



Minutes for February Meeting

February 12, 2023

Welcome – *Debbie Clary-Chair called the meeting to order at 1pm.*

****Notification of the board meeting was advertised on the Pinnacle Classical Academy website and the front doors of the school building were open.**

In attendance:

Attending: Senator Clary, Senator Wes Westmoreland, Bobby Horton, Ken Mooney, Jayson Philbeck, Dr. Shelly Shope, Wendy Clary, Jeff Ziegler, Angela Brooks

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.*

Debbie Clary noted a conflict of interest: She reminded the Board that David Clary is her brother and that David has served over the maintenance of both campuses and he has also served as Resident Inspector. Senator Clary also noted that she receives no compensation.

Adoption of Agenda *Motion made by Wes Westmoreland seconded by Jayson Philbeck, all approved.*

Approval of Minutes *for the January and called meeting from Feb. 2nd. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Bobby Horton and seconded by Ken Money, all approved.*

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 members of the public were in attendance at the meeting.***

Administration Reports

Wendy Clary

**Dean of Elementary Education Report to the Board of Directors
Presented by Mrs. Wendy Clary**

February 2023

Action Items:

- None

K-3 Personnel:

- Mrs. Robin Kester, a former teacher assistant, was hired as the new administrative assistant.
- Ms. Robin Randall was hired as a part time teacher assistant.

Data and Testing

- Third Grade NC Check-Ins were administered on January 31st and February 2nd for reading and math. Data will be included in the March Board Report due to the fact that not all students have completed testing.

Teacher Retention

- Peer Observations are being conducted for beginning teachers.
- iLeader educators modeled discourse and engagement strategies on February 7th for elementary teachers to observe and debrief.
- *Prioritizing Tasks and Making Time for Yourself* was the topic of the January Beginning Teacher meeting.
- Walkthroughs/ Observations/Feedback are ongoing.
- 2023-2024 Faculty/Staff Letters of Intent were issued and returned indicating that everyone plans on being at PCA in the Fall.
- Miss McGinnis and Mrs. Richardson selected teachers to participate in a professional development for Teach Like a Champion 3.0 in Raleigh on

Community/Parent Involvement

- Parents were invited to watch the K-3 100th Day Parade on January 31st. We had over 100 parents to show support.
- Good News Club now has 55 students that are attending each Tuesday afternoon after school. Landmark Baptist Church is the sponsor for this

club.

- Book Blast kicked off on February 8th.
- Boosterthon will kick off on

Enrollment

- Approximately 200 daycare packets will be delivered for prospective parents of rising kindergarten students.
- K-3 School Tours have been very successful! We have had to open up additional slots due to the response. * The “Pinnacle Swag Bags” have been a big hit.
- Preparations for our March 13th Lottery are in progress.
- K-Day will be March 17th.

PEAK

- The general meeting for February was canceled.

Upcoming Dates:

- Feb. 10th- Kindergarten Pastries RSVP Due
- Feb. 10th- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Feb. 13th- 1st Grade Diamond Del’s In House Field Trip
- Feb. 13th- College T-shirt day
- Feb. 14th- Valentines Day Parties
- Feb. 15th- SRO Appreciation Day
- Feb.16th -School Tours
- Feb. 20th- Presidents’ Day- No School
- Feb. 24th- Kindergarten Pastries with Parents & Fire Drill
- Feb. 27th-March 3rd- Read Across America Week
- Feb. 28th- Boosterthon Kick Off
- Mar. 2nd-Classical Education Speaker

[2022-23 Pinnacle School Calendar](#)

Angela Brooks

Action Item:

- None at this time

Curriculum and Academics:

- We are in the process of working on the master schedule for next year. Once we have a tentative outline we will begin the registration process for the 2023-24 school year. The process will begin with rising seniors as we give priority registration to upperclassmen.

- We have several field trips during the month of February. Our 7th grade students will be attending a STEM lab at Lowe's Motor Speedway and then touring UNC-Charlotte on Thursday, Feb. 9th. Our 6th grade students will be conducting a dissection at the Catawba Science Center and then will be touring Cleveland Community College. Both of these field trips will give students an opportunity to be exposed to colleges/universities and have a focus on STEM.

Community Involvement:

- PCA's chapter of National Junior Honor Society is sponsoring a Sock Drive to help keep local community members warm this winter. Students will be collecting socks through Friday, February 17th.

