

**Minutes of the
North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board
Via Cisco Webex Remote Meeting
April 12, 2021
9:00 am**

Attendance/CSAB	Jamey Falkenbury (non-voting) (by phone) Joel Ford Rita Haire Sherry Reeves Cheryl Turner Lynn Kroeger	Alex Quigley Terry Stoops Hilda Parlér Heather Vuncannon Bruce Friend (arrived 2:14PM) Todd Godbey
Attendance/SBE/DPI	<i>Office of Charter Schools</i> Dave Machado, Director Ashley Baquero, Consultant Claire Porter, Consultant Joseph Letterio, Consultant Shaunda Cooper, Consultant Darian Jones, Consultant Melanie Rackley, Consultant Jay Whalen, NC ACCESS Davida Robinson, NC ACCESS Barbara O’Neal, NC ACCESS Lakisha Robbins, NC ACCESS	<i>Attorney General</i> Stephanie Lloyd <i>State Board of Education</i> Allison Schafer - absent <i>Charter School Teacher of the Year Advisory</i>

CALL TO ORDER

- The North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board (CSAB) meeting was called to order at 9:03 am by Mr. Alex Quigley. Mr. Quigley led the CSAB in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Quigley read the Ethics Statement and CSAB Mission Statement.
- Ms. Ashley Baquero, Office of Charter Schools (OCS) Consultant, took roll call and a quorum was established.
- Mr. Quigley welcomed Mr. Todd Godbey as the newest CSAB member. Mr. Godbey recused from any discussion of or voting on G.L.O.W.
- Chair Quigley thanked CSAB members Joel Ford and Heather Vuncannon for their service to CSAB.

Motion: Approve the April 2021 agenda.

Motion: Heather Vuncannon

Second: Sherry Reeves

Vote: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Passed

Failed

Motion: Approve the March 2021 minutes.

Motion: Sherry Reeves

Second: Hilda Parlér

Vote: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Passed

Failed

CLOSING THE EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT GAP

- Dr. Jeni Corn, Director of Strategic Initiatives, myFutureNC & Dr. Becky Trippett, Director, Carolina Demography, and provided an update on data work being done at the county profile level. Dr. Corn provided a quick overview of the goals of myFutureNC. 2 million by 2030. House Bill 664 was codified into law and encapsulates the goals of myFutureNC.
- Dr. Corn reviewed the Shared Vision and an update on the collaboration at the state level, as well as the funders, philanthropic partners, and members of the Board of Directors.
- Dr. Corn provided a high-level overview of the 2020-2022 Strategic Initiatives, the myFutureNC Attainment Dashboard local attainment profiles.
- Dr. Corn highlighted the county profiles, the intent of them, and discussed making sure charters understood the purpose of the profiles and solicited charter school input, data, and feedback moving forward.
- Dr. Tippettt walked through the county attainment profiles and how to access and use them. She highlighted Durham County by way of example. The data is a roll up of all of the LEAs in the county. Moving forward, the manner by which they will incorporate charters schools in these data was explained.
- Dr. Tippettt also navigated CSAB through the tool and explained all of the data points and sources.
- Dr. Corn spoke to promising cross-sector practices and how they can be tagged along the educational-workforce pipeline and discussed indicators under consideration. She also discussed COVID19's impact.
- Dr. Corn & Dr. Trippett entertained questions from CSAB.

