



## **Minutes**

*January 14, 2024*

**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: Board Members - Bobby Horton, Debbie Clary, Amy Dulin, Pauline Cahill, Ken Mooney, and Wes Westmoreland attend virtually; Administration - Shelly Shope, Wendy Clary, Laura Beth Richardson, Jeff Ziegler, and 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.*

**Adoption of Agenda** *Motion made by Pauline Cahill and 2nd by Amy Dulin, all Approved.*

**Approval of Minutes** *Wes Westmoreland made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2023 Meeting, Ken Mooney 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.*

*Public - Will Brooks, Amy Brooks, Casey Greene, David Clary, Hannah Clontz, Michelle Clontz, Jason Clontz, and Aaron Clontz attending*

### **Administration Reports -**

*Wes Westmoreland commented that he really appreciates the data that the Deans present and are constantly reflected upon. He also appreciates that every segment of the student population is being considered and all students are being stretched.*

**Dean of Elementary Education Report to the Board of Directors  
Presented by Mrs. Wendy Clary  
January, 2024**

## **Action Items:**

- None

## **Teacher Retention**

- Follow up meetings were held with 3rd grade teachers on December 14th & 15th to discuss iReady Mid-Year Diagnostic Reports and look at growth and proficiency projections and next steps with students. Teachers are to complete [iReady Data Talk](#) documents to help with determination.
  - Students are considered proficient if they:
    - score a 537 scale score in reading on the iReady Diagnostic
    - Score a 3,4, or 5 on the NC Beginning of Grade (BOG)-given at the beginning of school
    - Score a 3,4, or 5 on the NC End-of-Grade (EOG)-given at the end of the school year

## **Community/Parent Involvement**

- A family with two children, one of whom is a student at Pinnacle, was helped at Christmas. Administration and a few teachers shared in this opportunity to give back.
- Township No. Three Volunteer Fire Department came to the K-3 campus on December 13th to share fire safety tips with all of our students.
- The second playground has been installed! Students should be able to play on it after MLK Holiday.

## **PEAK**

- PEAK has several dances planned for elementary, intermediate, and middle school students in the months of January and February. All of these dances will be held at the K-3 campus due to construction at the 4-12.
  - 1/12-4th & 5th grade
  - 1/13-Middle School
  - 2/2-K & 1st
  - 2/3 -2nd & 3rd
- The next meeting will be January 31st. Teacher representatives and administrators will be in attendance to show support for our parent organization.
- The Fast Passes were a success for the second semester. This is an opportunity for parents to win a chance to skip the car line and expedite the drop off and pick up process. Approximately \$1200.00 was raised.

## **Data**

- The K-2 Mid-Year Diagnostic Testing window is open. Testing is underway for K-2 students and will close on February 2nd.
- Copy of K-3 iReady Results 2023/2024 - Standard View
- Third Grade will take NC Check In #2 on February 6th & 8th.

## **Enrollment**

- 243 Daycare Packets have been delivered to local daycare centers. These packets are to be sent home with rising kindergarten students.
- A kindergarten community open house was held on November 16th from 5:00-6:30 with over 20 families attending. There will be 2 more kindergarten open houses before the lottery: January 23, 2024 and February 27th, 2024.

## Safety

- Selected staff completed CPR training on January 3rd. This was a hybrid course. Participants were responsible for the completion of assessments and videos prior to January 3rd. Casey Metcalfe and Diane Austin-PCA CPR trainers-completed the mannequin portion of the course.

## Upcoming Dates:

- Jan 11: Kid Tips start for 1st Grade
- Jan 12: 4th and 5th Grade Dance
- Jan 13: MS Dance
- Jan 15: No School, MLK Day
- Jan 17: Scholarship Day for Seniors
- Jan 19: College T-shirt Day
- Jan 22-26: National School Choice Week
- Jan 23: Kindergarten Open House
- Jan 24: Spelling Bee, 9:00am
- Jan 25: Beginning Teacher Meeting
- Jan 25: PEAK Meeting
- Jan 26: Teacher Work Day \*Professional Development will be provided that day for staff Feb 6 & 7: NC Check-Ins (3rd Grade)
- Feb 8: Data Discussion Meeting, 3:45 at 4-12, 3rd-8th Grade Teachers

## **4-8 Report to the Board of Directors**

**Presented by**

**Mrs. Laura Beth Richardson**

**January 2024**

## Curriculum/Academics/Data

- Mid-year iReady diagnostics are complete.
- [2023-24 iReady Results, Projected Proficiency View](#) (most current data shown below)
  - This data shows the approximate percentage of students who would place in each state test level if they had taken the EOG at the same time as the middle of year diagnostic.

