

**Minutes of the
North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
November 15, 2016**

Attendance/NCCSAB	Alan Hawkes- <i>Absent</i> Joseph Maimone Phyllis Gibbs- <i>Absent</i> Sherry Reeves Mike McLaughlin Cheryl Turner Hilda Parlér	Alex Quigley Eric Sanchez Tammi Sutton Becky Taylor – <i>Absent</i> Tony Helton Steven Walker
Attendance/SBE/DPI	<i>Office of Charter Schools</i> Dave Machado, Director Deanna Townsend-Smith, Assistant Director Cande Honeycutt, Consultant Shaunda Cooper, Consultant Kebbler Williams, Consultant	<i>SBE</i> Martez Hill- <i>Absent</i> <i>Attorney General</i> Laura Crumpler <i>SBE Attorney</i> Katie Cornetto

CALL TO ORDER

The North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board (CSAB) meeting was called to order at 9:10 am by Chairman Alex Quigley who read the Ethics Statement and CSAB Mission Statement. Mr. Steven Walker led the pledge of allegiance

Mr. Joseph Maimone made a motion to defer the approval of the October 13, 2016 minutes until December's CSAB meeting to allow time for further review and to discuss any changes that will need to be made. Ms. Hilda Parlér seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPLICATION UPDATE AND COMMITTEE REVIEWS

- Dr. Deanna Townsend-Smith, Assistant Director, Office of Charter Schools (OCS), provided updates as it relates to the application process. Each CSAB Committee (Policy and Performance) discussed and conducted reviews for 11 of 38 applicants proposing to open in 2018-19 or applicants seeking to accelerate or fast-track their proposed application for a 2017-18 opening if meeting certain criteria. Following the committee discussions/reviews/decisions, the full CSAB

made a recommendation determining if the proposed applicant group would receive an interview with the full CSAB at its December 2016 meeting.

High Point Charter Academy

- OCS provided a brief overview of the proposed application including the enrollment over five (5) years, proposed county, and mission of the proposed school. Each respective board member and two (2) representatives from National Heritage Academies (NHA) were present for the application review, discussion, and clarification opportunity.
- The Policy Committee (PC) discussed each major section for the proposed application and specifically detailed improvements from the application submitted last year. Additionally, the CSAB commended the group for partnering with an EMO.
- Mr. Walker pointed to the diversity of the board of directors. Specifically, the strength of the High Point Charter Academy group is its professional diversity for proposed board of directors. Mr. Helton outlined the group partnering with NHA provides the needed support for this diverse group. Overall the application makes more sense. Ms. Reeves discussed that operationally, the transportation plan may need further development so that it is not a potential barrier for enrollment based on the targeted student population.
- The PC discussed the external evaluators' concerns in the financial section with the zero dollar surplus detailing it is common for an NHA school to have a zero dollar surplus as NHA provides the needed support to its partner schools. Ms. Reeves directed the committee's attention to her questions detailed in the evaluation rubric and stated the questions could be addressed during an interview.
- Mr. Walker opened the floor for representatives from the school to clarify its proposed transportation plan. Ms. Torrence detailed they are partnering with NHA and relying on their expertise to ensure there is no barrier regarding transportation. The board is seeking to modify its transportation plan to serve the targeted student population for this proposed school. NHA is willing to provide a contribution to increase the transportation budget if needed.
- **Ms. Reeves made a motion to forward High Point Charter Academy to the full CSAB for interview. Mr. Helton seconded. The committee motion passed unanimously.**
- **Mr. Walker made a motion to the CSAB for High Point Charter Academy to receive an interview with the full CSAB. Ms. Parlér recused. Ms. Reeves seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

West Lake Preparatory Academy

- OCS provided a brief overview of the proposed application including the enrollment over five (5) years, proposed county, and mission of the proposed school. Each respective board member and two (2) representatives from Charter Schools USA (CSUSA) were present for the application review, discussion, and clarification opportunity.

- The Performance Committee (PFC) discussed each major section for the proposed application. Mr. Joe Maimone led the PFC application review. He raised the concern of the proposed school adopting the name of its foundation after Lincoln Charter School, an already established school, and encouraged a name change. Ms. Turner echoed the sentiments of Mr. Maimone on changing the school name.
- Additionally, Ms. Turner outlined while external evaluators pointed to concerns with enrollment numbers, given the area it may not be an issue. Each particular area in the application was discussed in detail by the CSAB committee members. Ms. Parlér and Ms. Sutton raised a concern regarding the lack of diversity of the board for the proposed school. Mr. Maimone detailed the group has a lot of support behind them.
- Ms. Parlér wanted clarification on the one bus outlined in the transportation plan. Mr. Sanchez questioned that with the proposed targeted student population if the group had considered a weighted lottery. Ms. Turner questioned the salary for the teachers as outlined and if the group had considered flexibility in the salary offerings.
- Mr. Sanchez raised a question around the outlined insurance requirements and that it may possibly be low. Mr. Maimone detailed that it was a decent ballpark average. CSUSA is not requiring a management fee in year one, per Ms. Turner. Mr. Sanchez detailed the school may need to consider revising the budget due its proposed plan to participate in the Free and Reduced Lunch program. Ms. Turner wanted to hear more from the group on their proposed location given their current locations. Overall no major concerns were raised about each general section of the application.
- Representative Saine addressed the foundation name concerns and expressed willingness of the board to change the name if necessary. He further explained the ability to reach the enrollment projected in the application. Mr. Maimone questioned the waitlist inquiry by the board and Mr. Saine detailed there was a need and that the location would lend itself to pulling from 4 counties.
- Additionally, the diversity of the board were discussed by Mr. Saine and he outlined there was room for additional board members to fill the void. The board outlined no consideration had been given to a waited lottery. Mr. Sanchez questioned Cardinal's current student diversity and the principal at Cardinal addressed the comparison for clarification. Mr. Sanchez detailed the subgroup data of Cardinal which this proposed board seeks to replicate. Ms. Turner detailed in the interview the CSAB needs to question the diversity plan for the proposed school.
- **Mr. Maimone made a motion to forward West Lake Preparatory to the full CSAB for interview. Ms. Parlér seconded. The committee motion passed unanimously.**
- **Mr. Quigley made a motion to the CSAB for West Lake Preparatory Academy to receive an interview with the full CSAB. Mr. Maimone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Hillside Academy