CHARTER SCHOOLS ANNUAL REPORT

- Ms. Ashley Baquero, OCS Consultant, presented the 2020 Charter Schools Annual Report to CSAB. Ms. Baquero provided a history and background of the Charter Schools Annual Report and the legislation creating the reporting requirement. She explained that June 15th is the new reporting date. She highlighted the four (4) requirements of the report. She stated that as of October 1st, 2020, over 126,000 students enrolled; 78% of schools have a waitlist; 200 operating charters; 2020-2021 enrollment saw increases across all grade levels in charters.
- Ms. Baquero provided an overview of authority & oversight. Ms. Baquero provided an overview of CSAB and terms and current members. Ms. Baquero reviewed the OCS mission, staffing, workflows, and division of labor. Ms. Baquero provided data around staff and charters and growth, the NC ACCESS program and its goals (42 current subgrantees). NC ACCESS data points were reviewed and the NC ACCESS Fellowship, a cohort of charter leaders and visiting fellow and fellows from restart schools. Aspiring Leaders program with APP state and professional learning was reviewed.
- Ms. Baquero progressed to the NC Performance Framework and discussed items and metrics of accountability and sources of accountability, including statute, Rules, policy, and the Charter Agreement.
- Ms. Baquero discussed schools which closed (Ignite Innovation Pitt; one school relinquished its charter, BLUE GREEN). Terminations and closures were defined. Since 1998, 76 charter terminations (were in operation or did not progress in RTO process).
- Ms. Baquero provided an overview of the Performance Framework, which began in 2014, and highlighted improved compliance metrics. 98.9% schools met or exceeded all financial and operational goals. She explained the sources of financial, governance, and academic accountability and mentioned the lack of some data due to the pandemic. She explained how our software platform, Epicenter, facilitates this monumental task.
- Ms. Baquero reviewed the history of charter growth since 1997. She listed the RTO schools from 2020, those who are slated to open, and the applicant schools.
- Ms. Baquero reviewed application trends over the years. The average approval rate is about 25%.
- Ms. Baquero reviewed demographic trends over the last decade; 65 counties with charters, 198 are brick and mortar and two (2) virtual. Ms. Baquero reviewed 2020 charter school demographics and trends from 2010 to 2020.
- Ms. Baquero reviewed SWD, EL, and number of charter school students identifying as economically disadvantaged (ED) was 22.48%; Ms. Baquero highlighted the challenge of capturing ED status accurately. This data source is CEDARS.

- Chair Quigley asked about the implication of direct certification and its role in the changing numbers and percentages. Ms. Baquero stated based on research done in other states, the drop is consistent with what other states are seeing.
- Ms. Baquero discussed access in terms of admissions, transportation, and child nutrition. She explained that weighted lottery and how that has increased access. Over half of charter schools do provide bus transportation. Child nutrition, 73 schools approved for NSLP and other schools have other iterations for meal provisions.
- Ms. Baquero highlighted that we have no academic data for this year due to the pandemic but legislation mandates that the LP/CLP designation and requirements from the prior year persists. She highlighted the criteria for LP/CLP designation. LP numbers have changed as three (3) schools have closed and one (1) is pending closure; we have 43 schools, 35 are CLP (5 were not last year), 8 schools are LP. In lieu of academic data, we surveyed charters via a pandemic related data, illustrating how charters pivoted during pandemic. 61% reported collaborative efforts (either with district schools or other charters); 98% distributed devices; 77% provided internet access and assistance; 89.5% provided asynchronous and synchronous learning; 97% provided check-ins; 70% provided tutoring.
- Ms. Baquero highlighted the impact on districts, which is a requirement of the Annual Report. Percent of LEA students attending charters was reviewed, a trend was that these are predominantly rural schools, with the exception of Durham County. District membership regionally, Region 6 has the highest percent of LEA students enrolled in charters, followed by Region 3, Wake. Ms. Baquero also reviewed other data points, such as facilities, collaboration, and fiscal impacts. She highlighted the Ashley Park/Movement collaboration.
- Ms. Baquero highlighted, in the words of school leaders, which innovative practices and programs met the needs of students and families. She highlighted mentors, looping, extended days, flexible grouping, remote learning interventions, remote scheduling, and other practices. Programming highlights included NC A+, Waldorf, Montessori, language immersion and a vast range of programming available to our families. Beyond academics, many schools have also innovated in other areas. Community service, peer mediation, integration of mindfulness, social justice, equity work, responsive classrooms. 74 schools reported using restorative justice, leading to a decrease in suspensions.
- Ms. Baquero shared some of the ways in which charter are recognized, including Purple Star Schools, Canopy Project (innovation in schools), and other individual schools recognized.
- Ms. Baquero solicited questions and reminded CSAB that they will need to vote on the Annual Report.
- Mr. Machado thanked Ms. Baquero, Mr. Maimone, and Mrs. Porter for their work on the report. Mr. Machado thanked the General Assembly for the changed due date of the Annual Report and highlighted the use of Epicenter for supporting our ability to prepare this report and maintain excellence and quality.

