



Minutes

Feb. 9, 2025

Welcome –Debbie Clary, Board 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: Board Members - Debbie Clary, Pauline Cahill were in person and Wes Westmoreland and Dr. Christine Boor attended virtually.

Administration - Angela Brooks, Wendy Clary, and Laura Beth Richardson

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 Motion made by Pauline Cahill and seconded by Christine Boor, all Approved.

Approval of Minutes Pauline Cahill made a motion to approve the minutes of the Jan. 2025 Meeting, Wes Westmoreland seconded the motion, 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 present.

Administration Reports -

**Dean of Elementary Education Report to the Board of Directors
Presented by Mrs. Wendy Clary
February, 2025**

Action Items:

- None

PEAK

- PEAK hosted 2 elementary dances on January 24th and January 25th for K-3 students as fundraisers for our parent organization. The money raised is used to help support our students, families, and staff in various ways.

- The PEAK Board members will meet on February 9th.
- The next general PEAK meeting will be on February 13th at 6:00 at the K-3 campus.

Testing

- The K-3 students completed the iReady Mid Year Diagnostic.
- 3rd grade students will complete the NC Check In tests for reading and math on February 18th and 19th.
- The data from both iReady and the NC Check In assessments will be compiled and analyzed to look at present level of student achievement as well as projected levels of proficiency. Student growth is also calculated and celebrated.
- Testing data is discussed on a consistent basis in the professional learning community (PLC) meetings each week with Miss McGinnis. “Next steps” are discussed and monitored.

Teacher Retention

- Formal teacher observations are continuing with post conference follow ups.
- Peer observations will be happening this month.
- Weekly PLCs (Professional Learning Community)
- Staff Letters of Intent have been signed. This is a form for staff to indicate if they plan to continue working with Pinnacle Classical Academy for the coming year, not return, or would entertain a different grade level.
- Caffeine Monkey was on campus January 27th (K-3) and January 28th (4-12) for staff. We have dates secured for the remainder of the school year.

Enrollment

- Lottery preparations are underway for the March 10th event. It will be held at the K-3 campus at 6:00.
- Student Letters of Intent are being finalized and entered to help determine the number of spots for next year.
- K-Day 2025 is scheduled for March 14th. This is the Friday after the lottery. Parents will be notified via email to sign up for a time to bring their child to be given the Brigance.
- The last of a series of open houses that specifically targeted our prospective kindergarten families was held on Tuesday, February 4th from 5:00-6:30. These have been well attended.

Parent/Community Involvement

- Parent Conference Day was held on Friday, February 7th.
- Final kindergarten open house will be held on Tuesday, February 4th. This will be the third kinder open house that we have hosted this year. The previous events have been very successful and well attended.
- Tours are still being scheduled and given to prospective families.
- Boiling Springs Rotary meets each Monday at 12:00.
- The SECU Advisory Board Meeting will meet February 11th.
- Pastries with Parents will be held on February 28th for our kindergarten students and parents.
- The 2025 Book Blast Kick Off was February 5th. This is our 3rd year participating in this program.
- National School Choice Week was celebrated January 27th-31st in a variety of ways.
 - **Kindergarten** - [We love my school color by number](#)
 - **1st grade** - Color I love my school banner
 - **2nd grade** - [I love my school draw a picture activity sheet](#)
 - **3rd grade** - [I love my school answer question/draw picture activity sheet](#)

- 4th grade - [When I grow up activity sheet](#) - Homeroom
- 5th grade - [Comic book activity sheet](#) - Homeroom
- 6th grade - [I love my school word search](#) - Homeroom
- 7th grade - [I love my school crossword puzzle](#) - Homeroom
- 8th grade - [I love my school The Great State](#) - Homeroom

Curriculum Highlights

- Congratulations to the first grade team for receiving money from the *Learning Happens Here Field Trip Fund* which is operated by the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR). The application was written for our school to receive reimbursement for \$5,745.00 for the 1st grade North Carolina Zoo field trip that will take place April 7th.
- Carolyn Efird (K-5 Music), invited a violinist to perform for students during their interdisciplinary time on January 30th. Students were able to listen, ask questions, and have a hands-on opportunity during the presentation.

