

**Minutes of the  
North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board  
Remote Special Called Meeting  
April 22, 2021  
9AM**

Attendance/NCCSAB	Jamey Falkenbury (non-voting) Joel Ford (absent) Rita Haire Sherry Reeves Cheryl Turner Hilda Parlér (recused)	Alex Quigley Terry Stoops Bruce Friend (recused) Lynn Kroeger Todd Godbey
Attendance/SBE/DPI	<i>Office of Charter Schools</i>  Dave Machado, Director Ashley Baquero, Consultant Melanie Rackley, Consultant Claire Porter, Consultant Davida Robinson, NC ACCESS Jay Whalen, NC ACCESS	<i>Attorney General</i> Tiffany Lucas Stephanie Lloyd  <i>SBE Attorney</i> Allison Schafer  <i>Charter School Teacher of the Year Advisory</i>

**CALL TO ORDER**

- Ms. Ashley Baquero, OCS Consultant, announced that a quorum has been established at 9:02 am
- The North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board (CSAB) meeting was called to order at 9:03 am by Chairman Alex Quigley who read the Ethics Statement and CSAB Mission Statement. Mr. Quigley led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Hilda Parlér has recused due to conflict of interest. Bruce Friend has also recused.
- Chair Quigley asked for motion to amend agenda to add closed session.

**Motion: Amend agenda to go into closed session.**

**Motion: Cheryl Turner**

**Second: Sherry Reeves**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**

**Failed**

## WAKE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

- Ms. Ashley Baquero, OCS Consultant, explained that Wake Preparatory Academy (“WPA”) is currently serving a second-year delay and is seeking to relocate from Wake County to Franklin County. The school is slated to serve 1,620 students serving K-12. School was slated to open in Wake Forest but currently in litigation based on planning denials from the Town of Wake Forest. WPA is seeking relocation to Franklin County, just over the county line with an approximate distance of 1.4 miles. Relocation to a different LEA requires CSAB review and recommendation and SBE approval. The Office of Charter Schools notified Franklin County Schools (FCS) of this request and an impact statement from FCS has been submitted. Ms. Baquero stated that all required amendment materials were submitted and along with the Franklin County LEA impact statement, posted publicly to Eboard last week.
  
- Chair Quigley stated that WPA should provide context for their decision to move and allow WPA to respond to LEA impact statement and then open to questions. The school’s management company, Charter One, and WPA board are both in attendance.
  
- 9:08 Chair Quigley: please provide context for decision to move.
  
- Board Chair Kyle Shrauger will provide high level context and will allow Charter One to provide more detail. Bill Guttery, Mitch Schwab and additional Charter One reps are in attendance to provide other information.
  
- Mr. Shrauger explained the Superior Court appeal due to Town of Wake Forest denial of permit to build. WPA and Charter One will continue to appeal, but due to second year delay, decided to move to Franklin County to meet timelines. WPA believes that Wake Forest’s denial conflicts with state statute. Mr. Shrauger stated that appeal has not been approved as of yet, so looking at contingency planning. There are no facilities large enough to support student body size of 1600+ students. Because of the quasi-judicial process, the board decided to seek land outside of Wake Forest city limits.
  
- Mr. Shrauger continued to explain the WPA’s relocation request. Mr. Shrauger: The need to stay close to Wake Forest proper is due to the interest of families. Contingencies have been made to include separate campuses for grade levels ad a possible college campus. If they move further out it will displace the student base that WPA has been attracting. Franklin County location allows the best alternatives. Land has already been identified. Land is almost identical to the land originally sought in Wake Forest. Franklin County also does not require a quasi-judicial process. The financial impact for Franklin County

was also emphasized. Location is less than half a mile from the county line of Franklin. Wants to maintain the integrity of the WPA vision and the student interest base. The slated Franklin site has property that can be outfitted allowing for quicker turnarounds. Mr. Shrauger indicated that WPA reached out to Franklin County before impact statement was submitted but did not meet prior to submission of LEA impact statement. Stated that meeting with Franklin County Superintendent occurred. The desegregation issue was discussed. Mr. Shrauger stated that he feels that WPA and Charter One will work congruently to help Franklin County schools' efforts to desegregate. Mr. Shrauger said that public comments at Franklin County School Board meeting showed support for WPA. Mr. Shrauger then said he would be available for questioning.

- 9:21 am Chair Quigley: Is your intent to recruit into Franklin County?
- Mr. Shrauger: stated they do not intend to change their marketing strategy to target Franklin County recruits. Do not intend to change target demographics.
- Chair Quigley: Do you anticipate same number of students from Franklin County?
- Mr. Shrauger: Yes, targeted recruits and interest base will not change.
- Chair Quigley: Did you have any contact with OCS? Did Franklin County submit an impact statement at outset of original application?
- Mr. Dave Machado, OCS Director: No, they did not submit an impact statement with the original application, but they had the opportunity if they wished.
- Chair Quigley: Is there anything that makes you think numbers will change a mile away to Franklin County? Will the 20 percent become 40 percent?
- Mr. Shrauger: looking at interest list the intent is not to change demographics. There will be no change in target demographic by going less than half a mile to Franklin county site. Will not be pulling any more students from Franklin County.
- Chair Quigley: What steps will the school take to ensure diversity reflects school district?
- Mr. Shrauger: States that they will use NC Access funds, provide busing to increase diversity. Mr. Shrauger provided public comment at the FCS board meeting to indicate intent of diversity efforts of WPA and Charter One.