Motion: Motion that the State Board of Education receive the 2020 Charter Schools Annual Report.

Motion: Heather Vuncannon

Second: Hilda Parler

Vote: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Passed

Failed

NC CYBER ACADEMY QUARTERLY UPDATE

- Jill Hammergren provided updates about NC Cyber Academy Lunch buddies. Program provides nutritional and meal delivery for students.
- Mr. Mullins reported that NCCA has 2,431 student enrollments. 90% of students indicated intent to return. 627 students on waitlist. Anticipates ~2,900 students for 2021-22 school year.
- Added BTSP Recruitment and Retention Coordinator. Added EC Coordinator which now provides EC services for elementary, middle and high school levels; additional assistant HS principal.
- Mr. Martez Hill provided status update regarding use of NC STAR tool. Mr. Hill now has understanding of what is required to be submitted through NC STAR and Epicenter as it relates to school improvement plans.
- Mr. Hill explained that the LGC provided an extension on the 2019-2020 audit; this will be presented to the Board of Directors (“BOD”) in late April.
- Ms. Turner asked if Mr. Hill expected that the audit would be in by April 30th. Mr. Hill indicated that yes, he anticipated that.
- Dr. Haire queried whether a BOD member was serving beyond her term. She also inquired as to how many principals were in the current budget. Mr. Hill responded there were three (3) and two (2) assistant principals. Dr. Haire asked about the types of services contracted for. Mr. Hill explained that it was Edgenuity; contracted teachers as well as content. Mr. Hill explained that they have teachers on contract (Edgenuity) and NCCA teachers (who are on staff). Edgenuity are supporting the ability to provide more electives.

LP AND CLP SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

THREE RIVERS ACADEMY

- Mr. Don McQueen introduced those who would present today and introduced Dr. Swinson. Dr. Swinson was not on the call and Ms. Shelley Ann Clemenson presented academic data updates.

- Ms. Clemenson reviewed academic goals and action steps as well as the School Improvement Plan.
- Ms. Reeves asked if they had returned their students to in person learning and where are your students located (where do they live and how they are getting to school). Mr. McQueen stated over 50% of their students are in person instruction, and that number has increased since the Christmas break. We are providing transportation through buses and vans for those who want in person instruction.
- Ms. Turner asked about current enrollment. Mr. McQueen stated they have a total of 95 students, 48 students in person. His target is 150 this year.
- Mr. McQueen stated that he is there a few times a week and that it is a well-organized, quiet place. He stated they are in a 54,000 sq. ft. facility.
- Mr. Stoops: What delivery method did you start the school year with? McQueen: We started online and wanted to be more agile than the county and wanted kids back in class; we returned to in person instruction. We found improved attendance and attention when/with in person instruction. Mr. McQueen addressed the challenge with hot spots and internet access and their efforts to contract with local area service providers to address this challenge. Another challenge was the availability of devices. Mr. Stoops: How many students were required to provide the service access? Mr. McQueen: About 20% of students, maybe 30% to 35% we had to provide service for those families.
- Dr. Swinson joined and reviewed presentation, providing historical background and the fact that they were the first assumption in the state. She explained the needed change of physical location to Powellsville and subsequent impact on student enrollment. Dr. Swinson opined that there was some confusion at NC DPI as this was the first assumption and what, or did not, carry over from HLCA. Dr. Swinson stated there is a positive fund balance of \$25,000.00 and the audit will be done in 30 days. She stated that the school operated positively without any findings. ADM is 101 but it did drop to 83 and they were placed on cautionary. She specified the current number is 98. She spoke to student recruitment campaign underway.
- Dr. Swinson reviewed the learning loss due to the pandemic and the focus on strategies used to mitigate that loss. She highlighted the mentoring at Three Rivers by Torchlight teachers. Dr. Swinson reviewed the goals of the school.
- Dr. Haire asked to speak to grade level combinations in each group and how many teachers there are in the school. Mr. McQueen explained that there are 6 teachers and the grade level combinations with clarification of Ms. Clemenson. Mr. McQueen stated 100% of teachers are licensed.
- Ms. Kroeger asked about the budget, specifically the new facility and impact of new facility on budget, what is the lease/rent payment.