### **Reading Overall**

	22-23 EOG Proficiency	1st Diagnosis Proficiency	2nd Diagnosis Proficiency		3rd Diagnostic Proficiency		23-24 EOG Proficiency
4th	80%	42%	56%	+14			
5th	52%	47%	65%	+22			
6th	79%	50%	49%	-1			
7th	84%	65%	76%	+11			
8th	90%	67%	71%	+4			

**Reading by Grade and Level of Performance**

Diagnostic 2	Level 5	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2-1
4th	14%	28%	14%	44%
5th	8%	28%	28%	35%
6th	2%	22%	25%	51%
7th	13%	35%	28%	24%
8th	3%	38%	29%	29%

**Math Overall**

	22-23 EOG Proficiency	1st Diagnostic Proficiency	2nd Diagnostic Proficiency		3rd Diagnostic Proficiency		23-24 EOG Proficiency
4th	71%	31%	61%	+30			
5th	63%	55%	73%	+18			
6th	78%	60%	77%	+17			
7th	77%	61%	71%	+10			
8th	70%	41%	63%	+22			

**Math by Grade and Level of Performance**

Diagnostic 2	Level 5	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2-1
4th	3%	23%	34%	39%
5th	2%	41%	30%	27%
6th	1%	36%	40%	23%
7th	4%	51%	16%	29%
8th	19%	25%	19%	38%

**Professional Development:**

- Teachers will receive further training from iLEADR on Friday, January 26th. Training topics will be determined by recent data and progress since the last PD session in November.
- On Thursday, January 11th, we will have our third Data Discussion Meeting of the year with 3rd-8th grade reading and math teachers. This meeting will focus on data from our middle of year iReady Diagnostic as it compares to the beginning of the year. Teachers will use their data to determine next steps for quarter 3 that will yield the most results in student proficiency and growth.

**Beginning Teacher/New Hires:**

- The monthly meeting with beginning teachers is scheduled for January

25th. **Hiring/Personnel**

- We have recently hired Mrs. Latoya Peeler to teach 6th and 8th grade science. We are eager to support her as she makes the transition onto the PCA team to finish out the spring semester.
- Mrs. Jackson and I will be attending a job fair at Winthrop University on Wednesday, January 17th. This job fair has yielded a wide variety of education majors in the past and we look forward to making more connections with those soon to be graduates.

**4th-8th Grade Activities**

- Our fourth graders visited the Schiele Museum right before break.
- PEAK has planned two dances this month: one for 4th and 5th graders, one for middle school students. Our students are very excited about this opportunity to spend time together outside of school hours.



9-12 Report to the Board of Directors  
Presented by  
Mrs. Angela Brooks  
January, 14 2024

### **Curriculum and Academics:**

- Dr. Martin, Mr. Ziegler and I have started laying out the schedule for next year and will begin the registration process with rising seniors. We are also in discussions with CCC about course offerings and will begin building the master schedule soon. We are also looking at changing out a few classes to change up our offerings so that it will be an every other year option. These changes are very preliminary and we will be meeting with the curriculum committee soon to continue to discuss.
- Our second semester classes began on January 4th and everything seems to be off to a great start. We are currently operating without a gym, and while it is not ideal everything seems to be working and we have had a very smooth transition into the second semester.

### **Extracurricular Activities:**

- Homecoming was a great success! The students really enjoyed participating in spirit week, the homecoming dance, and ceremony. Homecoming is really a highlight of the school year and Homecoming 2023 did not disappoint. This year's Homecoming King and Queen are seniors, John Cannon and Logan Hollifield.

