



Minutes

April 14, 2019

Welcome – Debbie Clary, *Chair called the meeting to order at 1PM.*

In attendance: Debbie Clary, Wes Westmoreland, Betsy Harnage, Robert Brown, Shelly Bullard, Jayson Philbeck via Phone-in Phyllis Nowlen, and Mary Stockham – Parent Liaison were in attendance.

Conflict of Interest Statement *In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict. If any board member has any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the board today, please identify the conflict or appearance of conflict at this time, and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.*

Adoption of Agenda *with adoption Motion made by Wes Westmoreland and 2nd by Betsy Harnage, All Approved.*

Approval of Minutes *Mary Stockham made a motion to approve the minutes of the March Meeting, Betsy Harnage seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by the board.*

Public Comments *Persons wishing to appear before the Board during this portion of the meeting should register their name and the subject they wish to address with the Secretary prior to the beginning of the meeting. Each presentation will be limited to three (3) minutes. The Board is interested in hearing your concerns, yet speakers should not expect comment, action, or deliberation on subject matter brought up during the public comment segment. Topics requiring further investigation will be referred to the appropriate board committee. **No one from the public was in attendance.***

Headmaster Report *Mr. Robert Brown presented the headmaster report as provided.*

Action Items:

- None

Facility:

The roof leaks on the north and northwest portions of the building have NOT returned, even with the storms this week.

Curriculum and Academics:

We are preparing for the final push academically after spring break. After break we have approximately two weeks until AP testing starts and four weeks until EOG/EOC testing starts. This places us at a position to finish the end of the school year strong. We are actively using data from our NC Check In tests and iReady diagnostics to identify weaknesses by standard, question, and macro type in both reading and math. In addition, we are revisiting the areas of heaviest testing to ensure that we have effectively taught them and instructed with the appropriate depth of

knowledge. We are also refining small group instruction and flex group instruction to focus on areas of weakness and provide individualized homogenous instruction.

FEE will conduct their Economics in Action program for our high school students on April 24 as the second event in our yearly Classical Foundations program. (This is rescheduled from March 21.) The program will be a four-hour event that consists of lectures, experiments, and hands-on learning activities for students from Dr. Antony Davies, economist from Duquesne University and Dr. Phil Magness, Senior Research Fellow at the American Institute for Economic Research. Dr. Davies' research interests include econometrics, public policy, and consumer behavior. Dr. Magness is the author of numerous works on economic history, taxation, economic inequality, the history of slavery, and education policy in the United States. The goal is for students to learn about the importance of property rights, strong character, individual responsibility, and their relationship to markets so they can make sound economic choices, both personally and professionally.

Seniors in the AP track (approximately 15 students) will be able to earn their CTE Business Administration certificate in addition to their Associate in Science degree. This is due to a one-time scheduling issue, but provides a portion of our seniors with an additional academic opportunity to earn a secondary pathway credential.

Dr. Martin in conjunction with the State Employees Credit Union spearheaded The Reality of Money workshop for our sophomores and juniors on Wednesday, April 10. As active participants, students learned about the impact their choices make in their budget and lifestyle. Each student was "transformed" into wage earning, bill paying and financially independent young adults as part of the program. The end result was that students got a powerful lesson about the real-life choices they will soon be making. Learning outcomes from The Reality of Money program include - learning the value of "living below your means"; the value of maintaining a good credit score; education can be a key driver of financial success; earning how to budget helps build financial success; and that life choices matter. The program was an eye-opening experience for many of our students.

Please see attached character education information.
Please see attached College Advising Model.

Professional Development Etc.:

The final professional development session for Ready Math was held on Friday March 29. The NC NTSP also provided professional development on analyzing student classroom data.

The annual Code Red drill took place on March 28 at both campuses. The students and staff did an outstanding job - you could literally hear a pin drop at both campuses and all steps were followed to a "T". The annual tornado drill took place on March 19 at both campuses - as with the Code Red drill, students and staff did an outstanding job.

Legal / DPI:

The second round of submissions for the Performance Framework were submitted at the end of March. Dr. Bullard facilitated this process for me. Submissions for April included:

- Fire and Health Inspections
- Civil and Liability Insurance
- Criminal History Policy

Community Relations:

Mrs. Jacobs hosted a very successful series of Family Coding Nights during March. Each session lasted roughly an hour and half and helped parents learn the basics of coding so they could learn

and practice alongside their children. The school switched book fair companies this year and it has been a huge success. The new company provided an incredible array of books on a variety of reading levels without the other items that had nothing to do with books or reading.