- Mr. McQueen explained that in a rural area the sq. footage is less and the lease payment is 9k per month. Management company has been supplying the funding to upfit the building to make sure that the school stays solvent. Ms. Kroeger asked how much the management company has funded. Mr. McQueen stated between 150-180k.
- Dr. Haire asked about slide 5 and asked for elaboration on this in terms of actual learning loss. Ms. Clemenson stated that the graph represents an average of iStation & School Net data we use. In 2/2020, testing data shows an overall average of 60%; in October we had a 20% loss in learning, we are looking to go back to 60% or higher. Spoke to partnership of Three Rivers & Torchlight.
- Ms. Turner: What is your current status with the EC division? Has it been resolved. Mr. McQueen: It was late reporting and it has been 100% resolved.
- Ms. Reeves: Can you explain the status of the lunch program? For your remote students, are you providing lunch to them? Has the school's budget been able to pay your EMO fee for the 2021 year. Mr. McQueen: Explained that they are committed to Bertie County and they have invested over \$1 million. Some of those funds come from school payment to EMO, yes, they have been able to cover our fees. What we have invested far exceeds what we have been paid. They have been supplementing families with PEBT payments, made direct payments to families. We wanted to make sure that those parents got those funds but we were not on the free and reduced lunch program officially. We have made monthly payments to those families since February.
- Chair Quigley: Asked when Three Rivers is up for renewal. Dr. Cooper stated their site visit is scheduled for the fall. Mr. Machado: Asked if they are in the first year of the two-year renewal cycle. Dr. Cooper clarified that they are part of 2022 and visit will be up next year. July 1st of 2022, they would need to have a new charter agreement.
- Dr. Haire: Spoke to formative and summative data and the lack of data for understanding the true performance of students. She suggested the school use the same data in comparisons so we can get an accurate picture. Mr. McQueen stated that will be done in the future.

CABARRUS CHARTER ACADEMY

- Principal White, Kyle Pierce and Beth Compton presented for Cabarrus Charter Academy ("CCA"). Principal White gave background of school. Opened in 2013-14 school year. School reports leadership challenges. Difficult to gain traction with student performance due to unstable leadership. Committed to school turnaround, continuity in instructional programming.
- Mr. Pierce provided school report card data; C grade in 17-18; 18-19 received grade D. Mr. Pierce reported 100% graduation rates among senior class cohorts. Demographic and subgroup performance provided. Working with instructional teams to improve performances. School demographics are becoming closer aligned with county demographics.

- Mr. Pierce provided target goals for growth and proficiency. Principal White said desired outcome is 80% of students to be proficient and show growth. Focusing on growth leads to proficiency. Provided benchmark 2020-21 NWEA MAP data for BOY, MOY. Addressing MOY dip and has interventions in place to mitigate. Cycle testing is conducted quarterly, provided by management company. Students on target to meet goals.
- Presented challenges of the school. Current leaders have experience with school turnaround. Current enrollment is 755; saw a dip with COVID-19 school closure. New students joining weekly. 361 in grades 6-12; 200 students in grades 9-12.
- Ms. Turner asked why SIP was not in NC STAR. Principal White suggested technical glitch.
- Dr. Haire asked about use of school's Comprehensive Progress Report. The report has specific goals and actions sets that can serve as tools that can help school. Dr. Haire suggested the school revisit this routinely and keep it up to date.
- Terry Stoops asked about 1 to 1 device use. Mr. Pierce explained that school is waiting on 80 devices. Mr. Pierce addressed connectivity solutions for students that needed hotspots. Some families have chosen to use their own devices. School will be fully 1 to 1 for next school year. Principal also provided that school was undergoing a technology refresh just prior to COVID-19, so new devices will become readily available.

UPROAR LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

- Ms. Newsome presented for Uproar and provided academic summary, benchmark scores.
- Ms. Newsome stated the school saw growth among SWD populations. School has been focusing on making growth and achieving goals from 19-20 school year; improvement growth index, etc. Improving academic outcomes using various tools like coaching sessions with staff Teach Like a Champion; data-drives instructional practices; targeted interventions. Principal Newsome provided comparison data from 2018-19 and 2020-21.
- School is implementing summer learning program to mitigate learning loss.
- Current ADM is 144; Principal Newsome provided snapshot of typical school day under hybrid model for middle and HS students. School has three virtual staff through NCVPS; no in-person instruction for high school staff; school has 42 high school students currently. HS has interventionists that sit with in-person students during the virtual live instruction.
- Ms. Turner asked about why the audit has not been turned in. Ms. Newsome reported that audit had a late start. Newsome reports that audit moving forward is on schedule for timely submission.

