th, 2021
 - i. approved as written
 - ii. Amendment to approve minutes on November 24th-
 1. minutes were approved from the Emergency Board meeting
7. **Executive Session 1**
 - **motion to move to Executive Session 1 6:08 PM**
 - **Student Hearing - Recommendation for Expulsion**

Return to General Session

- Kozacki made a motion to uphold the recommendation for expulsion to be withheld- board agreed
- Ducey will send a letter to guardians to inform them of the board's decision

8. COVID Report

- Ducey proposed a vaccination drive for students, staff, and possibly parents
- Booster shots would be possibly be available as well
- Board discussed the possibility of push- back from parents/ guardians
- The vaccine would be completely guardian decision
- Dr. Atkins- asked what percentage of staff is not vaccinated
- The board discussed percentage of staff (estimate of 60% vaccinated)
- Kozacki commented healthcare workers vaccinated
- Ducey will reach out to MUSC to find out about details on logistics
- Strickland noted that having a vaccine drive will have high probability of ruffling feathers, however it may be worth the risk
- Strickland asked about liability issues (hitting nerve, adverse reactions, etc)
- i. Kozacki notes that there is a SC Tork Claims Act
 - Dr. Atkins notes that when he does a procedure he has a full written consent that includes all complications and potential risks with vaccine and administration
 - Kozacki notes that there can still be liability issues after signing consent-and gives examples; he also notes that he believes can be covered by insurance
 - Kozacki notes that there is a small cause of being sued- the risk to the school as a whole is not that great
 - Kozacki notes that there might be paperwork/ logistics to work out with MUSC to make sure all liability issues may be covered
 - Strickland noted that possibly forged signatures could be turned in against guardians' wishes (stated that a similar case happened that he knows about)
 - Board discussed how to verify signatures come from the guardians
 - Dr. Atkins notes that there is roughly a 30 minute recoup time after getting the vaccine- what will that look like for the students- how will that look logistically?
- i. Nero stated that different screenings (vision/ hearing, etc) happen often and staff are able to work around the logistics
- ii. Nero stated that in order to ensure the signed forms from the guardian, they are to physically hand them into a staff member
 - Kozacki and Dr. Atkins discussed logistics of testing positive and receiving the vaccine
 - Dr. Atkins asked what prevision will there be if there is an immediate reaction? (anaphylactic shock) - Ducey stated that all administering shot are nurses
- i. Dr. Atkins adamantly stated that individuals giving shots know how to react to anaphylactic shock
- The board discussed the different variants of COVID and the risk of students/ staff after coming back from back

9. Monthly Budget Report

- Nero present budget for November
 - i. November Net Position/ Fund Balance- \$1,035,940
 - ii. Deficit, however waiting for reimbursement from federal funding
 - iii. Board discussed current bond for the building of the high school
 - iv. Nero stated that CIE has changed the reimbursement process and waiting for guidance on how to submit for reimbursement
 - v. General Fund Net Income YTD \$66,011
 - vi. Strickland noted that growth of cash balance since last year
 - 1. asked how many vacancies there are currently
 - a. Ducey stated that under bond agreement, they must have a current amount in the cash balance (roughly 1 million)
 - b. Ducey stated that he would get the specific number to the board what needs to be in the bank for the bond

- vii. Nero will ask Kleine about reimbursements from CIE and timeline
10. Field Trip Approval
- Nero proposed if Field Trips are an option for students this school year
 - i. Ducey asked Dr. Atkins for guidance
 - 1. Atkins stated that it is a situational decision
 - a. factors: inside vs. outside
 - b. time of year
 - c. numbers of positive cases
 - ii. Ducey stated that it would be a case by case decision and would like to see the educational benefits to these field trips
 - iii. Kozacki questioned if the board had to approve field trips
 - 1. COVID plan denied all field trips- seeking clarification if the board in fact does need to approve field trips
11. Principal's Report
- Enrollment
 - i. 539 current enrollment
 - ii. 20 new students starting Jan. 4th
 - iii. Enrollment will be 565 Jan. 4th
 - iv. See details on attached enrollment document
 - v. Will begin accepting applications for the lottery the first week of Jan.
 - vi. Lottery will be held March 2, 2022
 - vii. Runyan asked if the goal is 3 classes per grade
 - 1. Bond is based on number of students that we currently have
 - 2. Nero stated concerns self contained students and locations if students whose placement is self contained is accepted
 - viii. Ducey and Nero discussed different possibilities to accommodate students with special needs
 - ix. Ducey asked when the 135th day of school- Nero estimated April
 - x. Strickland asked about 3rd grade specific
 - 1. Where is the line drawn? (i.e. what happens when there is a high demand for 3rd graders to join)

12. Executive Session 2

-The Board agreed that there was no reason to go into Executive Session 2

Return to General Session

13. Action Items, if any, from Executive Sessions 1 and 2
- Ducey will contact student's guardians that was recommended for expulsion with the board's decision
14. Good of the Order
- Nothing was mentioned for the good of the order
15. Next Regular Meeting Date: January 25, 2022
- Invite Hughbridge and High School Planning Committee to meeting for insight building high school was proposed
16. Adjourn at 7:27 PM