Testing:

Advanced Placement testing:

- May 6 AP US Government & Politics, AP Environmental Science
- May 10 AP US History
- May 15 AP English Language & Composition
- May 20 EOG / EOC Testing Begins
- May 30 EOG / EOC Testing Ends

The initial round of qualification for entrance into the Associate in Science program has been completed.

Currently 31 juniors qualified along with 3 seniors that did not qualify last year. Four students will retake the NC DAP.

Exceptional Children:

Our numbers have not materially changed throughout the school year. We currently have just a bit over 10% of PCA students are served by IEP’s or 504 plans. (6.9% IEP and 3.4% 504’s)

Attendance:

For the month of March attendance has averaged just over 90%. The flu and stomach bugs were in full swing so this number is not surprising at all. Custodians and parent volunteers have sprayed and cleaned in an effort to keep the spread as low as possible. We have seen the number of absences due to the more common winter ailments decline sharply in the last couple of weeks and expect our attendance to rise back into the mid 90’s range for April.

Human Resources:

The school has begun to receive applications for the positions approved to post in March. Interviews are being scheduled for after spring break.

Finance:

Please see the budget reports for the month. Our cash surplus remains strong – both the accrued cash as well as the surplus for the budget year. At current expenditure levels the school will have in excess of \$3.3 million in unencumbered cash at the end of the fiscal year. There are a few adjustments needed to get us through the end of the fiscal year or to fix issues with coding.

Item	Adjust To	Net Budget Change
Clubs Supplies	\$2,163	\$2,163
Fundraising Supplies	\$2,817	\$2,817
Health Supplies	\$1,118	\$118
Athletic Supplies	\$7,000	\$3,500
Fundraising Services	\$23,622	\$23,622
Security (SRO)	\$21,980	\$21,980
Advertising	\$5,231	\$1,231
	Total	\$55,431

Athletics:

Please see attached Athletic Director Report.

Current Enrollment:

Enrollment as of 4/10/19:

Grade	Students
Kindergarten	109
First	104
Second	87
Third	84
Fourth	90
Fifth	85
Sixth	56
Seventh	53
Eighth	55
Ninth	43
Tenth	36
Eleventh	28
Totals	830

Prior to report cards going out for the third quarter we had a couple of student withdrawals. In our communications with the parents about their decisions to leave, there have been a few consistent and common reasons for taking their student to another school. The most common at this time is that their student is not performing well or was in danger of retention.

Upcoming Events:

- April 15 - 22 Spring Break
- April 24 FEE Economic Workshop for High School Students
- April 23 - 26 Outer Banks Trip, 6th Grade
- April 29 – May 3 Washington DC Field Trip, 5th Grade
- April 30 PCA Career Fair (Grades 6-11)
- May 4 Prom
- May 6 AP US Government & Politics, AP Environmental Science Exams
- May 10 AP US History Exam
- May 15 AP English Language & Composition Exam
- May 16 Choir at Don Gibson Theater
- May 20 EOG / EOC Testing Begins
- May 27 Memorial Day - no school
- May 30 EOG / EOC Testing Ends
- May 31 Last Day of School (½ Day)

Classical Foundations and Character Education

Goal: To promote school values and character education into the curriculum of Pinnacle Classical Academy as part of the Classical Foundations program.

Rationale: The heart of a classical education is based on the concept that ideas matter. At the

forefront of this belief system are the core ideas of values and character. Values must be instilled and positive character traits must be taught strategically, systematically, and integrated.

Pinnacle Classical Academy values and character traits include:

1. Honesty
2. Integrity
3. Reality
4. Reason
5. Independent Thinking
6. Productivity
7. Teamwork
8. Justice
9. Esteem
10. Pride

Implementation:

K-5

Each month our elementary guidance counselor develops a lesson centered around a specific character trait (ex. Honesty in September, or Reason in December). Lessons include descriptions of the character trait, explanation of why the trait is important, how to demonstrate the character trait in school and in their daily lives, role playing, paper activities, question and answer, and other activities as appropriate. This delivery gives each elementary student consistent and grade-level differentiated instruction in the values and character that key components in a classical education.