Professional Development:

- During the second semester, for classical curriculum professional development, we'll be reading E.D. Hirsch's *Cultural Literacy* (<https://www.coreknowledge.org/product/cultural-literacy-every-american-needs-know/>). Mr. Ziegler has distributed the copies of this book to our teachers and the first reading is due on Feb. 28th.

Extra Curricular Events:

- **Ring Ceremony**
 - On Thursday, February 23rd at 6:00 pm we will be hosting our annual ring ceremony program. This is a wonderful tradition for our students and each of you is invited to attend. This year, the event will be hosted in the downstairs media center.
- **School Dances**
 - PEAK will be hosting two dances at the 4-12 campus for students to attend in the month of February. The first dance will be for grades 6-8 and will be on Friday, Feb. 17th. The second dance will be for students in grades 4-5 and will be on Saturday, Feb. 18th. We are confident that these will be wonderful evenings that our students will enjoy.

Special Awards and Recognitions:

- Our Phi Rho Eagles FTC Robotics team just made the state competition! We are very excited and proud of our students and can't wait for the results at state. We have an exceptional team and are very grateful for Mrs. Diane Austin's leadership.
- Daissy Soto, 11th grade, is Pinnacle's nominee for NC Governor's School for the 2022-23 school year. If selected Daissy will be able to participate in a four-week summer residential program for gifted and talented high school students,

integrating academic disciplines, the arts, and unique courses on each of two campuses.

- Kensley Greene will represent Pinnacle at this year's Girl's State Program. The American Legion will be hosting the Tar Heels Girls State this year at Campbell University.
- Several of our seniors are in the process of interviewing for flagship scholarships at various universities. Amaysa Beaver has been invited to apply for the Ignite Scholarship at Gardner-Webb University. Emma Sarratt attended J.A. Campbell Day at Campbell University, and Rosemary Costner attended the Flagship scholarship day in early February at Montreat College. We are excited about each of these opportunities for our seniors and are hopeful to receive some exciting news in the coming weeks.

Senior Activities:

- The Class of 2023 will reach or exceed their goal of \$4,000,000.00. As of February 7th, they have been awarded over **\$6 million dollars** in merit based scholarships. We are very proud of the Class of 2023 and continue to watch this number grow!
- As part of the senior privileges seniors will be able to begin wearing t-shirts and sweatshirts from any colleges/universities they have been accepted to along with jeans. This is something that the seniors look forward to each year and we are excited to be able to help them celebrate.
- Scholarship day was hosted for the Senior class of 2023 on Wednesday, Jan. 18th. Students had a designated half day to work on applications. Dr. Martin reviewed locations of where scholarships were posted and we released some of the local scholarship applications on this day.

Jeff Ziegler

ACT Data Overview
A Report to the Board of Directors of Pinnacle Classical Academy
Includes confidential EVAAS data in bold
February 6, 2023

The ACT College Admissions Assessment is given to all North Carolina public school students in the 11th grade.

The four sections of the ACT are each scored on a scale of 1 to 36. The following are mean scores, as published in the recently released state ACT report.

This report includes confidential SAS® EVAAS™ (Education Value-Added Assessment System) data. As the Department of Public Instruction notes, “EVAAS examines the impact of teachers, schools, and districts on the learning of their students in specific courses, grades, and subjects.”¹

EVAAS classifies this impact in three ways:

- Exceeded expected growth: “Significant evidence that the school's students made more progress than the Growth Standard”
- Met expected growth: “Evidence that the school's students made progress similar to the Growth Standard”
- Did not meet expected growth: “Significant evidence that the school's students made less progress than the Growth Standard”² <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/districts-schools-support/district-human-capital/evaas> ² For more information, see

https://www.sas.com/content/dam/SAS/en_us/doc/whitepaper1/sas-evaas-k12-statistical-model-2022-act-report-data (Class of 2023)

School	Composite	English	Math	Reading	Science
Statewide	18.2	16.4	18.1	19.0	18.6
Pinnacle Classical Academy	21.2 20.5 predicted; meets expected growth	19.3 19.2 predicted; meets expected growth	19.5 19.6 predicted; meets expected growth	23.9 22.1 predicted; exceeds expected growth	21.7 20.5 predicted; meets expected growth
Cleveland County Schools (overall)	17.6	15.8	17.8	18.2	18.2
Burns High	17.4	15.5	17.5	17.9	18.1
Cleveland County ECHS	19.8	19.3	19.4	20.4	19.8

Cleveland Innovation	17.8	16.1	16.7	19.6	17.9
Crest High	17.7	16.1	17.8	18.2	18.1
Kings Mountain High	18.1	15.9	18.5	18.6	18.7
Shelby High	16.4	14.3	16.5	17.1	17.2

- PCA's ACT composite score exceeds that of every school district in North Carolina except Chapel Hill - Carborro Schools (23.3).
- PCA's ACT composite score ranks #17 among all public school units and #16 among all charter schools.
- PCA's ACT reading score ranks #9 among all public school units and #8 among all charter schools.