### **Community Outreach:**

- I have been attending the Kings Mountain Rotary Club, and have recently become Secretary of that club. I hope to represent Pinnacle well at the upcoming events, fundraisers, and meetings. With the amount of growth Kings Mountain has been seeing the KM club would really like to become more active in the community and I believe that it would also be beneficial for PCA to be included in more of these city events as well. I have reached out to the city for potential events that we could potentially take part in.
- This year the high school team has focused on building relationships with universities and colleges. We have attended the following events with that purpose in mind.
  - Nov. 12-14, Dr. Martin attended a counselor event and made some great connections and learned a tremendous amount about Furman University. PCA recently toured Furman with our junior and senior classes. Several of our students really seemed to be interested in attending.
    - Dr. Martin and I attended a Christmas Connect program at North Greenville University on Wednesday, December 13th. This was a great networking opportunity and we were able to speak with the Dr. Kayla Black, the director of the honors program, individuals from admissions, and we made a few connections from area high schools as well.

### **Special Awards and Recognitions:**

- Heather Carswell, a senior, has committed to the University of Cumberland's archery team and we will be holding a signing for her later on in the school year. We are very proud of Heather and all of her hard work and dedication to archery.
- Tyler Johnson, a junior, is Pinnacle Classical Academy's nominee for Governor's School for 2024. NC Governor's School is a four-week summer residential program for gifted and talented high school students. It is a very competitive process and we are excited to see if he will be selected to attend.
- Kensley Greene, a senior, is the winner of the JAH scholarship for art awarded through bold.org. She was awarded a \$500.00 scholarship for her winning poem. You are able to read her poem as what inspired her to write it at the following website: <https://bold.org/scholarships/jah-scholarship-for-art/> We are very proud of her accomplishment and will recognize this achievement at the senior scholarship night in May.

## Senior Activities

- As of Jan. 8th, the class of 2024 has had 162 college applications sent, and has been offered over \$1.9 million dollars in scholarships this year. That is a \$600,000 increase in scholarship amounts from December.
- Beginning in January, 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 into. This is something that the seniors look forward to each year and we are excited to be able to help them celebrate.
- We will be hosting Scholarship day for the senior class of 2024 on January 17th. We will be helping them with scholarship applications, introducing some local scholarships, providing assistance to complete the newly released FAFSA forms, etc. We have confirmation that Gardner-Webb, Brevard, and Cleveland Community College will be there on that day as well. Our hope is that this will get students interested and applying for scholarship money in addition to working on interview skills, applications, etc.

## Important Dates for the 2023-24 School year:

Saturday, April 20th - Prom at the Cleveland Country Club

Friday, May 31st - Senior Scholarship Night at the Lyceum

Saturday, June 1st - Graduation at the Lyceum

### Enrollment Trends

A Report to the Board of Directors of Pinnacle Classical Academy

January 8, 2024

Jeff Ziegler, Dean of Academics

Private schools in Cleveland County (2023):

- Champion Christian Academy (Kings Mountain)
- Charity Christian School (Fallston)
- Gaston Christian - Shelby
- Grace Christian Academy (Kings Mountain)

There are 1,048 home schools in Cleveland County in which the 1,630 students are enrolled (2022-23).

Classical Foundations Program (CFP) Update

January 8, 2024

1. The Foundation for Economics Education is arranging for Dr. Lauren Heller, professor of economics and interim dean of the Campbell School of Business at Berry College (GA), to be our spring CFP speaker, at a date to be determined.
2. Dr. Christine Basil Boor has agreed to be our commencement speaker on Saturday, June 1, 2024 (the Saturday after Memorial Day). Dr. Boor received her Ph.D. from Baylor University and teaches in the Honors College at Belmont Abbey College. She teaches courses in Aristotle's *Ethics* and *Politics*, Greek history, the trivium (grammar, logic, and rhetoric), and political thought.



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 is vice president for policy at Independent Women's Forum and Independent Women's Voice and a Senior Blankley Fellow at the Steamboat Institute.

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/>

4. 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. January's theme is productivity.

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

**January 2024**

**Action Items:**

- Requesting approval to post two positions for the 2024-25 school year

**Curriculum and Academics:**

- **Data**
  - Mid-Year Diagnostics are complete
- **Professional Development**
  - Mid-year data meetings are being held to discuss teacher growth and performance.
- **Celebrations**
  - We have numerous teachers who have received bonuses from the state for student performance on EOG / AP Exams. Congratulations to the following teachers
    - EVAAS growth that is in the TOP 25% in the state - \$2,000
      - Ms. Gambrell - 4th grade reading
      - Ms. Gambrell - 4th grade math
      - Ms. Houser - 4th grade math
      - Mrs. Inman - 6th grade math
    - AP students scoring a 3 or higher - \$50



- Mrs. Boone - 9 students
- Mr. Beam - 7 students
- Mrs. Welch - 4 student
- Mrs. Ledbetter - 4 students
- Mr. Kauder - 2 students

### **Personnel:**

- We have two positions (Middle School / High School English, Middle School / High School Social Studies) to post for next year. These positions are in the budget and are to cover the growth in number of students in this grade span.