- OCS provided a brief overview of the proposed application including the enrollment over five (5) years, proposed county, and mission of the proposed school. Each respective board member and two (2) representatives from National Heritage Academies (NHA) were present for the application review, discussion, and clarification opportunity.
- The Policy Committee (PC), led by Mr. Steven Walker discussed each major section for the proposed application.
- Ms. Reeves outlined her concerns on the limited survey responses. The committee discussed the growth in the Charlotte area. Additionally, Ms. Reeves detailed there may be a concern around not having a specific targeted population. Mr. Helton wanted to know what the percentage in the surveys specifically equated to.
- Ms. Reeves wanted clarify on the proposed classroom sizes detailed in the application. Mr. Walker detailed the board may need another member with an educational background should they move forward and receive a charter. Ms. Reeves echoed the sentiments of Mr. Walker stating the board is small and may need additional members.
- Ms. Reeves expressed minor concerns about the transportation plan for the proposed school. Additionally she questioned the facility cost and the custodian costs outlined in the budget. Overall no major concerns were expressed during the clarification opportunity.
- The NHA representatives present from the school responded to the clarification question regarding the survey concerns raised by the PC and detailed its experience with their schools in the state. The PC questioned the classroom size to which the NHA representative explained that the network has not seen educational regression using the model.
- **Mr. Walker made a motion to forward Hillside Academy to the full CSAB for interview. Mr. Helton seconded. The committee motion passed unanimously.**
- **Mr. Quigley entertained a motion to forward Hillside Academy to receive an interview with the full CSAB.** Mr. Sanchez encouraged the board to clearly detail what they are evaluating and that during the interview the questions are directed toward the board and that the board owns the written product and are prepared to execute the plan. **Mr. Walker made the motion. Ms. Reeves seconded. Ms. Parlér recused. The motion passed unanimously.**

Union Preparatory Academy

- OCS provided a brief overview of the proposed application including the enrollment over five (5) years, proposed county, and mission of the proposed school. Each respective board member and two (2) representatives from Charter Schools USA (CSUSA) were present for the application review, discussion, and clarification opportunity.

- The Performance Committee (PFC) discussed each major section for the proposed application. Mr. Joe Maimone led the PFC application review and drilled to determine the proposed school's eligibility under Fast-Track replication. Additionally, Mr. Maimone wanted more information on the wait list. Mr. Sanchez wanted information on the subgroup comparison to the school it proposes to replicate which was Cardinal Charter Academy. Ms. Turner wanted more clarity on the demand for the proposed school.
- Mr. Jim Turner, the Treasurer, introduced himself and responded to questions on the school's proposed location in proximity with Cardinal. He specifically detailed there was an unusual amount of urban development in the proposed county. Mr. Maimone questioned the reason for the shortfall for enrollment with the Indian Trail campus. The mayor on the board of the school detailed the reasoning around not meeting the enrollment numbers being specifically tied to the building delay and currently they may be close to their 1st year capacity number. Mr. Maimone questioned what the board would do differently to ensure meeting the 660 projected enrollment. The mayor detailed ensuring they had a building would be the change made. Additionally, the proposed board member presenting pointed out the diversity of the proposed board of directors hoping to govern the school.
- Mr. Sanchez drilled the demographic make-up of the Indian Trail school. While the board representative had no specifics in response to the question, he outlined the school is diverse and he welcomes the CSAB to visit. Mr. Sanchez questioned the achievement gaps outlined in an earlier conversation which the school proposed to replicate. Mr. Maimone questioned if the board is willing to forego fast-track consideration and open in 2018-19. The board representative communicated their openness to open in 2018-19 instead of the proposed 2017-18.
- Ms. Parlér wanted more detail on the extended tutoring program should the school move forward to interview.
- **Ms. Turner made a motion to forward to the full CSAB to interview. Ms. Parlér seconded. The committee motion passed unanimously.**
- **Mr. Quigley entertained a motion from the CSAB for Union Preparatory Academy to receive an interview with the full CSAB. Mr. Maimone moved. Ms. Turner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

North Wake Preparatory Academy

- OCS provided a brief overview of the proposed application including the enrollment over five (5) years, proposed county, and mission of the proposed school. Each respective board member and two (2) representatives from National Heritage Academies (NHA) and representatives from PrepNet were present for the application review, discussion, and clarification opportunity.
- The Policy Committee (PC), led by Mr. Steven Walker discussed each major section for the proposed application.

- Mr. Walker detailed the partnerships of NHA and PrepNet. PrepNet is new to NC and a due diligence report was provided for review and he detailed there may be discussions if forwarded to interview.
- Ms. Reeves wanted clarification on the school chosen to replicate since the replicating school is located in Michigan and there are schools in NC to replicate. Additionally, the application mentions Franklin Academy and the group chose not to replicate that school. Mr. Walker noted the length of the mission statement. Ms. Reeves discussed there was no specific targeted population and Mr. Helton wanted to know the percentage of the survey as detailed in the earlier NHA application.
- Mr. Helton wanted clarification on the Math choices chosen for the proposed school. Should the school moves forward to interview Mr. Walker wanted more information on how successful were the PrepNet high school programs. Ms. Reeves wanted to know how the education plan will meet the needs of a diverse student population. Also pending an interview Mr. Walker wanted to know how the board will hold its Educational Management Organization (EMO) responsible.
- Ms. Reeves wanted more information on the relationship of PrepNet and NHA in Michigan. Also, should the school move forward to interview and what happens if the proposed board does not like one of its partners.
- Overall there were no major concerns with the application during the clarification opportunity. If the application moves forward to interview, the staffing plan and financial plan will need to have specific questions asked.
- The PC wanted information on specifics regarding the partner relations line items detailed in the budget. With the help of the NHA representative, a member of the board detailed it was administrative costs associated with the support of the EMOs.
- **Ms. Reeves made a motion to forward North Wake Preparatory Academy to the full CSAB for interview. Ms. Reeves seconded. The committee motion passed unanimously.**
- **Mr. Walker made a motion to the CSAB for North Wake Preparatory Academy to receive an interview with the full CSAB. Ms. Parlér recused. Ms. Reeves seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ronald Reagan Academy

- OCS provided a brief overview of the proposed application including the enrollment over five (5) years, proposed county, and mission of the proposed school. Board members and advisory board members were present for the application review, discussion, and clarification opportunity.
- Mr. Alex Quigley led the PFC discussion and clarification opportunity. Ms. Parlér wanted clarity on the academic ties to physical education. Mr. Maimone questioned the acceleration request and the PFC determined the application will be considered for the 2018-19 opening in lieu of 2017-

18 as the applicant group did not meet the acceleration criteria. Mr. Quigley and other board members outlined concerns with the middle school model proposed. Mr. Sanchez detailed the teaching and planning required under the proposed plan may be difficult to execute and teacher pay is not appropriate for what they will be required to do. In contrast, Mr. Sanchez outlined there are benefits to the self-contained model if executed properly.