Upcoming Dates:

- Feb. 13th: 100th Day of School
- Feb 13th: PEAK meeting @ 6:00
- Feb. 14th: Valentine's Day
- Feb. 17th: President's Day - No School
- Feb. 18th: 3rd Grade EOG Night
- Feb. 18th: 3rd Check-in (Reading)
- Feb. 19th: 3rd Grade check-in (Math)
- Feb. 26th: half day planning - K/1
- Feb. 27th: Half Day planning - 2/3
- Feb. 28th: Kindergarten Pastries with Parents

4-8 Report to the Board of Directors

Presented by

Mrs. Laura Beth Richardson

February 2025

Curriculum/Academics/Data

- Check-Ins
 - 4th-8th grade classes are scheduled to complete a NC Check-In assessment this month.
 - Historically, NC Check-Ins are a challenge for our students, however, they provide an opportunity to use the state testing portal and practice state assessment questions.
 - Once complete, our teachers use the NC Check-In as a teaching tool in the classroom. It is extremely beneficial for our students to review the assessment with their teacher and peers. Our teachers specifically review most missed questions and commonly chosen answers to help clarify confusion.

Professional Development:

- We are continuing with our book study with intermediate teachers. February and March will be covering the final two sections: Lesson Mastery and The Professional. This book study has been a rewarding experience for myself and the intermediate teachers.

- During the week of February 10th, Mrs. Warthen (one of our EC teachers) will be providing professional development on differentiated instruction.

Beginning Teacher/New Hires:

- During the month of February beginning teachers will engage in peer observations. This is an opportunity for an experienced peer teacher to formally observe them and provide helpful feedback. All peer observations will be completed and turned in by the end of the month.

Hiring/Personnel

- Ms. McGinnis and I are scheduled to attend the Gardner Webb job fair in early April to meet and build connections with prospective employees.

4th-8th Grade Activities

- 4th and 5th grade students are looking forward to their western-themed dance on February 21st.
- Middle School students are looking forward to their western-themed dance on February 22nd.
- 4th Grade will be attending a field trip to Raleigh on March 18th.
- 8th grade will be attending a trip to I Fly in Concord for an interactive STEM experience.
- The National Junior Honor Society induction was hosted last month. A group of staff members worked together to plan and conduct the ceremony.
 - The NJHS is currently hosting a Sock Drive at the 4-12 campus. Every homeroom class is collecting adult and child socks that will be donated to areas in Western North Carolina.



9-12 Report to the Board of Directors

**Presented by
Mrs. Angela Brooks
February 9, 2025**

Curriculum and Academics:

- The master schedule for next year is well on its way. We will be holding registration sessions with high school students soon to discuss classes and courses for next year.
- The high school team has several field trips coming up in the next few weeks. On Feb. 24th the senior class is traveling to the zoo and the 9th grade students will be attending a trip to Asheville on Wednesday, Feb. 26th to view the beautiful Biltmore House and Estate. Both of these trips offer an exciting opportunity for our students and we are grateful for the opportunity to take them.
- The junior class will take the ACT on Tuesday, March 11th. Miss Frazier will send some links, reminders, and practice books to the junior class to help them prepare. Miss Frazier will be coordinating the testing schedule for that day.

Extracurricular Activities:

- **Robotics Qualifier hosted at Pinnacle**
 - On Saturday, Feb. 1st Diane Austin and the Pi Rho Eagles hosted a state qualifier tournament. We had 24 teams competing and it was amazing to watch. We were happy to be able to cheer on the Pi Rho Eagles as they soared to success, earning an Inspire Award and securing their spot at the State Championship on Sunday, February 16, at AT&T University. We are very thankful for all the hard work and dedication put into this event from our students and staff.
- **High School Bonfire**
 - PEAK hosted the high school bonfire on Friday, Jan. 17th after the basketball game. The event was very well attended and was a great evening for our students to be able to hang out with their friends and build community. We are very grateful to our parents for their donations and volunteer work to make this event a great success.
- **Prom**
 - The Prom committee has started meeting and planning this year's prom. The theme will be "Tangled up in Memories". The evening will be hosted at Turkey Ridge here in Cleveland County and prom tickets will be on sale soon. The date for this year's prom is Friday, April 4th. I have included a link to the venue if you are unfamiliar with this location.
<https://www.venueturkeyridge.com/>
- **Scholarship Committee**
 - The scholarship committee has been meeting and there has been the addition of more local scholarships for this year. In addition the committee has been busy planning the bake sale for Tuesday, Feb. 11th for both campuses. Planning for the October Golf Tournament will begin soon, so please be on the lookout for information about this fundraiser.

Special Awards and Recognitions:

- Alyssa Clark, a senior at Pinnacle Classical Academy, won the \$500 first prize in the local round of the American Legion High School Oratorical Contest, organized by Warren F. Hoyle American Legion Post 82 and held in Shelby on January 18. Alyssa competed against students from schools in Cleveland County and other counties as she delivered, from memory, a prepared oration on a citizen's duties and obligations to our government, as well as an address on an assigned topic related to the Constitution. She now advances to the division level of the competition.
- Cody Humphries, made Pinnacle history on Tuesday, Feb. 4th, by being the first student to score 1,000 points in basketball since being a member of the Varsity team. We are proud of Cody and this accomplishment.
- **Potential Scholarship Opportunities:**
 - Tyler Johnson was selected as a finalist for the Chancellor's Science Scholars program at UNC-Chapel Hill. This scholarship, if awarded, would be a \$10,000 renewable scholarship.
 - Addison Leigh, Cody Humphries, and Joseph Kistler were all selected as finalists for the Gardner-Webb Ignite scholarship. If selected these students would receive a scholarship that covers full tuition.
 - Madelyn Hicks was invited to interview for the J.A. Campbell Scholarship from Campbell University and has already attended the interview.

Senior Activities

- As of Feb. 4th, the class of 2025 has over \$5.1 million dollars in scholarships this year. This is a \$2 million increase from the end of December and has exceeded our goal of \$4 million dollars! The Class of 2025 is well on their way this year and I am excited to see their successes.
- The brick order for seniors has been completed and the senior class has also adopted their class motto. In addition to the bricks ordered for seniors we have also included the bricks of students who have or will graduate from the NCSSM or University of NC Arts school. This is a very special gift to each senior class and is appreciated by all who see the bricks.
- Dr. Martin and the scholarship committee are busy planning our first senior scholarship interview day. The day will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 26th. This is the first round of interviews for some of our local Pinnacle Scholarships.

Dual Enrollment Participation in North Carolina A Report to the Board of Directors of Pinnacle Classical Academy February 3, 2025

Last week, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction published "[Career and College Promise](#)," a report to the North Carolina General Assembly.

Table 2 (pp. 14 ff.) offers an overview of the "Number and percent of 2023-2024 graduates who enrolled in at least one dual enrollment course while in high school by PSU" (i.e., public school unit).

Across North Carolina, 36% of 2023-24 graduates took at least one dual enrollment course. There were 115 local school administrative units and 210 charter schools in North Carolina in 2023-24. A

total of 195 public school units offered dual enrollment courses. Here are the public school units with the highest percentage of graduates who enrolled in at least one dual enrollment course while in high school:

- Chatham Charter: 95%+
- Northeast Regional School - Biotech/Agriscience: 95%+
- **Pinnacle Classical Academy: 90%**
- Alpha Academy: 89%
- North East Carolina Preparatory School: 83%
- Gray Stone Day School: 82%
- Montgomery County Schools: 82%
- Northeast Academy of Aerospace & AdvTech: 81%
- River Mill Academy: 81%
- Bertie County Schools: 80%
- Mitchell County Schools: 80%
- Yancey County Schools: 80%

Here are statistics for area public school units:

- Lincoln Charter School: 78%
- Piedmont Community Charter: 62%
- Lake Lure Classical Academy: 54%
- Cleveland County Schools: 50%
- Lincoln County Schools: 49%
- Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy: 48%
- Rutherford County Schools: 41%
- Gaston County Schools: 35%

Classical Foundations Program (CFP) Update January 2025

1. Our spring lecturer will be Marina Davidovich, who will speak on March 3. If you would like to join us for the student talk (10:00), the faculty talk (3:30), or dinner (6:00), please let me know by February 21.