- Ms. Turner stated that CSAB received letter that school was behind on lease payments. Newsome acknowledged that school was behind on lease payments, but that all payments have been submitted and lease is current.
- Dr. Cooper provided renewal update status. OCS has two years of data that has been validated by state. Three areas of concern: academic; financial and non-compliance status.
- Ms. Turner expressed high hopes and enthusiasm for school with the military-model, etc. However, long term success of school is being questioned. School renewal is at risk. Ms. Newsome acknowledged the challenges and commitment to turnaround.
- Mr. Namaine Coombs, Board Chair, addressed the military culture shift and the perception of the school as an alternative school. Ms. Newsome acknowledged what must be done in the future to strengthen the school.
- Ms. Turner asked for clarification on renewal process. Dr. Cooper clarified renewal timelines.
- Dr. Haire asked for enrollment clarification. School confirmed that school is only accepting enrollments for grades 5-8 next school year. Not enrolling new high school students for next year.
- Ms. Newsome says school has 179 applications and 222 is their enrollment goal for 2021-22 school year.
- Ms. Reeves would like to see a high school plan for next fall. CSAB is requesting that Uproar submit a HS plan before the next CSAB meeting per Chair Quigley.
- Chair Quigley asked Dr. Cooper to clarify the renewal delay? Ms. Newsome stated that more time was needed to allow parents and families to set up. Dr. Cooper stated that rescheduled site visit was positive.
- Chair Quigley questioned why certain administrative leaders were absent at the renewal visit. Ms. Reeves would like to see 11th grade data to monitor compliance.
- Mr. Falkenbury asked to know why lease payments were not made and why the audit wasn't complete. Ms. Newsome said they were behind due to waiting for three months of local funding. Also clarified that audit visit did not start until December which made the audit schedule fall behind.
- Ms. Turner challenged the local funding reasoning. Ms. Turner stated that CMS was late but not three months late. Ms. Newsome gave some background and communication issues around the local funding.
- Chair Quigley asked for clarification from OCS about charter agreement and late payment notification requirement. Claire Porter provided information around late payment notification. Chair Quigley says this is another non-compliance since school did not self-report.

- Ms. Turner shared skepticism about the capacity of the school's program.
- Dr. Haire asked about the strength of Ms. Blount, the new school leader. Ms. Newsome spoke to Ms. Blount's strength as a leader and her help during the pandemic. Ms. Newsome spoke to Ms. Blount's absence at the renewal meeting. Ms. Newsome did not ask Ms. Blount to attend April CSAB meeting.
- The viability of the school is questioned by Ms. Reeves, Chair Quigley and Ms. Turner. Chair Quigley asked that OCS make an unannounced, in-person visit to these schools and report back to CSAB. Schools may be asked to come back in May under short notice.