2021 ACT Report Data (Class of 2022)
(DPI did not release a report in 2020 for the Class of 2021.)

School	Composite	English	Math	Reading	Science
Statewide	18.2	16.7	18.3	18.9	18.6
Pinnacle Classical Academy	19.1 18.2 predicted; meets expected growth	18.1 17.0 predicted; meets expected growth	18.4 17.8 predicted; meets expected growth	19.0 19.3 predicted; meets expected growth	20.0 18.3 predicted; exceeds expected growth
Cleveland County Schools (overall)	17.2	15.3	17.6	17.6	17.6
Burns High	16.4	13.9	16.9	17.1	17.1
Cleveland County ECHS	21.1	20.2	20.1	22.3	21.2

Crest High	17.2	15.1	17.8	17.7	17.7
Kings Mountain High	17.5	15.8	18.3	17.8	17.7
Shelby High	16.5	15.3	16.7	16.8	16.8

**2019 ACT Report Data (Class of 2020)
(DPI did not release a report in 2020.)**

School	Composite	English	Math	Reading	Science
Statewide	18.4	16.7	18.6	19.0	18.6
Pinnacle Classical Academy	21.4 19.9 predicted; exceeds expected growth	20.8 18.7 predicted; exceeds expected growth	19.0 18.9 predicted; meets expected growth	24.3 21.7 predicted; exceeds expected growth	20.3 19.7 predicted; meets expected growth
Cleveland County Schools (overall)	17.2	15.6	17.7	17.7	17.3
Burns High	16.3	14.5	17.2	16.5	16.3
Cleveland County ECHS	19.2	17.5	18.3	20.9	19.6
Crest High	17.1	15.6	17.6	17.8	17.0
Kings Mountain High	18.0	16.3	18.7	18.3	18.3
Shelby High	17.0	15.7	17.1	17.5	17.1

February 6, 2023

1. T. K. Coleman's monthly videos, based on the board's Values Statement, are shown each month to students in middle school and high school homerooms. In January, the theme was productivity; in February, the theme is teamwork.

2. *Dare to Soar: The Curricular Philosophy of Pinnacle Classical Academy* has won a best in category award in the Printing Industry of the Carolinas' annual competition. The award will be presented in April.

3. The Classical Foundation Program's spring 2023 lecturer – recommended by advisory board member Thomas Pack – is Albert Eisenberg, co-founder of the Philadelphia-based media company Broad+Liberty. He will speak on **Thursday, March 2**. Here is his schedule:
 - 10:00-11:00: talk to juniors and seniors (band room)
 - 11:15-11:45: lunch with seniors
 - 12:00-1:00: talk to grade 10 students (band room)
 - drive to Cleveland Community College for *Dare to Soar*
 - 3:30-4:15: after-school presentation to K-12 faculty (band room)

4. Mr. John Hood has agreed to be our 2023 graduation speaker on **Saturday, June 3**. His biography:

<https://www.johnlocke.org/about/team/john-hood/>

John Hood is president of the John William Pope Foundation, a Raleigh-based grantmaker that supports public policy organizations, educational institutions, arts and cultural programs, and humanitarian relief in North Carolina and beyond.

Hood also served as chairman of the board at the John Locke Foundation from 2015-2021. Hood helped found Locke in 1989 and served as its president from 1995 to 2014.

Since 1986, Hood has written a syndicated column on politics and public policy for North Carolina newspapers. It currently appears regularly in the *Winston-Salem Journal*, *Greensboro News & Record*, *Asheville Citizen-Times*, *Wilmington Star-News*, and newspapers in 50 other communities. Hood is a frequent commentator for radio and

television stations and teaches at Duke University's Sanford School of Public Policy.

