



## Minutes

March 13, 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. Shelly Bullard, Jeff Zeigler, Angela Brooks, Wendy Clary, Steven Ray, Jayson Philbeck 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.

**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

March 2022

#### Action Items:

- None

#### Community/Parent Support

- Boosterthon 2022
  - Boosterthon 2022-The fundraising goal this year is \$40,000. This money will be used to add playground equipment for the K-3 students and a gym expansion for the 4-12 campus.
  - Parents have pledged monetary donations and have supported the fundraising efforts by sharing information via social media. Students received prizes for each level of pledges they secured.
  - March 10th is our big event. K-3 will have a Dance-a-thon!
  - As of the evening of March 8th, we have \$25,900 towards our school goal!
- Community Open House

- The K-3 Community Open House was held Thursday, March 10.
  - We had faculty and administration on-hand after school hours from 4:15-6:15 to meet and greet prospective students and parents and to answer any questions as they pertained to the specific grade levels. Classrooms were opened for parents to view.
  - A Pinnacle packet was given to the families who attended. It had information about our school and how to apply to attend.
- **American Heart Association SGA Fundraiser**
    - K-3 Students participated in the Student Government Association Fundraiser for the American Heart Association.

### **K-Day 2022**

- K-Day 2022 was held on Friday, March 11 for incoming kindergarten students.
- Information was sent to parents with a link to our Pinnacle website and the SignUp Genius to schedule a time for a screening.
- All K-3 staff members and administration were on-deck and/or standby to welcome the prospective students and parents. K-2 teachers/TAs administered the Brigance Screening to all incoming students.
- This was the first year that we have held K-Day before the lottery. The plus to this timeline is that we screened all students whose parents filled out the initial application. \*This will minimize the number of makeup screenings that our staff will have to complete.
- Parents had the opportunity to fill out beginning of the year paperwork and submit NC Health Assessments and immunization.
- Nurse Costner and Mrs. Woods were available to answer any questions that parents had about medical concerns, procedures to give medicine at school, and immunizations.
- Parents were given feedback after the screening specifically in areas of needed growth.
- Students were given treat bags and decorated cookies.
- Parents had a photo opportunity to remember the important occasion.

### **Recruitment/Hiring**

- Appalachian State University Education Career Fair will be 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.
- **Posted Positions**
  - Positions for the 2022-23 school year are being posted.
  - There have been a few applications received, but a noticeable fewer number as compared to the past years.
  - Interviews have been conducted for the positions, particularly classroom teachers.

**Upcoming Dates:**

- March 14th- 2022-2023 Lottery- via Facebook Live @ 6:00.
- March 18th- end of 3rd Quarter
- March 23rd-NC Check-In #3
- March 24th- Mr. Tom Miller visit
- March 29th-Spring Pictures (individual and classroom)
- April 1st-Parent/Teacher Conference Day





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

**Curriculum and Academics:**

- Underclassmen are now registering for classes. Dr. Martin and I have a process in place for class registration for students who will be ‘new’ to Pinnacle from the lottery. I will also be working with Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Barnes in the coming weeks to develop some ideas to make all new 4-12 students feel like part of the PCA family before they officially enroll next year.
- The end of the quarter is on March 18th. We are in communication with parents about students that have the possibility of retention or failing a course. Report Cards will go home the following week. I am especially keeping an eye on our seniors and will begin having some of those conversations soon. We do have several seniors who are currently in jeopardy and I will keep the board informed as the semester progresses.
- Cleveland Community College and PCA are hosting an informational meeting on Tuesday, March 8th to discuss college course opportunities for Pinnacle students in their 11th and 12th grade years. They are bringing some really cool equipment such as a welding simulator so I am hopeful for a good turnout.
- We have several national exams over this next season and are excited to see the results of those examinations.
  - The Junior class took the CLT on Feb. 10th, the ACT on March 1st, and the SAT on March 23rd.
  - The Sophomore class took the CLT 10 on Feb. 3 and the PSAT 10 on March 1st.

**Recruitment:**

- The administrative team has been diligently working to recruit top candidates for teaching positions for next year. All positions are posted online.
  - I attended the job fair in Hillsdale, Michigan Feb. 10-11th.
  - Mr. Ziegler is attending a job fair in Alabama March 7th.
  - Mr. Ziegler will be attending Appalachian University on March 18th.

- Mrs. Richardson and Ms. McGinnis will be attending the Gardner-Webb Job fair on April 6th.

## Extracurricular and Events

- **Boosterthon**

- Mrs. Barnes and Mrs. Richardson have been working with the Boosterthon team to raise money for our school. The fundraiser seems to be doing well as we have been able to raise over \$21,000 by the midpoint of the fundraiser. We are excited to see our final numbers and to help fund the 4-12 gym expansion.