Her biography:

Freedom Activist, Elite Rhythmic Gymnastics Coach

Marina and her husband, Felix, young daughter Mariana, and mother-in-law Ida, left the USSR in the summer of 1975. She had to leave her family and friends behind not knowing if she would ever see them again. It was truly a "leap of faith."

After spending about two weeks in Vienna, Austria, and then six months in Rome, Italy, her family was invited to Hartford Connecticut after being sponsored by the Jewish Family Service. They arrived in Hartford on January 16, 1976.

What makes someone leave everything they know and love behind and risk their lives? The question is very simple, but the answer is quite complex.

Nothing was possible in the Soviet Union. There was no place to live, no freedom of speech or freedom of religion, and food was scarce. Choices were made for you by the government.

So at the age of 21, being a young mother who didn't speak English, Marina and her husband were so inspired to work hard and make sure their daughter will never experience hunger or fear, and that she will have the choices of where to live, what to do, and what to think.

Felix immediately began work at the General Elevator Company while Marina started teaching gymnastics at the local YWCA.

Felix and Marina opened their gymnastics school, along with a ballet studio and day care, in Jacksonville, Florida in October 1980.

2. Students in middle school and high school watch a brief presentation each month by T.K. Coleman; each presentation is devoted to one of the school's ten values. February's theme is productivity.
3. Hadley Heath Manning, a Shelby native, has agreed to be our commencement speaker on Saturday, May 31, 2025 (the Saturday after Memorial Day). Her biography:

Hadley Heath Manning was, until recently, vice president for policy at Independent Women's Forum.

Hadley has testified before Congress and state legislatures on various policy issues. She also appears frequently in radio and TV outlets across the country and is a regular guest on the Fox Business Network. Her work has been featured in publications such as the Wall Street Journal, Forbes, POLITICO, and many others.

In 2016, Hadley was named to Forbes' 30 Under 30 list in Law and Policy.

Hadley graduated with distinction from the University of North Carolina as a Morehead-Cain Scholar with a double major in economics and journalism. She now lives in Denver, Colorado, with her husband and children.

<https://www.iwf.org/people/hadley-heath-manning/>

K-12 Report to the Board of Directors February 9, 2025

Action Items:

- Seeking approval for the Summer Program Plan as written and presented.

Curriculum and Academics:

- The administrative team is currently meeting and working on a calendar proposal for the 2025-26 school year. We will be presenting our recommendation at the next board meeting.

Facility:

- We are currently working on the heating and air conditioning problem in the new addition on the second floor. The team has been working to fix the issues and we are hoping this problem will be resolved

soon.

- The punch list for construction and furniture is being worked on and progress is being made daily.

Personnel:

- Our administrative team has started the interview process for the 2025-26 school year. We have already interviewed five candidates and are in the process of setting up several more.
- Job Fairs
 - Mr. Ziegler attended the Classical Job Fair on Thursday, Jan. 30th at Belmont Abbey and received several solid resumes. This was the first time we were able to attend this job fair, but seems to be a good use of time and resources based on the quality of candidates we were able to speak with.
 - On Monday, Feb. 3rd, Mrs. Welch and myself attended the Education Job Fair at North Greenville University (at their Greer) campus. Again we received several good resumes and hope to set up some interviews in the coming weeks.
- Faculty Letter of Intent
 - We have two faculty members that do not plan to return next year. We will begin posting and interviewing for those positions soon.

Finance:

- The administrative team has been reviewing and working on the 10 year and yearly budget. Meetings will be held soon with the finance committee as we continue to work on bringing a sound budget to the full board in the coming months.
- We remain in good standing with our finances.