****Chair Quigley adjourned for lunch until 12:55 p.m. CSAB reconvened at 12:56 p.m.**

GIRLS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY OF WILMINGTON

- Ms. Laura Hunter appeared for G.L.O.W. who provided an update to CSAB on their progress and efforts to date. She provided a history of the school and the goals, specifically the growth score, meeting growth of +1.0. or higher, across all grade levels, subgroups, and all quartiles. Also seeks to improve proficiency but growth is the focus. Math has been a focus across the campus, general readiness score of 40% and recognized they serve a high needs population and need to improve. Lots of alignment work has taken place. Focus on upper quartiles of White, high performing students. SIG includes rigor, CIA plus virtual; fleshing out MTSS; implementation of AVID in MS & HS to enhance structures of support. Curriculum and grading; strategic scheduling; data use. Standards aligned units of study, lessons must be aligned to standards but also vertical and horizontal implementation of lessons. Lesson plan development, coaching support to teachers who are planning. Looking to generate formative data as checks for growth. PLC meetings ongoing. They have learned that some of their teachers need content support as well as instructional support. Meet weekly in data driven meetings. Adopted iReady this year to support MTSS and collect data for MS across the year. Using iReady diagnostic testing every two months.
- Ms. Hunter indicated they have launched an AIG team, vertically aligned and students are getting the stretch support they need. Any students who were at risk were scheduled in a yearlong course in order to get a year-long dose of support in those subjects.
- Ms. Hunter mentioned that they are pushing kids to be successful through engagement, shifted to a 10-point grading scale in MS and HS.
- Ms. Hunter summarized that they are seeing positive data trends. Exceeded some goals. She stated that coaching cycles continue, instructional walk throughs continue, so that admins are in providing instructional feedback so that they are in classrooms and providing feedback. IReady growth measures have been good, 8% tiered growth for reading and 17% tiered growth for math. March testing cycle did not reflect as much growth in reading. Thinking of how to collect better data in April.

- Ms. Hunter stated the school had a goal of 85% sustained daily attendance; exceeded goal at 91%. Ms. Hunter reviewed areas of growth and challenge, including recruiting and retaining quality educators. Ms. Hunter reviewed the areas of current testing and areas which will be added in the coming years.
- Mr. Stoops: Asked Ms. Hunter to describe the content support provided to teachers. Ms. Hunter described the purchase of textbooks, supplemental materials, vertical alignment, teachers within their own PLC can support each other, accessing state level PD as well.
- Ms. Reeves asked how many students are in the high school. Ms. Hunter provided numbers Ms. Reeves asked if they have 9th graders. 55 9th graders and 65 10th?
- Dr. Haire asked about staff and their responsibilities. And whether they anticipate their first graduating class in 2023. Ms. Hunter stated they may have some early graduates. Ms. Reeves asked about total ADM. Ms. Hunter stated 335.
- Ms. Reeves asked what was meant by the majority of high school is virtual. Ms. Hunter said 60% have returned to on campus learning. She indicated that those students who were most at risk were strongly encouraged to return to campus.
- Chair Quigley asked about the NC CheckIn and other check ins. Ms. Hunter specified and then added that EOG diagnostics were given to get beginning of year data. Chair Quigley asked what the data meetings look like. Ms. Hunter said it is structured and described the process.
- Ms. Reeves asked about student attrition and retention and stated that those students who have been with you the longest should be making growth. Ms. Hunter would state that English II data shows that our students are making growth over the year. No, they have not had a huge amount of attrition. She recognizes that they have struggled with growth over the years.
- Chair Quigley highlighted that there is a lot going on at the school programming wise and asked which are the two levers which will result in moving students forward. Ms. Hunter stated to solidify curriculum at all grade levels in all courses and making sure teachers are building aligned lesson plans. She also added strategic scheduling based on data.
- Chair Quigley asked if they share with other schools in Young Women's network. Ms. Hunter replied that some is shared and some core content teachers do share ideas and supports. Generally, related to social and emotional development.
- Chair Quigley stated with GLOW just getting their five-year renewal and with three years of not met growth, the school should consider the school culture piece as seriously as the curriculum. Stated that her team must recognize that this is a do or die situation, this should be motivation. Consider using this as a lever to motivate your team.
- Ms. Turner addressed the high hopes CSAB had when school opened. She suggested a better use of time and energy and she spoke to being under pressure for growth. She spoke to how

Sugar Creek Academy was in a similar place and this motivated the team. MS. Turner stated the critical think is to make growth and perhaps designing curriculum should not be the focus.

- Mr. Stoops echoed the sentiment of Ms. Turner and that this is a heavy burden on teachers. He stated that single sex schools are critical and we need strong role models. A lot is riding on your success.
- Ms. Hunter thanked CSAB and stated that while COVID has placed challenges in their path, it has helped culture and may end up making them strong in the long run.
- Chair Quigley pointed out that this is a highly ‘winnable’ situation, for example, they have strong enrollment, finances, and facility.