- Chair Quigley: How will you ensure work to maintain diversity after the ACCESS funds and grant?
- Mr. Shrauger: I would have to reach out to Mitch...I believe we have a community representative. I believe we have an economically disadvantaged committee. I ask that Charter One provide more context.
- Mitch Schwab: to serve ED populations we hired outreach coordinator to meet needs of ED populations and meet NC ACCESS grant requirements.
- Chair Quigley: What about transportation and barriers to make sure school is accessible for all students?
- Mr. Schwab: For the ED students we want to make sure transportation funding is targeted towards ED students. Our goal is to remove barriers. The school will be the only charter school to offer busing in Franklin County.
- Chair Quigley: What is the economic and racial diversity of the other Charter One Schools in NC? Mr. Schwab: The Charter One schools in NC are majority minority schools.
- Chair Quigley: Opening up to other board members for questions.
- Ms. Cheryl Turner: Once the NC Access money is gone does your budget continue to support nutrition and transportation?
- Mr. Shrauger: Our budget will continue to support nutrition and buses after NC ACCESS funding. Joe Maimone (Charter One): Looking at budget for WPA, I have full confidence we can support busing and lunch program after NC ACCESS grant funds.
- Ms. Turner: I am on the NC ACCESS equity working group and Charter One appears to be doing active participation to work to create equity. Their initiatives and efforts give me confidence that they will commit to diversity.
- Mr. Maimone: Bonnie Cone Classical Academy is in Huntersville, NC and is an affluent area and still a high population of minority students.
- Mr. Terry Stoops: If granted to move to Franklin County, will you keep open communication to help FCS meet their diversity goals?

- Mr. Shrauger: Yes, we will continue to engage, that is our intent. We want to help them achieve their initiatives. We hope to continue to collaborate and wished that we could have discussed prior to submission of the FCS impact statement.
- Dr. Rita Haire: Does the school name remain the same? Mr. Shrauger: The board has not made any discussion to change name. Due to location, board likely won't change name.
- Dr. Haire: Will school move back if WPA wins the appeal? Mr. Shrauger: No, do not think that is the intent. Our intent would not be to open in one LEA and then move back into another LEA. No, that is not a feasible option our board would pursue.
- Ms. Sherry Reeves: Reassurance from board in second year delay, that you will be able to open in this Franklin County area? Mr. Shrauger: We have utmost confidence that we will open in second year delay. The Franklin move gives us the highest probability of success of all the contingency plans our board has considered.

9:39 Chair Quigley asks for motion to move to closed session.

**Motion: To move into closed session to consult with legal staff on attorney-client privileged matters.**

**Motion: Rita Haire**

**Second: Terry Stoops**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**

**Failed**

Chair Quigley: We will move back to open session when done with closed legal session.

Ashley Baquero: Charter One will be notified when Open Session resumes.

10:01 Sherry Reeves motions to go back into open session Cheryl Turner seconds.

**Motion: Adjourn closed session and return to open session.**

**Motion: Sherry Reeves**

**Second: Cheryl Turner**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**

**Failed**

Chair Quigley: 10:02 open session resumed.

- Chair Quigley: This is a short distance move to Franklin County.

- Ms. Reeves: How might the SBE look at this if CSAB approves relocation?
- Chair Quigley: I have not spoken to any board members. I will defer to Dave. I think they will look at this very closely due to the desegregation order. If this goes forward, WPA needs to know there will likely be requirements of the desegregation that will apply to them, perhaps above their existing plan to recruit diverse student body. I think SBE will look closely.
- Ms. Turner: I understand the legal issues. I don't think what CSAB and OCS did or did not do with the other two Franklin County charters schools should be a factor for WPA's approval.
- Mr. Stoops: We have them on record saying they will have a diverse student population. I take them at their word.
- Mr. Jamey Falkenbury: I agree with what Cheryl and Terry said.
- Chair Quigley: I think we need to move them forward. The twenty percent will remain the same. The only change is the school will be located in Franklin County. FCS could have submitted an impact statement at the time of initial application. The population they will be drawing won't change at all. I also believe Charter One schools in NC have diverse demographics.
- Ms. Lynn Kroeger: I feel like they have put in extra steps by hiring a local person to outreach to diverse students. They have a track record for attracting and maintain a diverse population.
- Ms. Turner: Will Charter One or WPA be able to participate at SBE?
- Chair Quigley: That may be a question for Allison?
- Allison Schafer, SBE Counsel: CSAB gathers and presents. Usually done through documentation and OCS presents and summarizes the happenings at this meeting to the SBE.
- Mr. Falkenbury: Can they submit a letter to SBE?
- Ms. Schafer: They have already submitted a response and it will reach SBE for read/review.

**Motion: Approve Wake Preparatory Academy's Request to Relocate.**

**Motion: Cheryl Turner**  
**Second: Sherry Reeves**  
**Recused: Hilda Parlér; Bruce Friend**  
**Vote: Unanimous**  
 **Passed**                       **Failed**

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:14 Sherry Reeves made a motion to adjourn. Lynn Kroeger seconded and meeting adjourned by acclamation.