- **Student Government Association - Mr. Kauder, sponsor**

- The student government Association raised \$535.00 for the American Heart Association in February.
- On Thursday, April 24th SGA is planning a Spring Field day after school dismisses. They have organized themselves into different committees and are working on several different items to include all families and students in grades K-12. They have very big ambitions and Mr. Kauder is helping them develop a plan that they can implement on that day. If possible, please make plans to attend. They are very excited to have this opportunity.
- Student Government is also working in conjunction with PEAK to plan a Bonfire for the high school students. We are excited to have PEAK helping with this event. All proceeds will go to the PEAK organization. Admission will be \$5 for students and there will be smores, snacks, and music for the high school students to enjoy.

- **National Honors Society - Mrs. Welch, sponsor**

- The National Honors Society has started their fundraiser for Relay for life as their group community service project this year. I think this fundraiser will be a blast. Feel free to participate if you would like. Mrs. Miller and Mr. Ledbetter were the first two to be 'flushed'. I hope you purchased your insurance!

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- **Class Rings**

- On February 17th at 6:00 pm we hosted our annual ring ceremony program. The event was very well attended and is a wonderful tradition for our students and families. Thank you to each of you who were able to attend.
- John Williams from Balfour will be on campus, Tuesday, March 15th to present to rising 9th graders and up about the class rings and to take class ring orders. If any of the board members are interested in attending this informational meeting, please let me know and I will have it arranged for you to place your ring order.

- **Special Awards and Recognitions:**

- Amy Brooks, Emma Sarratt, Lydia Canipe, and Amaysa Beaver will be attending Girls State as representatives of Pinnacle Classical Academy. Rising seniors from across the state spend a week creating city government, political parties, and a state government. They elect officials, write and debate bills, create working governments and attend various workshops to prepare them for their senior year and college.
- Mrs. Jacobs was recently awarded the Amazon Project STEM award again. This provides the curriculum for several of our Advanced Placement Computer Science courses as well as some of the curriculum for the STEM classes. This curriculum is valued at over \$10,000 per year so we are very appreciative of her efforts to continue to write these grants.

- **Senior Activities**

- Ninety percent of our senior class has now applied for college or universities and 23% have already committed to their university.
- Our seniors have received \$2,685,720 in scholarships as of 3/8/2022. 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. One of our seniors has been invited to interview Princeton, Stanford, MIT, and the University of Pennsylvania.

- As of March 8, we have had acceptances at the following universities:

Anderson University	High Point University	Presbyterian College
Appalachian State University	Lenoir-Rhyne Community College	Queens University of Charlotte
Belmont University	Liberty University	University of Mount Olive
Brevard College	Limestone University	University of NC at Chapel Hill
Campbell University	Louisburg College	University of NC at Charlotte
Catawba College	Mars Hill University	University of NC at Pembroke

Charleston Southern University

Meredith College

Welch College

Clemson University

Mid-Atlantic Christian University

Western Carolina University

Cleveland Community College

Montreat College

William Peace University

East Carolina University

NC A&T University

Wingate University

Flagler College

NC State University

Winthrop University

Gardner-Webb University

North Greenville University

Guilford College

Pfeiffer University

- Senior Yard signs will go out on Friday, March 11th. Officer Hopper has mapped out all the stops and I know the seniors will be happy to start celebrating their upcoming graduation.
- Senior Cap and Gown pictures will be taken March 30th. This is always a wonderful opportunity to see our seniors excited about their upcoming graduation. They will receive their robes on this day.



Classical Foundations Program (CFP) Update  
March 1, 2022

1. T. K. Coleman of the Foundation for Economic Education has produced videos related to the school's ten values. A video on justice will be shown on March 4.
2. Pinnacle Press, the imprint of Pinnacle Classical Academy's Classical Foundations Program, has published *Dare to Soar: The Curricular Philosophy of Pinnacle Classical Philosophy*. Written by Wes Westmoreland and Jeff Ziegler, the book explores what a charter school is, what classical education is, and what makes the school distinctive.

Published through a private grant at no cost to the school, the book includes a foreword by Kerry McDonald, Senior Education Fellow of the Foundation for Economic Education, and an afterword by Debbie Clary. With the permission of the copyright holders, the volume also includes two works that helped influence the educational vision of the school's founding board: "The Lost Tools of Learning" by Dorothy Sayers and "Teaching Johnny to Think" by Leonard Peikoff.

3. Dr. Antony Davies (Duquesne University) and Dr. James Harrigan (American Institute for Economic Research) will speak to our students on the American political system on March 29, and T. K. Coleman will speak to our students on April 14.
4. 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.

5. Mr. John Hood has agreed to be our 2023 graduation speaker on **Saturday, June 3, 2023**. 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.



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

**Action Items:**

- State Mandated Monthly Mask Vote - Recommendation from the administrative team to continue with our mask optional status.

*Wes Westmoreland made a motion to continue to follow the recommendation from the Administrative Team to keep masks optional and Jayson Philbeck seconded. Motion unanimously 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**
  - The Deans and Headmaster are participating in professional development from Leaders Building Leaders, Dr. Tom Miller. We have attended two meetings and have gathered information for Dr. Miller. The team has also completed surveys and questionnaires for Dr. Miller. We are excited to push our administrative team to grow and provide the best leadership possible for PCA.
  
