



Minutes

January 9, 2022

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

****Notification of the teleconference meeting was advertised on the Pinnacle Classical Academy website and notification was posted on the front doors of the school building.**

In attendance: Debbie Clary, Wes Westmoreland, Dr. Becky Sain, Dr. Shelly Bullard, Jeff Zeigler, Angela Brooks, Betsy Harnage, Wendy Clary, Steven Ray, Pauline Cahill and Phyllis Nowlen 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 Motion made by Wes Westmoreland and 2nd by Betsy Harnage. All Approved.

Approval of Minutes Wes Westmoreland made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2021 Meeting, Dr. Becky Sain 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.**

Administration Reports

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

Action Items:

- None

Community/Parent Support

- PEAK sponsored a meal for the Pinnacle staff on Thursday, December 16th. Parents were asked to sponsor meals for teachers. Only a fraction of the total amount was collected, but a local agency stepped up to help with the cost. (There may be more, but as of the compilation of this report, I am only aware of one, Cleveland County Farm Bureau.)
- A K-3 parent-Mrs. Hovis-bought Chic-fil-a biscuits, coffee, and fruit trays for the staff as a thankful gesture for all of their hard work this year.

Mentoring Teachers Program

- There was a meeting with mentors on December 9th to discuss teacher retention and ways to support our new, beginning teachers.
- Miss McGinnis and Mrs. Richardson have been the directors of this program and have been instrumental in strengthening it for both our Beginning Teachers and Mentors.

Recruitment

- We are looking forward as we begin planning new recruitment efforts for the Spring in trying to secure strong, viable candidates for our school.
- Appalachian State University has already sent the date for the Education Career Fair for March 18, 2022.
 - Appalachian State University's Education Career Fair connects school administrators, superintendents, and other employers from the field of education seeking to hire candidates in education and related fields with talented students and Alumni from our Reich College of Education. The Education Career Fair allows a variety of education-related employers to network and discuss career options and employment opportunities with a talented pool of Appalachian State students and alumni.

Testing and Data

- iReady MOY (Middle of the Year) Diagnostic Testing will be completed before students go home for break.
- NC Check-in #2 testing will begin January 10th.

Campus Safety & Health

- A Code Red Drill was conducted on 10/26.
- A parent letter was sent out in advance of the drill.
- Continued mask wearing will
- Immunizations in Kindergarten Health Assessments were all turned in.
- There was a donation of 2500 pediatric masks from a K-3 parent.
- Covid cases are better at this time. We did not see a huge spike after Halloween like expected.

**4-12 Report to the Board of Directors
Presented by
Mrs. Angela Brooks**

Action Items:

- None at this time.

Curriculum and Academics:

- Final exams were given at the end of December and we have some preliminary results to share concerning these exams. All students have taken the required NC EOC testing.
- iReady Data

iReady Reading Data (Percent Proficient)

	20-21 EOG Proficiency	1st Diagnostic Proficiency		2nd Diagnostic Proficiency	Growth from 1st diagnostic	3rd Diagnostic Proficiency	21-22 EOG Proficiency
4th	65%	60%	-5	72%	+13		
5th	76%	56%	-20	57%	-2		
6th	58%	54%	-4	59%	+6		
7th	70%	69%	-1	75%	+6		
8th	79%	70%	-9	65%	-3		

iReady Math Data (Percent Proficient)

	20-21 EOG Proficiency	1st Diagnostic Proficiency		2nd Diagnostic Proficiency	Growth from 1st diagnostic	3rd Diagnostic Proficiency	21-22 EOG Proficiency
4th	63%	40%	-23	70%	+32		
5th	69%	46%	-23	63%	+16		
6th	59%	46%	-13	59%	+12		
7th	77%	54%	-23	61%	+6		
8th	83%	55%	-28	62%	+11		

- Overall in grades 4-8 we are making great progress. We are continuing to monitor this data and holding data meetings with our teachers. We are proud of the work the teachers and students have done so far this year and would like to see this continue to improve by the next iReady diagnostic. We will continue to monitor this and begin to target 5th and 8th grade reading. Our goal is 85% proficiency.

Professional Development:

- PLC meetings have continued with grades 4-5, Middle School, and High School. In these meetings and through looking at various data points we have noticed a couple of areas of concern. Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Barnes, and I have developed a plan to address these areas and the process has started.

Extracurricular and Events

- National Junior Honors Society
 - Mrs. Barger helped lead the National Junior Honors Society in a December community service project. Students met after school to participate in the "Stockings Hung with Care" project. Students created Christmas cards and stuffed stockings to donate to local nursing home facilities and other community members in the Shelby area. I am very proud of our students and faculty who look for ways to serve the community.
 - These students will be leading a Sock Drive in January.
- Student Government Association
 - The Student Government Association is sponsoring a Camouflage Day on Friday, Jan. 14th with all proceeds to go to the Wounded Warrior Project. Epilepsy Awareness day raised \$400 in December.

