



**Agenda for Regular Board Meeting on May 31, 2022**

**Location: Virtus Academy of SC**  
2407 Pisgah Road  
Florence, SC 29501

**Time: 6:00 p.m.**

**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**

- Welcome/Opening
  - Meeting began at 6 PM
- Dr. Thomas Ducey, Board Chair: Reading of School Mission
- Roll Call
  - Don Strickland
  - Carlos Washington
  - Les Echols
  - Scott Kozacki
  - John Atkins
- Approval of Agenda
- Public Comment
  - No public comment
- Approval of Minutes
  - Regular, April 26th, 2022
  - Approval of minutes as written
- Monthly Budget Report
  - changes proposed in the state budget
    - schools have benefited from the changes; made budgeting more complicated and unsure what the timeline will look like
    - drafted budget; fully expect budget to change
    - Elections happen in June; changes are to be expected
    - Virtus has a healthy cash reserve; Kozacki asked if going into the cash reserve, will that interfere with our bond; expressed she would not concerned about bond
  - April Financials
  - [April Financials](#)

All claims must be submitted by July 8th in order to get reimbursed for this school year (Federal Funding)

- Don Strickland asked if the budget reflects the 2023-2024 school year with the addition of the high school; the budget does not reflect the addition
- Nero stated she would need to estimate what that will look like based on the classroom and what classrooms will need; plans to get with the accountant and come up with the estimate.
- Don Strickland asked to add the private security to the current budget
- Reading of FY-22 Budget
- COVID Report
  - Increase as of late

- (2 students who tested positive and 2 tested positive; 2 students who were quarantined)

- Election Results
  - Carlos Washington and Don Strickland reappointed to the board
  - Rob Roberts third elected member
- School Security
  - Plan for the remainder of this year and next year
    - Nero: contacted two security companies to get quotes; provided in board packet
      - Security guard will be armed
      - State would not pay; application to apply not available until July; not available until 2023-2024 school year
      - State will only pay if local manpower is available and application is accepted
      - City or County police would be an option
        - Quotes for private security for 2022-2023 school year  
\$48,000/ \$28/hr (Quote 1)  
\$39/hr (Quote 2)
  - Discussion about devices that can be installed for each classroom to provide intruders from coming into the classroom
  - Ducey asked if we knew what the police response time would be; Nero stated it was in the emergency plan
  - Atkins voiced concern about having a plan to get children out of the building if possible.
  - Don Strickland recommended posting signs to remind staff members to ensure doors stay closed/ are not propped open. He also mentioned the front desk being higher vigilant when letting individuals inside the building.
  - Tyner mentioned that morning is the busiest time of day at the front desk.
  - Active Shooter Training will be done at the beginning of the year with the entire school.
  - Nero commented that drills can be traumatic for younger students and encouraged conversations and appropriate training for students and staff
  - Atkins asked if parents and students are aware of repercussions of being a weapon; Nero stated that it is clearly defined in the handbook as a recommendation for expulsion.
  - Kozacki- encourage for school to define what exactly qualifies as a weapon/ what encompasses violation of these policies
- Executive Session 1- at 6:55 PM
  - Employee Grievance
  - Student Grievance
- Principal's Report returned at 8: 05
  - Personnel
    - Staff Honored at Erksine
      - Nero- Rookie of the Year
        - Ethan Shaffer- Student of the Year
        - Bray- Teacher of the Year
  - Enrollment
    - Full with no waiting list except for 8th and 9th grade
- Staffing
  - Still need
    - 2nd grade teacher
    - School Nurse (1 interview last week, 2 interviews this week)
    - School Psychologist
- Executive Session at 8:14 PM
  - High School Facility Update
- Motion

- Employee Grievance

Motion to withhold the administration's decision based on the employee at will work agreement;  
motion passes

- Student Grievance
  - Motion to affirm the decision of administration with the revision for the parents to write a rebuttal to be passed in the student's record
- Good of the Order: None
- Next Regular Meeting Date: June 28th
- The bylaws and committees due in July's meeting
- Adjourn