- **Testing**
  - All high school juniors on the future ready course recently took the ACT. All high school sophomores on the future ready course took the PSAT 10 on the same day. Our occupational course of study sophomores and juniors took the College and Career Readiness Alternative Assessment during this testing window. At the end of the month, we will be completing our third round of NCCheck-Ins for grades 3-8.
  
- **Special Student Populations**
  - Access testing is currently being completed for our 16 ELL students. Mrs. Ramsey recently had a practicum student working with her. This was great publicity for our school.
  - We are working with parents and teachers to update all 504 plans. 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.
  - We are working to streamline IEP goals with state standards. We are also working to streamline progress monitoring.



## **Finance:**

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

## **Human Resources:**

### ● **Positions for 2022-2023**

- Positions for the 2022-23 school year have been posted online and we have started to recruit and interview to find the best possible candidates for our school.
  - Mrs. Brooks attended the job fair in Hillsdale, Michigan Feb. 10-11th.
  - Mr. Ziegler is attending a job fair in Alabama March 7th.
  - Mr. Ziegler attended Appalachian University on March 18th.
  - Mrs. Richardson and Ms. McGinnis will be attending the Gardner-Webb Job fair on April 6th.

## **Community Relations**

- Our “Dare to Soar” tv show has aired two times on C19. The first special guest was Mrs. Wendy Clary. Mrs Clary did an EXCELLENT job with her tv debut. I think this addition to our outreach is going to be quite beneficial. Hopefully we will continue to gain viewership over the next months. The special guest for March will be Mr. Brandon Gosey to speak about athletics.
- “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.
- 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 virtual Renewal Visit will be Friday, May 20.
  - We must submit a video of a virtual school tour
  - We will need to identify a parent group to be interviewed (30 minutes)
  - We will need to identify a staff/teacher group to be interviewed (30 minutes)
  - The Board of Directors (chair, vice-chair, treasurer as minimum) and school leadership team will be interviewed (30 minutes)

### ● **Submissions to DPI**

- Monthly reports on the expenditure of COVID funds.
- Quarterly reports on specific COVID funds.
- Our evaluation system that was designed by the administrative team has been officially approved. Many thanks to Mrs. Richardson and Ms. McGinnis for their work on this.

### ● **EpiCenter**

- We are up to date with all submissions.

## Athletics:

- Report is attached

## Enrollment Report

- **Enrollment at 20th day**
  - As of the 20th day of school, we had 1079 students enrolled.
- **Marketing**
  - - Open House - March 10
    - Dare to Soar TV program
      - Airs first week of every month at 8:30 AM and PM, and at 1:30 PM each day for the first week of the month, or folks can watch online at [C19.tv](http://C19.tv).
      - February Show - Debbie, Wes, Shelly
      - March Show - Wendy, Shelly
      - April Show - Brandon Gosey, Shelly
    - Talk of the Town - January
    - We have mailed out the 10 Reasons to Choose Pinnacle to local companies, churches and preschools/daycares to offer information as well as meetings with interested parents.
    - Facebook Ads / Videos (this is our #1 push)
      - events
      - student news
      - press releases
      - 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
- **Retention of new students**
  - Mrs. Clary reaches out to the new kindergartners each month between now and August with something from the school.
  - Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Barnes will be working to develop some ideas to make all new 4-12 students feel like part of the PCA family before they officially enroll next year.

- **2022-23 Enrollment**

- As of March 9th, we have received 303 Initial Application for the 2022-2023 school year.

<b>Historical number of Initial Applications March</b>	
2022	303
2021	266
2020	255
2019	280

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Initial Apps</b>
<b>K</b>	144
<b>1</b>	15
<b>2</b>	15
<b>3</b>	19
<b>4</b>	22
<b>5</b>	17
<b>6</b>	9
<b>7</b>	18
<b>8</b>	15
<b>9</b>	17
<b>10</b>	7
<b>11</b>	2
<b>12</b>	3

3.9.22								
		Expected LOI	Initial Apps	Classes 21-22	Classes 22-23	Offer	Total	Class Avg
	<b>K</b>	0	144	5	6	132	132	22
	<b>1st</b>	121	15	5	5	0	124	24.8
	<b>2nd</b>	99	15	5	5	21	120	24
	<b>3rd</b>	104	19	5	5	16	120	24
	<b>4th</b>	103	22	4	5	17	120	24
	<b>5th</b>	82	17	4	4	28	110	27.5
	<b>6th</b>	95	9	4	4	15	110	27.5
	<b>7th</b>	95	18	3	4	18	110	27.5
	<b>8th</b>	84	15	3	4	26	110	27.5
	<b>9th</b>	78	17	2	4	17	100	25
	<b>10th</b>	50	7	2	2	2	51	25.5
	<b>11th</b>	38	2	2	2	0	38	19
	<b>12th</b>	39	3	1	2	0	40	20
			303	45	52	292	1285	

## **Board Updates**

### **Miscellaneous Board Updates**

#### **New Business**

#### **Old Business**

**Adjournment** Steven Ray made a motion to adjourn, and Wes Westmoreland seconded. Meeting was adjourned.