- **Special Awards and Recognitions:**

- Mrs. Owens wrote and received a Donors Choose grant of \$900.00 to go to the purchase of instruments to really get the Pep Band off the ground. This allowed us to have marching drums for the parade and future ball games. She has really worked hard to teach not only how to read music, how to play an instrument, and how to march correctly.
- Katie Price has been awarded a \$14,000 a year Performance Arts Scholarship to Charleston Southern University. This particular scholarship was based on her academic and musical abilities and involved a musical audition. We are extremely proud of her accomplishment.
- AnnaGrace Earwood and Katie Price have both been invited to interview for the Ignite Scholarship at Gardner-Webb. This is one of GWU's most prestigious scholarships and is awarded to individuals who exemplify academic excellence.
- Robert Stockham has been chosen as a semi finalist for both the Goodnight Scholar Program and the Park Scholarship at NC State University. This is a highly competitive award and we are wishing him all the best.
- Amy Brooks was selected to serve on the North Carolina State Superintendent Advisory Council late November. This will be a two year process in which she will have the opportunity to weigh in on current legislative issues regarding schools. This is a wonderful opportunity for her and she will be a good advocate of school choice.

- **Senior Activities**

- Our seniors have received \$2,272,720 in scholarships as of 1/5/2022. This is an increase of \$165,200 from last month. Several students are beginning to interview for upcoming scholarship awards while still applying for new scholarships as they are released. We are excited for the senior class and are excited to watch this number increase over the next few months.
- We will be hosting Scholarship day for the Senior class of 2022 on Wednesday, Jan. 12th. We will be organizing mock interviews, helping them with applications, introducing some local scholarships etc. on that day for students to apply for. Our hope is that this will get students interested and applying for scholarship money.
- The seniors have casted their vote and have elected who they would like to have as the senior speaker in the week leading up to graduation. They are currently deciding what they will do for their senior project.



Kindergarten Enrollment

	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Pinnacle Classical Academy	126	127	120
Bethware Elementary	97	71	77
Boiling Springs Elementary	87	86	73
Casar Elementary	36	42	33
Cleveland Innovation	8	2	-
East Elementary	36	34	41
Fallston Elementary	73	74	76
Graham Elementary	27	36	42
Grover Elementary	60	59	58
James Love Elementary	65	53	59
Jefferson Elementary	73	54	62
Marion Elementary	39	38	49
North Elementary	41	42	55
North Shelby	2	3	1
Springmore Elementary	87	93	77
Township Three Elementary	89	74	100
Union Elementary	59	59	52
Washington Elementary	68	65	67
West Elementary	57	41	57

Classical Foundations Program (CFP) Update
January 4, 2022

1. T. K. Coleman of the Foundation for Economic Education has produced videos related to the school's ten values. The sixth (on productivity) will be shown on January 7.
2. David Higham Associates, which holds the copyright to Dorothy Sayers's works, has granted us permission to reprint *Lost Tools of Learning*, the essay on which our charter is based, and the Ayn Rand Institute has done the same for *Teaching Johnny to Think*. Wes Westmoreland and Jeff Ziegler have completed drafting *Dare to Soar*, a book in which *Lost Tools of Learning* and *Teaching Johnny to Think* will be reprinted, and the book is in the editing stage, with Dr. James Harrigan working on the edits.
3. Lily Tang Williams (Victims of Communism Foundation) will be our spring CFP lecturer on **January 31, 2022**.
4. Arrangements are being made with teachers for Dr. James Harrigan (now Senior Editor, American Institute for Economic Research) to deliver free virtual lectures to high school history and economics classes.
5. Mr. Robert Luddy has agreed to be our 2022 graduation speaker on **Saturday, June 4, 2022**. His biography:

<https://www.johnlocke.org/person/robert-l-luddy/>

Robert L. Luddy is a business and educational entrepreneur. A graduate of LaSalle University and a U.S. Army veteran, Luddy purchased a sheet metal shop in 1981 and transformed it into CaptiveAire Systems, leading manufacturer of commercial kitchen ventilation systems in North America. Today, CaptiveAire employs over 1000 employees, with 90 sales offices nationwide and sales over \$300 million in 2015. However, Bob Luddy is more than just a businessman, he is a champion for children's education and a school choice advocate.