Community Relations:

- “Weekly Events Update” is posted on Facebook each Friday to highlight events and important dates for the next week.
- Monthly newsletters are going out to parents.
- Our K-3 staff have been hosting open house nights for prospective parents. These have gone over well and give us a chance to open our doors to the community.

Special Populations:

- Our EC department is continuing to work hard to provide appropriate services and accommodations to students.
- Testing:
 - We are in the process of creating a plan for winter check-ins. Those tests will be occurring over the next couple of weeks.
 - In Advance Placement classes we are making some small adjustments based on spring enrollment.
 - The Summer Program Plan has been submitted for board review and possible approval.

Enrollment Report

- **Marketing**
 - Communicator Billboard
 - December 30 - January 3
 - February 3 - 7
 - Sending Press Releases on School events
 - Shelby Shopper
 - Week of Jan 11
 - Week of Feb 1

- Kings Mountain Herald
 - Jan 22nd
- Information Packets to Daycares
- **Letters of Intent**
 - Student Letters of Intent for current students were sent home in January with report cards. This process not only lets us know if students are planning on returning next year but also notes if they have siblings with whom they would like to enroll. We are then able to double-check our Initial Applications to be sure we have received the sibling application. So far we have 10 students that have marked they will not be returning.
- **2025-26 Enrollment**
 - As of Feb. 4th, we have received 174 Initial Applications for the 2025-2026 school year. We have 108 kindergarten applications at this time.

Grade Level	Initial Apps
K	108
1	7
2	5
3	7
4	7
5	5
6	13
7	4
8	5
9	3
10	4
11	5
12	1

Historical data:

	2025-26	2024-25	2023-24
Total Applications	174	141	115
Kinder Applications	108	91	76

Report to the Board of Directors
Department of Athletics
February 4, 2025

The athletic department will be wrapping up our winter season over the next two weeks. We are excited to announce that the following teams will advance to the WPAC Conference Tournament:

- JV Men's Basketball
- Varsity Men's Basketball
- JV Women's Basketball
- Varsity Women's Basketball

The conference tournament will be hosted at Lake Lure Classical Academy. We look forward to bringing you the results in the coming weeks. The Championship game for all four teams will be held on February 15, 2025. PCA's advancement to the Championship game will depend on our performance over the next two weeks.

We would also like to highlight the academic achievements of our winter athletic teams. We are proud to share the following overall team GPAs for this season:

- Varsity Men's Basketball: 3.54
- Varsity Women's Basketball: 3.80
- Varsity Cheer: 3.85
- Varsity Swimming: 3.89

Our spring athletic season kicks off on February 17, 2025. We are excited to be offering the following sports:

- Middle School Softball
- Varsity Softball
- Middle School Baseball
- Varsity Baseball
- Varsity Track
- Varsity Golf
- Middle School Women's Soccer
- Varsity Women's Soccer
- Elementary Archery
- Middle School Archery
- High School Archery

The athletic department is also excited to return to Jammin' J's Pizza for another spirit night on February 25, 2025, from 4:00 - 8:00 PM. Come support PCA and enjoy a slice of pizza!

Additionally, we are in the process of adding a windscreen to the entire back fence of the baseball field. Once installed, we will be displaying our newly printed business sponsorship banners. As a reminder, here are our 2024-2025 business sponsors:

- Arthur Services Incorporated
- Shelby Dental Care Center
- Caldwell Appraisals

- Clary Construction Concepts
- Steven Ray (FBI)
- Christy Ray Fitness
- Rejuvatour Primary Care
- Westmoreland Printers
- ABT Tax Services
- Norris Merchandise
- Shelby Alarm Co.
- Hoke Enterprises, Inc.

Finally, we are excited to announce that at our home basketball game on February 4, 2025, Senior Varsity Basketball player Mr. Cody Humphries was recognized for scoring 1,000 points during his high school basketball career at PCA. This is an outstanding achievement and is recognized by schools across the country. Cody was presented with a PCA basketball to celebrate his remarkable accomplishment. Cody is the first in PCA history to reach this athletic milestone.