6-12

Our middle school guidance counselor will draft character education lesson plans for teachers to implement in their classrooms. She will develop one lesson each month for each of the character traits. This will allow for consistency among the grade levels as each grade will learn about the same trait at the same time. The lessons will be taught in elective/interdisciplinary class (Music, STEM, Art, Business, etc) grades 6-10 this year and grades 6-12 for the 2019-2020. Every 6-12 teacher will be given an electronic copy of the lesson so they are aware of what is being taught and they can reinforce and incorporate these ideas into their classes. (April 26th and May 10th will be the two lesson dates for the 2018-19 school year.) Moving into 2019-2020 we will have the lessons on the second Tuesday of each month.

College Advising Model

Where We Are:

- College-going culture is still in development--students do not have the benefit of previous graduating classes' experience
- Parents/students don't know what they don't know
 - About admissions process
 - About student's competitive position relative to others in admissions process
 - About financial aid/comparing packages from colleges
 - About college quality and fit
 - Knowledge of range of universities out there is limited
- Performance of first graduating class at PCA will be paramount
 - Community perception of PCA as college prep institution
 - Admissions go on future PCA school profile (a document that colleges review as part of the admissions process)
 - Some high-profile admissions would be beneficial in establishing reputation

Benefits to PCA:

- Improved experience and outcomes for our first graduates
- Targeted approach can maximize current test scores and also provide student motivation for test prep/improving scores
- Dr. Martin will learn about process from Dr. Parker for use with future classes at PCA
- Public school/PCA students will be competing for college admission (particularly at well-known colleges) with students from private schools, where there is often a team of counselors dedicated only to college counseling--this would help us be most competitive

What It Is:

- Two 30-min individual meetings with 20 students, beginning before summer
- Outside research benefiting each student in their individual college goals
- Jumpstart to college admissions process to best position students

PCA Athletics Monthly Update**What is Going On:**

- Varsity Baseball team is 2-8. They are improving SO much and it is exciting to see them grow and improve.
- We have been providing study hall for the baseball players each day before practices. The majority of the players have taken advantage of this time and it shows tremendously. Study Hall will be mandatory in 2019-2020.
- Middle School Baseball team is 2-1. We have so much potential coming up!
- Softball is 8-2. And 6-0 in conference! These girls can really play!!
- Track has been practicing everyday except Wed. And Friday's. They have around 20 student athletes participating.
- Girl's Soccer is 1-4. We are a young team and learning more and more each game. They are improving every day.
- Our plan for 2019-2020 is to stay in the Conference that we are currently a member of. We have scheduled schools inside the NCHSAA so that we can get a taste of the competition in the future. Also, we will bring in more revenue by playing bigger schools that are close by. Examples include: Thomas Jefferson, Piedmont Community Charter, Cherryville, Spartanburg Day etc.
- GRADES: We check athletes' grades each quarter and the coaches, myself, and school administration have worked through them and have been sitting the athletes who are not putting their academics first. (Absolutely NO practicing/playing until grades come up). We are working through PowerSchool options so that the athletic department can more effectively monitor athletes' grades throughout the year.
- Volleyball tryouts: We are going to have volleyball tryouts for next year's teams before school ends. (Season starts as soon as school starts back) This will consist of a Middle School, JV and a Varsity team. If there are any new students coming into the school we will have another tryout before school starts so that they can have a fair chance of making the team.
- Sports Banquet: The date that we have for a sport banquet is Friday, May 24th. This wouldn't interfere with EOG's and everyone should be able to make it since it is still a week before school gets out. I am a member of Zion Baptist Church and have our entire gym, family life, kitchen and stage booked for this date. They have chairs, tables, and a screen for projector available to use for FREE. (Other local schools have used their gym for banquets and it works great.

Updates:

Baseball/Softball/Soccer CSAA tournament: April 30th-may 4th are the dates for this tourney. Will know more on the 25th of April when we have the seeding meeting at Tri-City Christian.

Baseball/Softball WPAC Tournament: May 6th-May 10th are the dates for this tourney. Will know more at the end of April.

Dean of Elementary Education. *Dr. Shelly Bullard gave her report as presented to the board.*

Action Items:

- None

K-2 Curriculum and Instruction:

● **Special Events**

○ Lottery

■ The lottery was a great success. We have heard many compliments as to how well run, organized and welcoming it was. As always, we had great attendance and received many Final Applications that night.