- The PFC clarified with the board present if they were indeed proposing self-contained for the grades proposed and the members present for the school outlined they indeed intended for the school to be full self-contained. Overall the education plan lacked specificity and does not clearly detail what the school is planning to do and how the plan will be executed. Concerns were expressed overall on the education plan.
- Mr. Maimone is curious to hear about the UNC-Pembroke partnership the school has in place as the partnership outlined in the plan was vague. While the plan is innovative, the committee questioned the vagueness of the education plan but may want to hear more about this in the interview if granted.
- The PFC questioned if the proposed board would be interested in further consideration if not considered for acceleration. The proposed board outlined they would still like consideration. Further clarification was sought by the PFC on the board of directors for the proposed school. Mr. Jordan McGirt confirmed he was a board member and the the proposed advisory board make-up. Mr. McLaughlin wanted clarification on the math camp to which a board member detailed how the math camp would benefit the students attending the proposed school.
- Board members present for clarification were encouraged to explain their self-contained model and the benefits to its proposed student population. One board member of the proposed school detailed the success of the self-contained model in other areas.
- The CSAB committee detailed the concerns on the proposed transportation plan and the constraints with transporting students in a 15 passenger van. Should the school make it to interview the proposed board would need to provide an alternate plan for transportation.
- Mr. Maimone outlined the school may need to work on revising its proposed budget and may need to address budget concerns if moved forward to interview. Mr. Sanchez asked questions on what the teachers would specifically teach and the planning time for each teacher inclusive of professional development. The board member detailed there is an early release on Fridays and the professional development they planned to offer.
- **Mr. Maimone made a motion to forward Ronald Reagan Academy to the full CSAB for interview.** The PFC committee expressed clear concerns of the application and detailed their hesitation on moving the group forward to interview. Mr. Maimone outlined he believed we owe it to the group to grant an interview. Mr. Sanchez questioned OCS staff on its view of the application and the concerns on viability. OCS staff outlined the lack of clarity throughout the application and detailed the school met enough to get the boxes checked but there were concerns throughout. **Ms. Parlér seconded. The committee motion passed 3 – 2 with Ms. Turner and Mr. Sanchez dissenting.**

- **Mr. Helton made a motion to the CSAB for Ronald Reagan Academy to receive an interview with the full CSAB. Mr. Maimone seconded. The motion passed 6 – 3 with Ms. Sutton, Ms. Turner, and Mr. Sanchez dissenting.**

Bonnie Cone Classical Academy

- OCS provided a brief overview of the proposed application including the enrollment over five (5) years, proposed county, and mission of the proposed school. One board member was present for the application review, discussion, and clarification opportunity.
- The Policy Committee (PC), led by Mr. Steven Walker detailed the improvements to the application regarding improving the classical education components. Mr. Walker also encouraged the board member present to read the previous meeting minutes from the last application round and to be prepared to answer questions.
- **Mr. Helton made a motion to move Bonnie Cone Classical to the full CSAB for interview. Ms. Reeves seconded. The committee motion passed unanimously.**
- **Mr. Helton made a motion to the CSAB for Bonnie Cone Classical to receive an interview with the full CSAB. Mr. Maimone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

PREP Academy

- OCS provided a brief overview of the proposed application including the enrollment over five (5) years, proposed county, and mission of the proposed school. The Performance Committee (PFC) discussed each major section for the proposed application. Mr. Joe Maimone led the PFC application review and expressed concerns of the school's desire to accelerate its opening to 2017-18.
- Ms. Turner detailed the vagueness of the education plan. Mr. Maimone outlined the justification of the community college to work with the middle school students and presented a clarifying question around the middle school structure.
- Ms. Parlér outlined concerns with the facility plan and Ms. Turner echoed those sentiments if the application received acceleration consideration.
- Mr. Maimone outlined the budget concerns of the proposed school and detailed what it takes to appropriately run a school and expressed that some of the line items in the financial section were budgeted low. Other board members raised concerns with the proposed budget. Mr. McLaughlin outlined the lack of community support and a clarification was sought from the proposed board. The board chair outlined originally there were board members from Duplin County; however, those members resigned and they were actively recruiting board members from the county.
- Overall there were concerns in each section of the application. Mr. Sanchez pointed to some successes over starting small but stressed it must be done correctly to ensure viability.

- **Ms. Turner made a motion not to forward PREP Academy to the full CSAB for interview. Mr. Maimone seconded. The committee motion passed unanimously.**
- **Mr. Maimone made a motion to the CSAB not to forward PREP Academy to the full CSAB for interview. Mr. Sanchez seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Clara Science Academy

- OCS provided a brief overview of the proposed application including the enrollment over five (5) years, proposed county, and mission of the proposed school. Initially, at the original slated time, members from the proposed applicant group failed to be present for the application review, discussion, and clarification opportunity. However, later in the day members from the board appeared and the PC, led by Mr. Walker, discussed each major section of the proposed application a second time.
- The Policy Committee (PC), led by Mr. Steven Walker discussed each major section for the proposed application.
- The PC wanted clarification on the proposed grade span for the school. Board members present detailed the failures of the proposed county and outlined some research on its reasoning. The PC committee questioned why the school proposed not to go to eighth grade and how this was not a natural transition for school enrollment. While the proposed applicant group agreed a member stressed their long-term goal was to extend to the other areas/grades.
- The PC drilled the education plan and its lack of clarity around STEAM education. The proposed board chair outlined the mission is always changing and apologized for not placing the detail in the application. PC expressed the concerns about pending board members. The board chair members detailed the members on the proposed board of directors. Finally, the PC members detailed that not all members communicated during the clarification opportunity were included in the application.
- Overall the PC expressed concerns around the proposed mission statement and how there was misalignment with the mission throughout the application. Further, the education plan lacked specificity and was full of buzz words without clear explanations. Also there was confusion from the proposed budget outlined in the application. Overall there was misalignment throughout the entire application. The financial plan was unrealistic and many line items were projected low. The application is not ready to move forward at this time and lacks specificity.
- **Ms. Reeves made a motion to not recommend to the full CSAB an interview opportunity for Clara Science Academy. Mr. Walker seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Mr. Walker made a motion to CSAB that Clara Science not receive an interview. Ms. Reeves seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Legacy STEEL Academy