BRIDGES ACADEMY

- Ms. Jennifer Floyd appeared for Bridges Academy and gave a brief introduction to the school. K-8 plus an Early Learning Academy. She has been in place since December, school has had leadership changes. Renewal of charter in 2017 for 10 years. Ms. Floyd gave a historical overview of school’s data, including growth and proficiency and disaggregated the data.
- Ms. Floyd focused in 2018 growth and proficiency scores as well as incoming student readiness data. Met growth but not proficiency. Chair Quigley asked about the virtual high school pilot. Ms. Floyd stated that the school board wanted to expand in the high school realm and they agreed to add a year each year to Bridges, and they opted to use NC Virtual high school and the students which enrolled. Four out of five were exceptional students. It was not a well implemented program, the students did not thrive. These students did not pass their EOCs.
- Ms. Floyd spoke to her efforts to put together a SIT team. She addressed other aspects of improvement, specifically MTSS. She also addressed reading blocks and placing students in support groups for this and how they matched students to teachers based on need. She addressed Math interventions as well.
- Ms. Floyd spoke to what the high-yield strategies should be used as well as using technology to differentiate instruction and Marzano. She also addressed weekly PLCs. She stated a certified 6-8 math teacher hired for next year as this is a challenge area. She spoke to having teachers submit lessons to her and spoke to essential questions and what explicit instruction looks like, as well as formative assessments. Teachers met with her in January for their evaluations and developing their goals.
- Ms. Floyd spoke to attendance and scheduling as well and her efforts in those areas. She has revamped the schedule to allow for more planning time.
- Chair Quigley asked Ms. Floyd to what does she attribute the steady decline in enrollment. Ms. Floyd stated they have had a very high staff turnover, including administration. Stated that administrator who was in place prior was working from home and had been off campus for a long time. BOD had hired an instructional specialist but was only there for a year, and then

another instructional leader left as well. Teacher accountability has been an issue. There has not been consistency in expectations. The school needs a very thorough and cohesive reading and math curriculum.

- Mr. Quigley asked about 4th and 5th grade math and science. Ms. Floyd explained the changes. Chair Quigley asked about ADM. Ms. Floyd stated 120 students; projected 84 committed to re-enroll; 34 unconfirmed. Chair Quigley asked about Early Learning Academy. Ms. Floyd explained that she is not over the Early Learning Academy and it has six students.
- Ms. Reeves asks if the Pre-K program is private. Ms. Floyd explained they accept vouchers and pay. She also explained that they cancelled the high school programming and that was unsuccessful. Ms. Floyd explained RtA also decreased. Ms. Floyd clarified subgroup performance and emphasized higher than district EC population.
- Dr. Haire asked about disaggregated EC data. Dr. Haire wants to see data for the 36% subgroup. Ms. Floyd mentioned EC Coordinator Isaacs that is in attendance today.
- Ms. Reeves asked about the size of the school. School has been traditionally a small school with low ADM. Ms. Reeves said school has lost ~50 students over the span of a few years. Ms. Isaacs, EC Coordinator, stated that school has always had a transient population.

EDUCATOR ENGAGEMENT

- Ms. Julie Pittman, NC DPI discussed new role with NCDPI. Currently, with Superintendent Truitt on site visits on Visit and Voices Tour. Ms. Pittman provided her background that include k-12 and higher education teaching. Currently working with No Kid Hungry to provide meals to students. In her current role she will bring teacher voice to the table and to enhance communications and to collect teacher best practices. Looking at CVID response recovery. Looking for ways to better build communication structure. Mr. Machado asked about the charter school focus group updates. Looking at ways to elevate communications to include newsletter for best practices, hot topics in education, PD offerings, and a text feature for monthly updates, continued roundtables and better communicate. Chair Quigley expressed excitement for the initiative and the partnership. Ms. Pittman emphasized collaboration and growth. Working on ways to elevate the regional collaborations. She and Superintendent will continue to visit as many schools and organizations as they can. Looks forward to working with Dave and OCS

AMENDMENTS

- Ms. Ashley Baquero, OCS Consultant, explained that there are two amendment requests this month.