In 1998, Bob established Franklin Academy, a public charter school in Wake Forest, which now serves over 1,200 K-12 students. In 2001, Bob founded St. Thomas More Academy, a private Catholic college preparatory high school in Raleigh. In 2007, Bob opened Thales Academy, a growing chain of independent Pre-K-12 schools offering high-quality education at an affordable tuition. The Luddy Schools are quickly growing, with nearly 3,000 students enrolled throughout the Raleigh area.

**Headmaster Report to the Board of Directors
Presented by Dr. Shelly Bullard**

Action Items:

- State Mandated Monthly Mask Vote

Motion to follow to the recommendation of Pinnacle Administration was made by Wes Westmoreland and 2nd by R. Becky Sain. 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
- **Professional Development**
 - PLC meetings have continued with all grades K-12. We have redesigned the PLC meetings to have a tighter focus on quality instruction, curriculum knowledge and continuing to examine various data points.
 - Individual teacher meetings have been held to discuss teacher growth and proficiency goals. I strongly believe this makes a valuable impact on the instruction and commitment that we see from our teachers.

Testing:

- We completed EOCs for Biology, English II, NCMath 1, and NCMath 3 for semester courses.
- We also completed the winter iReady diagnostic for K-8 students in math and reading. I am pleased with the growth that was shown especially in Math. Our Deans and Associate Deans are doing an outstanding job in working with teachers to use their data and improve instruction and student growth.
- We will complete the second round of NC Check-Ins in the next two weeks. This covers Reading and Math for grades 3-8 and Science for grades 5 and 8.

Special Student Populations

- Our ELL students have been identified and are receiving services. Ms. Ramsey is doing a phenomenal job working with our ELL students. We have 16 identified students that she meets with once a week.
- We are continuing to identify students with disabilities. These students are being placed well within the 90 day timeline and receiving services.
- All 504 plans are in the process of being updated to a new computerized form. This will create a better system for managing these plans.

Finance:

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

Human Resources:

- We have hired Mr. Chip Beam for the open High School English position and Ms. Kellie Toney for the Middle School Math position.
- Ms. Meggan Cochran has been hired to fill the Elementary Music Position.

Community Relations

- “Weekly Events Update” is posted on Facebook and the Headmaster’s web page 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.
- Mrs. Clary, Mrs. Brooks and myself will be attending Rotary at Boiling Springs, Kings Mountain and Shelby, respectively.

Legal / DPI:

- **Charter Renewal**
 - We are in the waiting process for charter renewal. All needed items have been submitted with confirmation of receipt.
- **Submissions to DPI**
 - Monthly reports on the expenditure of COVID funds.
 - Quarterly reports on specific COVID funds.
- **EpiCenter**
 - Renewal documents

Enrollment Report

- **Enrollment at 20th day**

- As of the 20th day of school, we had 1079 students enrolled.
- **Marketing**
 - I am working with Mr. Assad to finalize the working and pictures for the digital billboard.
 - Facebook Ads / Videos (this is our #1 push)
 - Parent Video
 - Alumni Video
 - School Tour Video
 - School Post
 - events
 - student news
 - re-posting news articles
 - Sending Press Releases on school events
 - Communicator Billboard
 - Running December 20-26 and January 3-9 (this was at no cost)
 - Shelby Shopper
 - Information Packets to Daycares
 - Mailings to local churches to offer meetings with interested parents
- **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.
- **2022-23 Enrollment**
 - As of January 7th, we have received 116 Initial Application for the 2022-2023 school year. This is higher than where we were last year with 96 Initial Applications.

Grade Level	Initial Apps
K	63
1	6
2	6
3	4

4	11
5	3
6	2
7	3
8	5
9	6
10	5
11	1
12	1

Board Updates

Miscellaneous Board Updates

New Business Betsy Harnage read the following resignation statement to Board Members:

To a happy and healthy 2022. As a Founding member of Pinnacle Classical Academy School Board let me say how very proud of the accomplishments our admin. team has achieved. We have come a long way! I joined the school board as the connection of parents for their children to the school. I wanted choice education for our county's children and truly believe in Charter Schools. I only wish Pinnacle was available to my own children.

I have been contemplating the best time to step down from the board and allow new members with new ideas to be added. As the Enrollment Chair, I recognize the hard work Dr. B. has put into bringing new students and organizing our Lottery. This will be my last board meeting I. I look forward to seeing what the future holds for Pinnacle.

*Respectfully,
Betsy S Harnage*

Board members gave words of thanks and commented on the contributions made by Betsy Harnage during her tenure on the board.

Wes Westmoreland and staff spoke about the uniform policy and the importance of maintaining consistency of policy enforcement.

Old Business

Adjournment Wes Westmoreland made a motion to adjourn, and Dr. Becky Sain seconded. Meeting was adjourned.