- OCS provided a brief overview of the proposed application including the enrollment over five (5) years, proposed county, and mission of the proposed school. Board members and members of the proposed EMO partner, Edison, were present for the application review, discussion, and clarification opportunity.
- The Performance Committee (PFC), led by Mr. Alex Quigley discussed each major section for the proposed application.
- Mr. Quigley sought clarification on the proposed schools acceleration request. According to the acceleration policy, the proposed applicant did not receive consideration to accelerate its opening for 2017-18.
- Overall there were major concerns from the PFC in each section of the application. The plan lacked specificity and there was no clear direction or path for the proposed instructional program.
- Ms. Turner outlined the misalignment throughout the application.
- Mr. Quigley outlined the curriculum plan was surface level and a copy and paste of the Common Core Standards organized and chunked.
- Mr. Sanchez outlined the goals in the proposed application was ambiguous and there was misalignment throughout the application.
- Ms. Parler expressed concerns on how the school planned to deliver educational services to its students as the current plan has Guilford County being the responsible entity to deliver services.
- Mr. Maimone outlined the goals specified for measuring success depends totally on Edison and had concerns for the management fees outlined by the EMO.
- Clarification was sought on the structure of the organizational chart outlined in the proposed application. A board member present attempted to explain the relationship of the education collective, the founding board, school staff, and administration.
- Overall the PFC expressed its concerns with the proposed application. **Mr. Maimone made a motion not to forward Legacy STEEL Academy to the full CSAB for interview and encouraged better board development as well as application development. Mr. Sanchez seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Mr. Maimone made a motion to the full CSAB for Legacy STEEL Academy not to receive an interview. Ms. Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Hobgood Academy Charter School

- OCS provided a brief overview of the proposed application including the enrollment over five (5) years, proposed county, and mission of the proposed school. The Performance Committee (PFC), led by Mr. Quigley, discussed each major section for the proposed application.
- Clarification was sought on the current enrollment of the private school. The private school representatives detailed that current enrollment is 82 students. Mr. Maimone wanted clarity on the funding structure for the staff the school plans to hire should the school make it to interview. Mr. Maimone also questioned the proposed applicant's partnership with the two and four year schools outlined in the application.
- Mr. McLaughlin sought clarity on the demographics of the private school and the proposed demographics of the proposed school. The proposed board of directors were asked to clarify the proposed demographics. One board members provided some statistics on Halifax, Edgecombe, and Martin County in response to the question. The current make-up of the private school is 13 students and the school currently participates in the opportunity scholarship. Current tuition is \$5500 a year. Approximately ten students receive a discount and attend at \$2500.
- Mr. Quigley detailed the education design lacked specificity and left a lot to be desired for a school that is currently operating as a private school. Mr. Maimone drilled the proficiency goals set by the proposed school. Also the proficiency rates for the proposed and current student population was asked by the PFC.
- The PFC drilled the reason for the conversion. The board chair of the proposed school detailed the school is looking to reach more students than it currently serves. Mr. Sanchez wanted clarity on the targeted population since 1969 and the board members present detailed the primarily the school has been predominately white and wants to reflect its current population. The PFC wanted to know how the school has evolved with its diversity over time. The proposed board detailed they understood what the demographics will be for the proposed school and that their diversity has increased over the past 20 years with scholarship opportunities.
- The PFC detailed the need for the application to be more developed as the proposed board does not have a clear understanding of what it will mean to serve the population they are proposing to target. Additionally, the instructional program and other components of the application lacked appropriate detail.
- Overall concerns were raised by the PFC on the proposed applicant's ability to stay viable if the school has operated with a deficit the last 3 years. The board chair of the proposed school indicated the school is no longer in debt and currently has a surplus. Mr. Maimone questioned the backup plan for viability if the school were not to get a charter. The board chair outlined the school has a plan to fundraise to supplement their budget.
- **Mr. Sanchez made a motion to not recommend Hobgood Academy Charter School to the full CSAB for interview. Ms. Turner seconded. The committee motion passed unanimously.**

- **Mr. Maimone made a motion to the full CSAB for Hobgood Academy Charter School to not receive an interview. Ms. Parler seconded. Mr. Helton indicated support for the proposed school and the reason why the school may not currently be reflective of its community. The motion passed 6 – 2 with Mr. Helton and Mr. Walker dissenting.**

POLICY COMMITTEE

- The policy committee, led by Mr. Walker, discussed and provide feedback on the Virtual Charter School Pilot Report (VCSPR) that was made available for review on eBoard. Corrections to the report were submitted and incorporated to the report were made and submitted by OCS.
- On behalf of the OCS, Dr. Townsend-Smith provided updates on the VCSPR. CSAB granted an extension for the VCSPR to be due on January 16, 2017, to allow time for OCS to collect the necessary data from each school. OCS' plan is to continue to conduct surveys each year with the board of directors from each school. The data collected will help the State Board of Education (SBE) make a decision on what to do at the end of the pilot program. The report includes the following: the name of each course, the number of courses offered, withdrawal rates, student performance and accountability data and information on implementation of funding for the program is outlined.
- **Ms. Sherry Reeves made a motion to recommend that the SBE receive and approve the report. Ms. Parlér seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously**
- The policy committee later discussed policy recommendations regarding the State Board of Education TCS-U-17 policy and its efforts to align the policy to the statute changes of HB 242.
- Dr. Townsend-Smith provided a detailed overview of the current assumption process and the changes that will be recommended. Senate Bill 793 outlined in August 2014 that the SBE establish an assumption process for Charter Schools. Policy TCS-U-017 was developed in December 2014 to address this process. HB 242 later made changes in June of 2016 to the assumption process, and the changes need to be incorporated to the policy so that all information is succinct.
- Under Causes for Nonrenewal or Termination; Disputes, HB 242 currently states that, “if a charter school is continually low performing the State Board is authorized to terminate, not renew, or seek applicants to assume the charter through a competitive bid process established by the State Board.” The current assumption policy is based on inadequate performance and this wording needs changing to reflect a charter school no longer being classified as inadequate, but either low-performing or continually low-performing.
- HB 242 also states that “The State Board shall develop rules on assumption of a charter by a *new entity* that includes all aspects of the operations of the charter school, including the status of the

employees. The current assumption policy outlines the assumption process only for an established school that wants to assume an eligible school.