○ **K Day**

■ Kindergarten Screening was held March 29 at K-2. We had an amazing turnout with 120 families attending. We have received 122 kindergarten Final Applications to date. K Day included the Brigance Screening, a photo opportunity for the families, an opportunity for the children to complete a craft, an information table about PEAK, and an information table about uniforms. Students completed an activity as they waited for their screening time and left with a book, a handwriting tablet and a treat bag.

○ **Grandparents Lunch at the Book Fair**

■ Mrs. Puglisi organized a Grandparents Lunch as the culminating event for the K-2 Book Fair. We had an outstanding amount of grandparents who came to eat lunch with their grandchildren and then shop at the book fair. Next year we plan to host each grade level on a different day because of the incredible attendance that we had.

○ **Kindergarten Kite Day**

■ March 20 we held our annual Kindergarten Kite Day. We had over 160 parents and grand-parents attend this year. It was a great event that really showed the enormous amount of parent support that we have.

○ **Stock the Fridge**

■ K-2 won the Tutor Doctor's competition to "Stock the Fridge" (this was won last year by our 3-11 campus). All Cleveland County schools were entered and the winner was chosen by online votes. David, from Tutor Doctor, brought a huge amount of snacks and drinks for our teachers.

● **Annual Safety Drills**

○ This month, we held our annual Tornado Drill and Code Red Drill. A letter from Mr. Brown was sent home prior to the Code Red Drill. At K-2 we have had no parent comments about either of these drills.

● **Upcoming Plans**

○ Incoming Kindergarteners

■ In hopes of making our incoming kindergarten families feel as if they are already a part of the PCA family we are reaching out to them each month to keep a strong line of communication open.

● March - K Day

● April - We will be mailing postcards to our incoming kindergarten students from our current kindergarten students. The postcards have the theme "My favorite thing about kindergarten...."

- May - I will send home a letter that includes some FAQs, what they can do over the summer to prepare for kindergarten, what to expect in kindergarten, the dates of Kindergarten Orientation/Open House.
- June - We would like to host a cookout for our new families.
- July - Late-July is usually when we send class assignments, welcome letters from the teachers and school supply lists.
- August - Kindergarten Orientation / Open House

○ **Personnel**

- We will begin interviewing for 1 teacher position and 1 teacher assistant position (growth) the week of April 23.

● **Enrollment**

- Our enrollment target for next year is 980 students. The majority of our openings are in kindergarten (120) with small pockets of open spots in various other grade levels.
- Class break down: 5 classes of each grade in K-2
4 classes of each grade in grades 3-6
2 in grades 7-12.
- Please see below for an update on our enrollment numbers

	Final Apps	Waitlist
K	122	21
1	10	10
2	9	0
3	7	12
4	8	10
5	6	25
6	15	6
7	3	12
8	3	9
9	7	6
10	-	3
11	-	6
12	-	2
	190	120

Reports from Committees *(as necessary)*

Finance – Operations & Personnel *Debbie Clary, Chair*

Action Items:

- The Board directed \$1.5 million dollars to go into interest baring account and to be withdrawn as needed.
Motion made by Betsy Harnage and 2nd by Jayson Philbeck, All Approved.

Finance – Facilities *Jayson Philbeck, Chair*

Facility *Wes Westmoreland, Chair*

Curriculum *Pauline Cahill, Chair*

Board Development, Nominating, Bylaws and Legal Affairs Committee *Betsy Harnage, Chair*

Action Items:

- To approve Dr. Becky Sain to serve as a liaison between Pinnacle Classical Academy and Cleveland Community College beginning in May 2019. *Motion made by Betsy Harnage and 2nd by Wes Westmoreland, All Approved.*

Community Relations/Marketing/Grievance *Debbie Clary, Chair*

Enrollment Application/Lottery *Betsy Harnage, Chair*

Safety and Security Committee *Sara Tongel, Chair*

Parent Liaison *Mary Stockham*

PCAEF Report *Betsy Harnage, Vice Chair*

Address Administration Team

Board Training

New Business

Old Business

Adjournment *Mary Stockham made a motion to adjourn and 2nd by Betsy Harnage. Meeting was adjourned.*