### **Finance:**

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

### **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. We also continue to send home updates in Bloomz weekly.
- Our Homecoming was an incredible success! The entire Homecoming Week was a great series of events from spirit week, Pep Rally, Homecoming Game, Ceremonies and dance. We have heard lots of good feedback from our families and students.

### **Special Populations:**

- Testing: We are preparing for ACT, ACCESS, and the second round of NC Check-ins.
- AP: Our students are registered and tests are ordered from spring!
- EC: Students are being evaluated and placed according to their individual needs. Our EC staff does a great job communicating with teachers about our students.
- 504: 504 plans are evaluated and developed as needed for student success. ● ML: These students continue to meet with Ms. Ramsey weekly. She is doing a fabulous job, as always! Testing will begin in late January.

### **Legal / DPI:**

- **EpiCenter**
  - Lottery Application
  - Board Meeting Schedule
  - Board Admissions and Enrollment Policy
  - Parental Leave Opt-inRenewal documents

### **Enrollment Report**

- **Marketing**
  - Communicator Billboard
    - December 26 - Jan 2
  - Marketing Video With 6Strong
    - Parent Interviews
    - Student Interviews
    - Admin/teacher Interviews
  - Sending Press Releases on school events
  - Shelby Shopper
    - Week of Jan 11

■ Week of Feb 1

- Information Packets to Daycares

● **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 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.

● **2024-25 Enrollment**

- As of January 10th, we have received 148 Initial Applications for the 2024-2025 school year. This is much higher than where we were last year with 115 Initial Applications. We had 76 kindergarten applications last year at this time, as compared to 91 this year.

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Initial Apps</b>
<b>K</b>	91
<b>1</b>	7
<b>2</b>	7
<b>3</b>	5
<b>4</b>	6
<b>5</b>	2
<b>6</b>	11
<b>7</b>	1
<b>8</b>	7
<b>9</b>	7
<b>10</b>	0
<b>11</b>	4

12 0

PCA Eagles Athletics  
Board Report  
January 8, 2024

**Save the Date:** 2024 WPAC Women's & Men's Basketball Conference Tournament

- - Start: October 23
- - All conference games completed by February 6th
- - Play-in begins on Thursday, February 8, or Friday, February 9
- - All-Conference nominations due by February 7th

- - Tournament: February 13th-17th

### **Acknowledgments:**

A heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Wendy Clary at the K-3 campus and Pastor Davis at Landmark Baptist Church for generously allowing us to use their facilities during our gym closure. Their unwavering support is invaluable to PCA Athletics.

### **New Sponsorship:**

Exciting news! "Arthur Services Inc." is now a proud sponsor of PCA Athletics. We express our sincere gratitude for their generous support.

### **Successful Fundraiser:**

Our inaugural department-wide 50/50 fundraiser concluded with an impressive total pot of \$13,000! The athletic department will soon meet with the athletic committee to discuss plans for utilizing these funds to enhance our athletic program.

### **Upcoming Spring Sports:**

Get ready for an exciting spring! We will offer the following sports:

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

### **Future Plans:**

The athletic department is actively working on a proposed 2024-2025 budget with a focus on expanding the number of Middle School Sports/Teams next school year.

### **Gratitude:**

14

We extend our sincere thanks for your continued support of our athletic department. Feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

With Great Respect,

Brandon Gosey

**Miscellaneous Board Updates from various members**

**New / Old Business**

**Action Items:**

1. *Motion made by Wes Westmoreland to approve the Eagle Scout project as proposed by Casey Greene (11th Grade). This was seconded by Ken Mooney, all Approved. All approved. Scout Project attached.*

*Reports were made by various committees:*

*Finance - CDs are making good interest*

*Curriculum - Policy update to the student course catalog.*

*Safety Committee - update about another school tour in the next month, will report back*

*Facilities - Construction progress is going well.*

**Adjournment** *Bobby Horton made a motion to adjourn and Ken Mooney seconded. Meeting was adjourned.*