Hood is the author of eight books, the latest of which is a Revolutionary War-themed historical-fantasy novel entitled *Mountain Folk* (2021). Hood's other books include *Catalyst: Jim Martin and the Rise of North Carolina Republicans* (2015), *Our Best Foot Forward: An Investment Plan for North Carolina's Economic Recovery* (2012), *Selling the Dream: Why Advertising is Good Business* (2005), *Investor Politics* (2001), *The Heroic Enterprise: Business and the Common Good* (1996), and two volumes of family history.

A former Bradley Fellow at the Heritage Foundation, Hood writes and comments frequently for national media outlets. His articles have appeared in magazines such as *Readers' Digest*, *National Review*, *The New Republic*, *Military History*, and *Reason* as well as newspapers such as *The Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*.

At Locke, Hood created the E.A. Morris Fellowship for Emerging Leaders, which prepares young North Carolinians for leadership roles in the public and private sectors. He also serves on the faculty and as board chairman of the N.C. Institute of Political Leadership; as co-chair of the North Carolina Leadership Forum, based at Duke University; as vice-chair of the James G. Martin Center for Academic Renewal and the Carolina Liberty Foundation; and on the boards of directors of the State Policy Network, the Student Free Press Association, and North Carolinians for Redistricting Reform.

Hood received his B.A. in journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He earned a M.A. in liberal studies and a graduate certificate in nonprofit management from UNC-Greensboro. Hood currently serves on the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Visitors. He is a Mecklenburg County native and currently resides in Wake County with his wife, two sons, and a stepdaughter.

Minutes of August 19, 2022 meeting

The Pinnacle Classical Academy Classical Foundations Program advisory board met virtually on August 19, 2022, at 4:00 P.M. Eastern time. Wes Westmoreland (chair), Marianna Davidovich, Rachel Davison Humphries, Thomas Pack, David Raney, Adam Smith, and Jeff Ziegler were in attendance.

With the agenda of the meeting, and the minutes of the May 6, 2022, meeting approved without objection (motion moved by Matthew Morgen, seconded by Thomas Pack), Sen. Westmoreland welcomed two new board members, Marianna Davidovich and Rachel Davison Humphries.

Sen. Westmoreland and Mr. Ziegler offered an update on the progress of Pinnacle Classical Academy and the Classical Foundations Program, including the 2022 graduation, an historical perspective on the school's test scores, the paying off of the elementary school loan, the archery state championships, and

the school's 10th anniversary year.

Following a discussion of upcoming appearances by T. K. Coleman and a speaker from the Ayn Rand Institute (on the novel *Anthem*), members unanimously elected Sen. Westmoreland the 2022-23 chairman (motion by Matthew Morgen, seconded by Adam Smith). Members then discussed the spring 2023 Classical Foundations Program speaker and heard an update on a prospective board member.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Dr. Shelly Bullard

Action Items:

- Recommendation from the administrative team that the Board approves the addition of three full time staff members for the 2023-24 school year and beyond due to the projected increase in enrollment. The positions would include: History teacher, K-3 EC teacher, and possibly middle school EC teacher.

The motion for additional staff to be posted and not hired until the finance committee met was made by Ken Mooney, seconded by Wes Westmoreland, all approved.

- Approval of 2023-2024 School Calendar

The motion to accept the 2023-2024 school calendar was made by Bobby Horton, seconded by Jayson Philbeck, all approved.

Curriculum and Academics:

- **Goals for the year**
 - Increase Student Growth and Achievement - 85% proficiency as a school
 - Increase PCA Pride
 - Create a Positive School Culture
- **Visibility**
 - One of our goals is to increase the visibility of the administrative team in classrooms and give teachers immediate feedback on their instruction. It is imperative that we are observing and giving feedback to teachers pertaining to classroom instruction. We document our informal

observations by completing Classroom Walkthroughs. I am pleased to say we are achieving the goal of increased visibility.

■ Listed below are the historical numbers up to this point in the year:

- 2016 - 162
- 2017 - 138
- 2018 - 62
- 2019 - 67
- 2020 - 183
- 2021 - 276
- 2022 - 411

● **2023-2024 School Calendar***

- see attached

● **Professional Development**

- We are working with i-LEADR who is coming in-house for professional development. Their representatives work with school leadership to support new and veteran teachers. Our focus has been on classroom management, student engagement, and scholarly discourse. Through data analysis, goal setting, and planning teachers know where their students are currently and how to help them succeed.

● **Testing**

- The second round of NC Check-Ins is complete. Teachers are currently reviewing the results and analyzing the data.
- Sophomores recently took the CLT 10, and juniors are preparing for the CLT. ○ Juniors are preparing for the ACT on March 7.
- Our Latin students are preparing for the National Latin Exam on March 14.