- Mr. Tony Helton asked for clarification about the State Board’s decision to terminate, renew, or assume a charter. Dr. Townsend-Smith clarified that it is through the recommendation of the CSAB that the SBE will make a decision to either terminate, not renew or seek applicants to assume a charter.
- Mr. Quigley questioned about the schools who are on the continually low-performing list and their strategic plans that are developed. Dr. Townsend-Smith clarified that the schools who are low-performing present their plans initially to the SBE for approval. A school that is a low-performing or continually low-performing charter school will present their strategic plans to CSAB for review before submitting to the SBE for approval. CSAB will be able to have their recommendations on that plan that the SBE would consider during the approval process.
- Ms. Laura Crumpler, Special Deputy Attorney General, further clarified for CSAB that the law allows CSAB to recommend assumption anytime a recommendation is made to terminate a charter, due to numerous reasons, not just for low-performing or continually low-performing status.
- Current SBE Policy, TCS-U-017, is titled: Charter Schools Process for Assumption of Inadequately Performing Charter School. Dr. Townsend-Smith stressed the need to for the title to change to remove the word “inadequately” due to the word no longer being used to describe a Charter School and to allow more leeway for CSAB to make appropriate decisions.
- The current policy lists six factors relevant to “existing” schools to assist the SBE to determine if assumption is a viable option. The current policy also lists six factors relevant for the “assuming” school, currently meaning that only a current school can assume another. To align the policy with statute, Dr. Townsend-Smith recommended an addition to the policy to include six factors relevant to any “new entity” that wants to assume a school that is not performing as it should.
- Under the factors relevant to a “new entity,” the CSAB discussed a change to be made for factor 2, “Academic performance plan for existing school and prior experience with continually low-performing schools.” After further discussion, it was agreed that factor 2 should be reworded as follows: Academic performance plan for existing school, including prior experience with continually low-performing schools, if any. This wording would allow a group who has not run a school before to be an eligible entity.
- OCS further recommended that the the new entity, or an existing school, provide a strategic plan for academics, operations and finance for the assuming school over three years so the CSAB will know the plan for the assumed school over time.
- Dr. Townsend-Smith further explained the outline for how a group may submit a request for proposal (RFP) to apply to assume a charter school. This is to include: academic and financial performance for the last three years, compliance standing for the last three years, board capacity to assume low-performing/continually low-performing school, current school/entity location,

comprehensive three-year strategic plan with SMART goals and objectives, marketing strategy to maintain current students and to provide a \$500.00 fee. If the school or new entity is not awarded the assumption, then the \$500.00 will be refunded.

- Dr. Townsend-Smith explained the steps that would be taken with a school who is eligible for assumption. Once the CSAB makes a decision on the eligibility, a school has 30 days to decide if they agree with the assumption. If the school does not agree, then the initiation of the charter revocation process will begin. The school will also have to work with the assuming board to help with the transition the school by the end of the fiscal year. The school will have to follow the established closeout procedures provided by the OCS. The school will also have to provide three years of academic, financial and operation information.
- Ms. Crumpler further explained to the CSAB that school has property rights and interest with their specific charter. In order to take that away or give it to someone else, they have a right to due process. A right to agree to it or to appeal, which can take several months to complete. A charter school can agree to give their charter away to another entity, with the approval of the SBE.
- Dr. Townsend-Smith provided a brief overview of the timeline that will be put in place for this assumption process. Each year in December, during the renewal process, the CSAB would make any recommendations for assumption to the SBE. The schools will be notified of the recommendations, giving those schools 30 days to agree or not agree with the recommendations. In January, RFP's will be solicited within 30 days, CSAB will accept and review those proposals. Fees will be collected from the entities interested in assuming. In February, the SBE would receive the assumption recommendation along with all information from the CSAB. By March, the SBE would decide on the assumption recommendation from the CSAB, beginning the closeout procedures pending approval. By June, the existing board will end, and the assuming board would begin.
- Mr. Walker suggested that instead of having the timeline be listed as "Month 1" or "Month 2," instead of "December" or "January." Mr. Walker expressed his concerned about the amount of time to make recommendations in December, and having all RFP's completed in January. An additional month should be added to the timeline to allow more time for the RFP's to be completed after the initial recommendations are made by the CSAB.
- **Tony Helton moved to approve the assumption process with the changes presented by CSAB. Ms. Parlér seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **The meeting adjourned via acclamation at 4:40 pm**

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November 16, 2016**

Attendance/NCCSAB	Alan Hawkes- <i>Absent</i> Joseph Maimone Phyllis Gibbs- <i>Absent</i> Sherry Reeves Mike McLaughlin Cheryl Turner Hilda Parlér	Alex Quigley Eric Sanchez Tammi Sutton Becky Taylor – <i>Absent</i> Tony Helton Steven Walker
Attendance/SBE/DPI	<i>Office of Charter Schools</i> Dave Machado, Director Deanna Townsend-Smith, Assistant Director Cande Honeycutt, Consultant Shaunda Cooper, Consultant Kebbler Williams, Consultant	<i>SBE</i> Martez Hill- <i>Absent</i> <i>Attorney General</i> Laura Crumpler <i>SBE Attorney</i> Katie Cornetto

CALL TO ORDER

The North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board (CSAB) meeting was called to order at 8:32 am by Chairman Alex Quigley who read the Ethics Statement and CSAB Mission Statement. Ms. Sherry Reeves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- The question was asked if there were any conflicts of interest with respect to any matters coming before the board. **Ms. Hilda Parlér recused herself from any discussion or voting regarding PreEminent Charter. Mr. Alex Quigley recused himself from any discussion or voting regarding Hope Leadership Academy and PreEminent Charter.**

SCHOOL UPDATES

- CSAB received updated information from schools regarding their revised strategic plans. The CSAB discussed any recommendations to the State Board of Education (SBE) regarding each schools strategic plan. Dr. Deanna Townsend-Smith, Assistant Director, Office of Charter Schools (OCS), led the discussion by providing CSAB of a recap of Hope Leadership Academy's last visit on October 13, 2016.
- Ms. Clarissa Fleming, Principal, Hope Leadership Academy, provided CSAB with a strategic plan for improvement, a detail action plan, and letters of support from stakeholders. Ms. Fleming stressed

that Hope Academy has taken accountability for the school's low performance and understands that their academic data needs to improve.