Movement School Eastland

- Ms. Baquero explained the school is in 2nd year serving K-2. School is requesting to go over 30% ADM. Schools 1st month ADM was 180, but charter agreement allows 285. School wants to go to 320. School meets requirements that allow for expansion/ increased enrollment.
- Ms. Turner recused on this discussion. Mr. Tim Hurley gave overview and spoke to strength of enrollment projections and ways the enrollment will provide additional academic supports.
- Chair Quigley asked for any enrollment trends. Mr. Hurley says that tracking after February shows upward trend. School is at 295 currently.
- Ms. Reeves asked if application period is still open. Mr. Hurley confirmed enrollment still open with 48 students on waitlist.

Motion: Approve the additional enrollment increase for Movement Eastland School.

Motion: Hilda Parlér

Second: Lynn Kroeger

Vote: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Recused: Cheryl Turner

Passed

Failed

CE Academy

- Ms. Baquero explained the enrollment decrease for CE Academy. School has been in a delay year. School is in RTO. Proposed for 400 students, but now need 200 due to low enrollment targets; also change to grade levels served. School will need to appear at CSAB in May due to low enrollment figures.
- Ms. Reeves says that since school is appearing next month, can this issue be tabled? Ms. Baquero asked Ms. Chu to speak to enrollment and facility situation.
- Ms. Porter offered an update based upon information received due to audio tech issues. Three parcels of land available, one with an ED Certificate of Occupancy. RTO reports due upcoming Friday for facility and enrollment.
- Ms. Turner would like to see report before sending to SBE. Mr. Friend requests original charter application documents. Ms. Baquero will locate. Dr. Haire asked for additional chronological clarification. School is scheduled to open next school year.

- Ms. Kroeger agrees with Ms. Turner to table until updated enrollment information. Mr. Godbey asked about any budget updates that show the 200 enrolled as well as a break-even budget.
- Chair Quigley reminds of the RTO process and the discipline needed when deciding what to bring before SBE. Mr. Friend stated that school looks vastly different than it did at the initial vote.
- Mr. Stoops asked if there would be any timing issues if vote was delayed by a month. Ms. Baquero stated that no timing issues are presented since SBE vote on RTO recommendations will occur in July.

Motion: Table CE Academy until RTO reports are reviewed ahead of May 2021 CSAB.

Motion: Cheryl Turner

Second: Hilda Parlér

Vote: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Passed

Failed

WAKE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

- Ms. Baquero stated that Franklin County will submit an LEA impact statement. A special-called meeting will be called.

2021 CHARTER APPLICATION UPDATE

- Ms. Rackley reviewed the application process changes. Highlighted the review process for single-sex schools and a needed questionnaire. Ms. Rackley reminded CSAB that Edlusion will be the vehicle through which applications will be received and reviewed.
- Ms. Rackley also specified another change which will require the applicants to check boxes and provide narratives specifying which purposes the school will meet. Ms. Rackley specified the definition of a Charter Support Organization and those applicants receiving assistance and new verbiage will be approved. She stated the application will open May 28th, closing out on July 30th.

Motion: Approve the proposed changes to the 2021 charter school application.

Motion: Sherry Reeves

Second: Rita Haire

Vote: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Passed

Failed

RENEWAL PROCESS REVISION UPDATE

- Dr. Cooper provided an overview of the renewal process revisions to CSAB. Ms. Turner asked if CSAB will see this when it is all finalized. Dr. Cooper verified that yes, that will happen. Mr. Machado specified that the CSAB will get an update at every meeting and an update for each leadership call on Thursdays.

NC ACCESS

- Mr. Jay Whalen reported on the NC ACCESS Fellowship and professional development offerings. Mr. Whalen stated they will bring recommendations to CSAB in May. Fellowship meets monthly, next session is April 22nd. NC ACCESS team is working to prepare for their monitoring visit by West Ed, which will take place the 3rd way in May.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

- Mr. Machado stated that at the last NC SBE meeting, Teacher Effectiveness specified that charter teachers were not allowed to participate in the residency license; this has been updated so that charters can join in this license option.
- Director Machado gave the OCS staff a shout out.

Motion: Move into closed session to discuss legal matters with staff counsel. Following closed session, the CSAB will move into open session and adjourn immediately.

Motion: Cheryl Turner

Second: Hilda Parlér

Vote: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Passed

Failed

- Chair Quigley states CSAB will adjourn out of closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

- Ms. Reeves made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:42 p.m. and Dr. Haire seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned via acclamation at 3:42 p.m.