● **Special Student Populations**

- Our ELL students are in the process of taking the ACCESS test. Mrs. Ramsey continues to do a fabulous job.
- We are winding down EC referrals for the school year. We are recruiting for vacant EC positions. Our EC staff is doing a great job working toward standards-based learning in our EC classes.

- 504 plans are being updated and created as needed to meet student needs.

Finance:

- Financial information is attached. We continue to be in a strong financial position.

Human Resources:

- **Positions for 2023-2024***
 - We have finalized needed positions due to growth in enrollment. Once approved, we will post and begin the interview process.

Community Relations

- “Weekly Events Update” is posted on Facebook each Friday to highlight events and important dates for the next week. We also continue to send home updates in emails to parents as well as calls using our One Call System.
- Parent newsletter is emailed monthly to all parents.
- Our Student Government Association as well as Honors Society continues to hold opportunities for students to give back to the community.

Legal / DPI:

- **Charter Renewal**
 - Our charter was approved by CSAB for a 10-year renewal. It has been sent to the State Board of Education to await their vote.
- **Submissions to DPI**
 - Monthly reports on the expenditure of COVID funds.
 - Quarterly reports on specific COVID funds.
- **EpiCenter**
 - We are up to date with all submissions.

Athletics:

- Report is attached

Enrollment Report

- **Letters of Intent**
 - Student Letters of Intent for current students will be sent home in January. This process not only lets us know if students are planning on returning next year but also notes if they have siblings that they would like to

enroll. We are then able to double check our Initial Applications to be sure we have received the sibling application.

● **Marketing**

- The first round of cards have been mailed.
- Facebook Ads / Videos
 - events
 - student news
 - press releases
 - re-posting news articles
- Sending Press Releases on school events
- Communicator Billboard
- Digital billboard.
- Shelby Shopper
- Information Packets to Daycares
- Mailings to local churches to offer meetings with interested parents
- Shelby Shopper
- Information Packets to Daycares

● **2022-23 Enrollment**

- As of February 9th, we have received 200 Initial Applications for the 2023-2024 school year.

<i>updated 2/9/23</i>								
1200		Expe cted LOI	Initial Apps	Classes 22-23	Classes 23-24	Offer	Total	Class Avg
	<i>K</i>	0	116	5	5	120	120	24
	<i>1st</i>	105	10	5	5	15	120	24
	<i>2nd</i>	111	10	5	5	9	120	24
	<i>3rd</i>	100	7	5	5	20	120	24

	4th	102	13	4	4	-2	100	25
	5th	106	9	4	4	4	110	27.5
	6th	90	7	4	4	20	110	27.5
	7th	96	13	4	4	12	108	27
	8th	101	5	4	4	7	108	27
	9th	87	7	4	4	13	100	25
	10th	77	0	2	3	0	77	25.6666
	11th	49	1	2	2	0	49	66 67 24.5
	12th	30	2	2	2	0	30	15
			200	50	51	218	1272	

Board Update

Prepared By: Brandon Gosey

Date: 2/8/23

Winter Sports:

We recently concluded our 2022-2023 swim season. Coach Barnes and her team had an amazing season and our swim program at PCA continues to grow.

We also concluded our regular conference season of PCA Basketball last week. We are excited to share that all 4 teams have advanced to to WPAC Conference Tournament. We start our first round of playoff games this week and will conclude with the Conference Championship on 2/18/23.

Our JV and Varsity Cheer programs have also completed their 2022-2023 season with growing success.

Spring Sports:

We are excited to kick off our spring sports season later this month here. We will be

offering the following PCA sports this spring:

Spring Teams:

MS Baseball
Varsity Baseball
Co-Ed Golf
Women's Soccer
Varsity Softball

Our Baseball program is currently in the process of installing our batting cage, foul poles, and scoreboard which we are excited to see go up in the coming weeks.

The Athletic Department continues to work closely with Hanna Park and Landmark Baptist Church to effectively run and operate our soccer and softball program this coming spring.

The future of PCA Athletics is bright and we continue to grow and see increased excitement across all sports offered. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions you may have.

We look forward to sharing updated basketball playoff information with you in future reports. Thank you,

PCA ATHLETICS

Board Updates

Miscellaneous Board Updates

New / Old Business

Motion was made for Adjournment by Jayson Philbeck, seconded by Wes Westmoreland, all approved.