- Based on Hope's formative assessment, scores were expected to better, but the scores did not improve. Immediate steps have been identified to implement change, and the school has reached out to other model schools and professionals to validate their academic improvement plan. In terms of improvement, Hope has focused on formative assessment, science standards and instruction and securing highly effective instructional staff.
- As it relates to formative assessment, M-class and Mobimax had been implemented. The results provided an inaccurate prediction regarding student mastery, leading to ineffective data driven instruction. To correct the assessment, NWEA formative assessment is currently being used. Teachers will use resources that incorporate formative assessment data points in their instruction. Bubble test and lengthier reading passages are being given to the students to help build critical thinking skills.
- Science standards were not used at the primary level with fidelity, so students were not prepared for fifth grade science test. Pacing guides with lessons based on the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) website are being used with all grades. Hope has designated a daily block of time, along with hiring a science specialist, to help co-teach with all grade levels and support all teachers with lesson planning, gathering resources, and performing labs.
- Administration has looked at changing the leadership practice to raise achievement. To assist with finding and retaining highly qualified teachers, an 8% retention bonus has been approved by the board of directors. The school will also be participating in the New Teachers Support Program in the summer of 2017.
- Hope's focus is to model the best instructional practicing and coaching through the principal and instructional facilitator. Hope's leadership has visited other neighboring schools with similar demographics, hired a consultant for administration, classroom mentoring support and afterschool professional development.
- Ms. Cheryl Turner expressed her concern on the capacity of the school to implement the plan that was presented. Ms. Sherry Reeves questioned about staffing changes as it relates to the possible disconnect between the curriculum instruction and overall performance.
- Ms. Reeves further questioned what is to be contributed to the lack of learning, especially for the children who have been at the school for more than five years. Ms. Fleming attributes the lack of learning to be a result of the lack of quality teachers at the school. Mr. Eric Sanchez further question about Hope's understanding of the gap of what needs to be done to get the necessary results. Ms. Fleming commented that the staffing issue has been addressed, and currently data is their primary focus with closing the gap for performance improvement. Ms. Fleming further discussed that their goal is making sure that the curriculum that is being chosen is common core aligned and making sure that lesson plans are effective.

- Ms. Parlér questioned the school's plan for professional development. Ms. Fleming clarified by explaining their hired consultant helps with professional development by assisting the teachers with data instruction. The new teachers will be participating in the New Teachers Program, which will provide coaching as needed to help with curriculum planning.
- **After discussion from the CSAB, Mr. Joseph Maimone made a motion to have the school remain open until the end of the school year, and at July's CSAB meeting a decision will be made on if the school will remain open under the current leadership or if the school will be recommended for assumption. Mr. Reeves seconded the motion. Mr. Steven Walker stated that he does not support the motion, and recommend the school be assumed. Mr. Walker later withdrew his motion. Mr. Maimone later withdrew his motion and Ms. Reeves withdrew her second.**
- **Mr. Walker made a motion to reject the plan that was presented by Hope Leadership Academy. Mr. Sanchez seconded the motion. Mr. Walker made a motion to go in to closed session with legal counsel. Ms. Reeves seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **After a motion to go back in to open session passed unanimously, Mr. Walker made a motion to reject the strategic plan. Ms. Reeves seconded. The motion unanimously.**
- Dr. Townsend-Smith provided the CSAB of a recap of Z.E.C.A School for the Arts and Technology since their last visit in front of the CSAB in August of 2016. Ms. Stacy Owens-Howard, Director, Z.E.C.A provided the CSAB with updates for their new comprehensive strategic plan since their last time appearing in front of the CSAB.
- Since the last visit in front of the CSAB, a clean financial audit had been reported. A support and improvement team has been implemented. Coaching sessions are led by a support team to help analyze professional development. More time and responsibility has been allocated to teachers with their daily planning. School performance data is regularly analyzed and used to make decisions with school improvement and professional development. Teachers complete progress monitoring every 10 and 15 to make sure that children are regularly making progress.
- Z.E.C.A has implemented an administrative team to regularly monitor classroom instruction. Teacher observation happens weekly, and feedback is given within 24 hours with discussion on what may need to be improved. Lessons plans are reviewed to make sure what is written in those plans are actually being instructed to the students. Professional teacher of the month has been implemented as another recognition tactic with the teachers as a reward and to provide further motivation.
- **After the CSAB discussed the current financial and academics status of Z.E.C.A, Mr. Steven Walker made a motion to reject the plan presented by Z.E.C.A. Mr. Joseph Maimone seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

- Mr. Dave Machado, Director, OCS, led the discussion of the updates from the SBE November meeting. At the November's SBE meeting, the Healthy Active Children policy was adopted. SBE is asking CSAB to make a recommendation on if charter schools should participate in the program. Dr. Ellen Essick, Section Chief, NC Healthy Schools, presented a brief overview of the Healthy Active Children policy to the CSAB.
- Dr. Essick explained to the CSAB that the "Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child" model was used as a framework for the Healthy Active Children policy. The Healthy Active Children policy requires that students get 30 minutes of daily physical activity. The policy further details that physical activity will not be used as a form of punishment for poor behavior, recess will not be withheld as a form of punishment and that schools follow the guidelines for the local wellness policy.
- Dr. Lynn Harvey, Chief, School Nutrition Services, provided an explanation of the wellness policy to the CSAB. For any school, charter or public, that elects to participate in the federal assistant school nutrition program, that school must follow the local wellness policy. The wellness requirement has similar aspects with the Healthy Active Children policy. The content of the policy is congressional mandated. The 60 charter schools that are currently participating in nutrition services are consistent in their response with meeting the wellness policy requirement.
- Ms. Cheryl Turner and Ms. Sherry Reeves expressed their concern about the CSAB to recommending to the SBE to adopt a policy that will mandate all charter schools to comply with the requirements of the Healthy Active Children Policy. Adopting this policy could add more requirements to schools, which removes the option for a charter school to choose the way they would like to operate this practice at their perspective schools.
- **Mr. Quigley made a motion to recommend to the SBE that charter schools will not be included in the Healthy Active Children policy. Mr. Maimone seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

UNION ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL PRESENTATION

- Staff from Union Academy Charter School presented information on its recognition as a National and State School of Character.
- Dr. Ann Walters, Head Master, Union Academy, informed the CSAB of how the school builds character how that contributed them to receiving their reward. Union Academy hired a character counselor, Ms. Kelly Blount who runs all the character activities from all students and staff. No employee can work at Union without believing in character and the teachers implement character building practices daily in their lessons and overall instruction. The school is heavily involved with the community, which allows students to directly interact with different professionals, potentially helping them choose a career path once they graduate. Dr. Walters presented a video to CSAB that was created by the students to explain what character means to them. The CSAB

extended their gratitude to Union Academy for the continued effort and commitment they are putting in to the school to ensure that the children completely understand what it means to attend a school of character.