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns you may have.

With great respect,

Brandon E. Gose

Action Items:

1. *Motion was made by Pauline Cahill to approve the Summer Program Plan as written and presented. Wes Westmoreland seconded the motion. Approved by all.*

Committee Updates:

1. *Finance: An update was given by Debbie Clary gave an update on the CD's and notification that the budget committee will be meeting in the next couple of months to work on the budget for the 2025-26 school year. The plan is for the 2025-26 budget to be presented in April.*
2. *Facilities: An update was given about the heating and air units as well as the punch list for the construction of phase two.*
3. *Wes also gave an update on the Classical Foundations Board and it seems as though this group is making some good progress.*
4. *Curriculum: Gave a brief update on AI and informed the board members that they are meeting to discuss curriculum and how to move forward for the future.*

Adjournment *Chrisitne Boor made a motion to adjourn and Pauline Cahill seconded. Meeting was adjourned.*

Summer Program Plan
2024-2025

Charter School Name: Pinnacle Classical Academy

Charter School Number: 23A

Purpose of the Summer Program: Pinnacle's summer program serves students who have difficulty mastering required core content and skills. The summer program is designed to deliver a specific curriculum in a condensed time, emphasizing the mastery of the student's deficiency. Pinnacle Classical Academy will offer a summer program for students needing additional practice to improve functional skills in reading, science, or mathematics. The program will be provided free of charge for current PCA students who do not achieve a score of proficient on the End-of-Grade or End-of-Course Math I, Math III, Biology, or English II assessment. Current Pinnacle Classical Academy teachers will provide instruction.

The expectation for the Summer Program:

- Be available to all students
- Be purposefully constructed courses
- Have regular interactions with a teacher
- Provide timely and meaningful feedback to students
- Have assessments that provide evidence of learning aligned to course expectations
- Have content aligned to standards and local curriculum
- Provide for monitoring of student engagement
- Provide for monitoring of assignment and course completion

The date for Parent Notification of Summer Program: May 23, 2025

Student Eligibility Criteria:

Grade Levels: 3 - 12

Assessment Types: Reading, Mathematics, English

Initial Test Proficiency: Score of Not Proficient

Regular Academic Calendar:

Last Day for Students: May 23, 2025

Last Day for Staff: May 30, 2025

Summer Program Instruction:

Instruction Dates May 27-28, 2025 and June 2-3, 2025 (English II only)

Number of Instruction Days: Two per subject

Instructional Hours/Minutes Per Day: 4

Total Number of Instructional Hours: 8

Summer Program Testing:

Testing Date: May 29, 2025 and June 4, 2025 (English II only)

Number of Testing Days: 1 per subject

Arrangements for Security of Test Materials: Processes are in place to ensure the testing program is administered in adherence to security and ethical practices. All assessors will be trained by the School Test Coordinator (STC) using the *Testing Code of Ethics*, the *Testing Security Guide*, and the appropriate *Test Administration Guide*.

Test materials will be received by the STC upon delivery to the school. The materials will be stored in a locked storage closet; the STC is the only key holder. The following measures will be taken to ensure the security of test materials:

- The assessors will check materials out by 8:00 am on Thursday, May 29, 2025 and Wednesday, June 4, 2025, from Room 112.
- Assessors will sign the Materials Distribution Sheet to verify the receipt of materials from the STC.
- The assessors will keep the materials in their possession until returning to the STC.
- Assessors will return materials to the STC immediately following the conclusion of the test session.
- Students requiring additional time will have their materials collected by the assessor and transported to an alternate location for completing the test.
- The STC will check-in materials in the Conference Room.
- The STC will sign the Materials Distribution Sheet to verify the receipt of materials from the Assessor.

Testing Plan

Each grade level will be assigned to a specific testing classroom. Rooms will also be available for testing students with accommodations. A detailed Testing Plan will be created and list the room number, assessor name, student name(s), and accommodations (if applicable).

Date of Board Approval: _____

Testing Coordinator Signature: _____

Headmaster Signature:_____