CHARTER RENEWAL PRESENTATION

- The CSAB interviewed nine schools to determine renewal recommendations to the State Board of Education. Ms. Shaunda Cooper, Education Consultant, OCS, led the discussion by introducing each school to the CSAB.

Charlotte Secondary

- Based on the renewal framework; the school falls within a three-year renewal qualification. Charlotte Secondary had a deficit of 14.8% 2016, a deficit of 7.6% 2015 and a deficit of 1.6% in 2014; Growth was met in 2014, 2016, but not met in 2015.
- Ms. Nancy Dillon, Principal, Charlotte Secondary, provided updates to the CSAB on the current plans that have been implemented to help guarantee the students are continuing to make progress. Seventy-seven percent of their students met growth last year, which has never happened before. Data has shown that Charlotte Secondary had continued issues with their overall math performance. Each student admitted has been assessed to determine the appropriate classroom placement. A learning lab has been put in place for the Exceptional Children (EC) students who are currently enrolled in high school. An EC teacher is placed in each learning lab to confirm all Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals are being met and that the students are continually making progress.
- **Mr. Walker made a motion for Charlotte Secondary to be recommended for a five-year renewal, pending financial updates. Ms. Cheryl Turner seconded the motion. Mr. Eric Sanchez opposed. The motion carried.**

Grandfather Academy

- Based on renewal framework, the school falls within the three-year renewal qualification due to academic performance.
- As it relates to compliance issue, the school is currently working in a corrective status with the (EC) department, to better progress with IEP transitions.
- Ms. Stephanie Newels, Chief Operations Officer, Grandfather Academy, provided the CSAB with an overview of their unique situation of being a residential school. Grandfather Academy is a school with 18 students, founded as an answer with meeting the unique needs of children with severe mental health issues, trauma histories in a residential setting. Forty percent of the children enrolled have an IEP, and 27% have a 504, making over two-thirds of the children being served needed specialized education.

- The CSAB expressed their gratitude and support for the specialized care that Grandfather Academy is providing the children enrolled.
- **Mr. Walker made a motion to recommend Grandfather Academy for a ten-year renewal, pending financial updates. Ms. Parlér seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Children's Village Academy

- Based on the renewal framework, the school falls within a three-year renewal qualification
- The Children's Village Academy's (CVA) mission is to provide 21st century quality education, regardless of background. Ms. Jessica Jones, Principal, Children's Village Academy, provided updates to the CSAB on areas that can impact the status for renewal recommendations.
- In comparison to other schools who serve a population of more than 60% of economically disadvantage students, CVA has an overall higher proficiency than three out of five of those comparable schools. Evidence based tools are utilized to provide ongoing data to monitor student progress. Within first six weeks of school, efforts are made to identify and target struggling students and intervention is given throughout the year in the format of after school tutoring and Saturday academies.
- In relation to finances, on October 28, 2016, CVA received a letter from the Financial Business Services (FBS) division of NCDPI, removing CVA from any financial noncompliance status. CVA's goal is to continue to grow their funds to support three to six months of operating cost in the event of an emergency.
- As it relates to the non-compliance status, in February 2016, CVA was notified that the school was noncompliant with its teacher certification requirements. The issue was addressed and resolved immediately. CVA's health non-compliance with was due to not having two teachers trained in diabetes care. Diabetes training has been scheduled for the staff to resolve the non-compliance issue.
- **Mr. Maimone made a motion to recommend Children's Village Academy for a seven-year renewal. Mr. Tony Helton seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Rocky Mount Prep

- Based on the renewal framework, the school is up for a three-year renewal qualification, pending financial audit
- Mr. Todd Pipkin, Head of School, provided updates to the CSAB about Rocky Mount Prep that could impact their renewal recommendation. Initially, culture of the school was not reflective of an academically healthy child. Professional development has been strongly implemented to help staff understand that regardless of the child's background, each child will learn. Professionalism

is strongly encouraged for all staff and administration, and board members at Rocky Mount Prep. Expectations are clearly communicated to everyone at the school, all to help the children progress academically. Events have also been implemented to encourage parent participation at the school.

- Dr. Garrett, academic advisor, informed CSAB of the academic progress for Rocky Mount Prep. Rocky Mount Prep has exceeded growth with a three percent increase this current year. End of Grade (EOG) performance has also increased.
- **Mr. Walker made a motion to recommend Rocky Mount Prep for a three-year renewal with stipulations. Ms. Hilda Parlèr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Wilmington Prep

- Based on the renewal framework, the school is up for a three year renewal. Wilmington Prep is currently in cautionary status with finance.
- Mr. Kevin Johnson, Principal, Wilmington Prep, provided the CSAB of current updates to consider for renewal recommendation. Over the last two years, Wilmington Prep has worked diligently to improve their finances, academics and governance. The school, having a deficit of almost 40,000 in 2014, has a surplus of almost \$90, 000 in June 2014.
- Ms. Alexis Schauss, Director, FBS, informed the CSAB of Wilmington Prep's financial status. In 2015, the school was on cautionary status, due to improvement of their financial accounts. As of 2016, the trend continued to go upward, including an increase in student enrollment. Based on the financials of 2016, the school may not qualify to continue with cautionary status for the next year.
- Mr. Tony Helton questioned about the current standards not being met by Wilmington Prep, including board membership at the school. It was explained that Wilmington Prep currently has seven board members, with current and up to date policies. Mr. Helton further questioned about non-compliant school admissions and enrollment policies. Mr. Johnson explained that it was due to asking for social security numbers for each student in the 2014-15 school year. As of today, it has been corrected and the request for social security numbers has been removed from the form.
- **Mr. Maimone made a motion to recommend Wilmington Preparatory Academy for a three-year renewal. Ms. Reeves seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Guildford PREP Academy

- Based on the renewal framework, the school falls under the non-renew category. Guildford Prep currently has compliance issues with their financial records. The school met growth in 2014-15 and exceeded growth in 2016.

- Alton Woods, Board Chair, Guildford Prep Academy (GPA) provided the CSAB with progress updates to consider that could impact the school's current renewal recommendation. GPA has currently met and surpassed its financial stipulation of \$155, 000 with a current total of \$190, 000. GPA has taken the initiative to diversify their board and training has been implemented to ensure that the board has the proper skill sets and motivation to continue the school's upward trend.
- Dr. Buckram, Head of School, GPA, explained to the CSAB that GPA has raised their academic proficiency by 42.2% and have exceed growth for the 2015-16 school year. Proficiency increased in 8th and 5th grade science testing, which is higher than the schools Local Education Agency (LEA), and the state average. GPA realized that their middle school children need additional help with math, so administration hired a college math instructor to provide tutoring for the students. A Dean of Students was hired to assist with administrative duties. GPA's goal for 2016-17 is to achieve school wide proficiency by no less than fifty percent. Expectation remains high with the hopes to stay motivate and continue to increase their growth in all areas.
- Ms. Schauss explained to the CSAB that Guilford Prep was placed on disciplinary financial non-compliance in December 2013. Progress was made each year going forward, but stipulations were not met, which is why they remained on disciplinary status even with progress. For the 2016 audit, not only did the school meet stipulations, student enrollment has increased. If the school continues their upward trend, they will be in good financial standing.
- **Mr. Sanchez made a motion to recommend Guilford Prep for a five-year renewal. Ms. Reeves seconded the motion. Mr. Walked explained that his reason for potentially opposing the motion is due to his desire to recommend Guildford Prep for a seven-year renewal due to their continued upward trend. The motion passed unanimously.**

Community Charter School

- Based on renewal framework, the school falls within the assumption or non- renewal status. Community Charter had a deficit of 25.9% in 2014, a deficit of 30.1% in 2015; and a deficit of 34.4% in 2016.
- Ms. Michelle Roberts, Head of School, Community Charter School, provided updates to the CSAB about current progress the school has made for consideration with its renewal recommendation. Ms. Roberts did informed the CSAB that as of this current school, are administration and board members are new to the school.
- Ms. Roberts recognized upon starting that attendance and tardiness were major issues that needed to be addressed. Currently, when students received three tardiness to class, they receive an unexcused absence. Too many unexcused absences can result in grade retention.
- Ms. Roberts further explained that the new administration looked at possible solutions to help with improving data results. The solutions include improving marketing, retention and academic rigor. Community has partnered with Head Start program for a model to help with 2017-18 enrollment. To help with academic improvement, field trips and extracurricular activities have

been limited to allow for more class time. Four volunteers and one staff member have been engaged to help students with tutoring and test taking skills. Grade retention scales are being used to retain students with hopes to help build a strong academic core and change the culture of the school.

- Mr. Helton questioned what was to be attributed to the 30% drop in enrollment. Ms. Roberts explained that transportation issues and the start date of the school year prevented some parents from being able to send their children to school. Ms. Turner questioned about Community being maxed to capacity with space. Ms. Roberts explained the school has room for 174 students, with 82 students currently enrolled.
- Mr. Quigley led a conversation with the CSAB regarding Community's academic performance data. Mr. Walker commented that in the past three years, the school has cut their fund balance in half. Mr. Walker further commented the drop in student enrollment could be a reflection of the local community losing faith in the school and its ability to teach effectively. Community Charter is currently on cautionary status with FBS due to low enrollment.
- Mr. Quigley explained the difficulty with the CSAB presenting a recommendation of renewal to the SBE based on the data. Mr. Quigley questioned the school on why the financial audit was submitted late. Ms. Roberts explained that the report was not late and was submitted back in October. The assistant director of FBS informed the CSAB that the school's audit had not been received. During the CSAB discussion, FBS received an email of Community Charter's 2016 audit. After review, it was determined that the audit was not late and had been received on time.
- **Mr. Walker made a motion to recommend Community Charter for assumption, pursuant to policy. If Community does not agree to be assumed within thirty days, the recommendation will then turn to not renew the current charter. Mr. Quigley requested that the recommendation for assumption be added to the December SBE meeting to expedite the proceedings. Mr. Maimone questioned the ability for the new administration and new board to apply to assume the current charter. Ms. Crumpler explained that the new administration could create a new non-profit and have that non-profit to apply to assume the current charter. Mr. Helton seconded the motion. Five approved and four opposed the motion. The motion carried.**

PreEminent Charter School

- **Ms. Parlér recused herself from any discussion and/or voting regarding PreEminent. Mr. Quigley withdrew his earlier recusal from any discussion and/or voting regarding PreEminent**
- Based on the renewal framework, the school is up for a three-year renewal qualification. PreEminent did not meet growth in 2014, exceeded growth in 2015, and met growth in 2016.
- Ms. Tonya Richards, Board Vice-President, PreEminent Charter School, provided progress updates to the CSAB to assist with renewal recommendations. PreEminent collaborates with parents and the community to offer a challenging and character based education. PreEminent

cultivates an atmosphere of high expectations. PreEminent acknowledges that with a current pattern of improvement, more can be done to continue the upward trend.

- Investment in intervention and teacher retention has been one of PreEminent's primary goals. Reading intervention is started as early as kindergarten so students build a strong foundation in reading. Teacher's pay and benefits increased in 2015-6 and 2016-17. School leadership and professional developmental programs have been implemented to focus on improving teacher satisfaction. The board of directors provide rigorous oversight to maintain success. Independent legal counsel is maintained by the board to make sure that all policies and rules are being followed. Attracting students and families each year is a strong reflection of community support for a school dedicated to continued improvement.
- FBS explained that PreEminent had recently been issued a cautionary non-compliance notification due to an unassigned government fund balance deficit around \$17, 000. Across the board, a non-compliance notification is issued for any unassigned fund balance.
- **Mr. Maimone made a motion for PreEminent to be recommended for five-year renewal. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. Three were in favor of the motion and five opposed. The motion failed. Ms. Turner made a motion for PreEminent to be recommended for a three-year renewal. Mr. Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Carter G. Woodson

- Based on the renewal framework, Carter G. Woodson fell within the three-year renewal recommendation.
- Mr. Ben Harris, Principal, Carter G. Woodson, provided the CSAB with updates to show the school is eligible for a ten-year renewal. Carter G. Woodson total population is made up of African-Americans, Hispanics and economically disadvantaged students. In comparison to local LEA's with similar demographics, they fall within the top four for grades 3-5. In the last three years, to increase the satisfaction of academic progress, strategies have been implemented to motivate students academically. The school met growth in 2014-15 and exceeded growth in 2016.
- To motivate the students that are at risk for academic failure, Carter G. Woodson has partnered with Elon University to get training on how to get serve at-risk students and help them improve their academic performance. Teaching strategies are constantly assessed to make sure the students are getting the best instruction possible.
- **Mr. Walker made a motion that Carter G. Woodson be recommended for a three-year renewal with the stipulation that the school move out of a continually low performing status within three years. Mr. Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **The meeting adjourned via acclamation at 4:00 pm**