

**Minutes of the  
North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board  
State Board Rm. 755  
May 6, 2019  
9:00 am**

Attendance/NCCSAB	Alan Hawkes – <i>Absent</i> Joseph Maimone Phyllis Gibbs Sherry Reeves Cheryl Turner Lindalyn Kakadelis Lynn Kroeger – <i>Via phone</i>	Alex Quigley Tammi Sutton Steven Walker Heather Vuncannon – <i>Absent</i> Bruce Friend
Attendance/SBE/DPI	<i>Office of Charter Schools</i>  Ashley Baquero, Consultant Danielle Allen, Consultant Jay Whalen, Consultant Barbara O’Neal, Consultant Jamelia Shahid-El, Consultant	<i>SBE</i>  <i>Attorney General</i> Tiffany Lucas Stephanie Lloyd  <i>SBE Attorney</i> Eric Snider

**CALL TO ORDER**

- The North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board (CSAB) meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chair Alex Quigley who read the Ethics Statement and CSAB Mission Statement. Mr. Quigley led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Ms. Cheryl Turner recused herself from the discussion on NC Connections Academy and the Implementation and Planning portion of the NC ACCESS Grant Recommendations.
- Mr. Quigley voiced appreciation for teachers working in North Carolina schools. He stated this is National Teacher Appreciation Week and the CSAB deeply appreciates the tireless work of educators.

**Motion: Approval of the April CSAB meeting minutes.**

**Motion: Sherry Reeves**

**Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**

**Failed**

**Motion: Approval of the April 26, 2019 Special Called CSAB meeting minutes.**

**Motion: Lindalyn Kakadelis**

**Second: Sherry Reeves**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**

**Failed**

**Motion: Approval of the May CSAB Agenda.**

**Motion: Steven Walker**

**Second: Sherry Reeves**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**

**Failed**

### **STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES AND JUNE/JULY MEETING PLANNING**

- Ms. Ashley Baquero, OCS Consultant, reviewed the May State Board of Education meeting items pertaining to charter schools. She explained the SBE approved the revised charter school application and rubric. She stated the SBE discussed the 2020 application recommendations and have asked for further clarification on enrollment numbers in Wake County. She explained the NC Connections Academy amendment was returned to the CSAB to make a recommendation.
- Ms. Baquero reviewed the calendar for the upcoming CSAB meetings. She stated June 10-11 was reserved for the June meeting, but it appears the meeting will only need to be one day.
- Mr. Quigley stated June 10<sup>th</sup> is a difficult day with the end of the school year and he will not be able to attend. The CSAB discussed the best day in June to hold the CSAB meeting. Mr. Quigley wondered if the CSAB could hold a conference call meeting in June.
- Board members proposed possibly holding the June meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Maimone stated he believes we should hold a June meeting. Ms. Baquero stated she will look into the possibility of moving the meeting to June 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Baquero explained the July meeting is scheduled during the North Carolina Association of Public Charter School's conference in Cherokee. She stated she will reach out to board members about availability.

### **AMENDMENTS**

#### **Lake Lure Classical Academy: A Challenge Foundation Academy**

- Ms. Ashley Baquero, OCS Consultant, introduced the school's request to terminate its affiliation with TeamCFA and revise its name to Lake Lure Classical Academy. Ms. Baquero

explained the school no longer feels the partnership is necessary. The CSAB confirmed that TeamCFA is not the CMO/EMO.

**Motion: The CSAB recommends approval of this amendment.**

**Motion: Steven Walker**

**Second: Sherry Reeves**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**                       **Failed**

West Lake Preparatory Academy

- Ms. Baquero explained the school is requesting an enrollment decrease in year one of operation. She stated West Lake is a charter school scheduled to open in Lincoln County in August 2019 and the school received a one-year delay request in January 2018, so will open in its second year of the charter. She explained the enrollment revisions. She stated West Lake is requesting this enrollment decrease due to facility capacity. She explained West Lake will operate in a temporary facility during its first year and intends to operate in subsequent years in a permanent facility that will allow the previously provided enrollment numbers for year three and beyond.
- The CSAB expressed concerns that the school would be able to go from 187 enrollment to 690 enrollment the next year. Ms. Baquero shared the school's latest report application numbers were 320. The CSAB asked about the reasons for the enrollment decrease. Ms. Baquero explained the school would be in a temporary facility for the first year of operation.

**Motion: The CSAB recommends approval of this amendment.**

**Motion: Steven Walker**

**Second: Bruce Friend**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**                       **Failed**

Movement School East

- Ms. Baquero explained Movement School East's request to implement a weighted lottery. She explained Movement School East is a charter school originally scheduled to open Fall 2019 in Mecklenburg County. She explained that on September 21, 2018, the Office of Charter Schools approved a one-year delay to open in Fall 2020.
- Ms. Baquero explained Movement School East intends to utilize the weighted lottery to maximize the probability that 50 percent of students newly admitted through the lottery will be economically disadvantaged. To ensure economic diversity, Movement School East will allot a percentage of the total number of seats available to students of families with a combined annual household income of \$40,00 or less and/or those who qualify for the National School Lunch program.

**Motion: The CSAB recommends approval of this amendment.**

**Motion: Steven Walker**  
**Second: Phyllis Gibbs**  
**Recused: Cheryl Turner**  
**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**                       **Failed**

*Invest Collegiate Imagine*

- Ms. Baquero explained Invest Collegiate Imagine’s request to implement a weighted lottery. She explained Invest Collegiate Imagine is a charter school operating in Buncombe County. Invest Collegiate Imagine opened in 2014 and currently serves grades K-12. She stated the school is rated a “B” school that has exceeded growth the previous two years.
- Ms. Baquero stated the school has set a goal of achieving 40% of students meeting economically disadvantaged criteria by 2024.

**Motion: The CSAB recommends approval of this amendment.**

**Motion: Lindalyn Kakadelis**  
**Second: Steven Walker**  
**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**                       **Failed**

*Queen City STEM School*

- Ms. Baquero explained Queen City STEM School’s request to enrollment growth greater than thirty (30%) for the 2019-2020 school year. Ms. Baquero explained the requirements under GS 115C-218.7(b). She explained this would be an enrollment increase of almost forty (40%). She explained this enrollment increase would coincide with the school’s expansion to serving high school. She explained that the school has presented evidence of a waiting list of 374 students after enrolling 755 students.

**Motion: The CSAB recommends approval of this amendment.**

**Motion: Steven Walker**  
**Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis**  
**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**                       **Failed**

*NC Virtual Academy*

- Ms. Baquero explained NC Virtual Academy’s amendment request to grow 20% annually as allowed for all charter schools currently identified as low-performing. She explained the language found in the pilot legislation that provides a cap on enrollment but allows SBE waiver. She explained that NC Virtual Academy believes it is allowed to grow 20% annually as other low-performing charter schools.

- Mr. Walker spoke about the legislative background and believe the legislators meant to remove the cap when the pilot was extended. He stated there is currently a bill pending that would remove the cap.
- The CSAB clarified this amendment applies only to NC Virtual Academy.

**Motion: The CSAB recommends approval of this amendment to allow NC Virtual Academy to grow by 20% for the 2019-2020 school year.**

**Motion: Steven Walker**

**Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**

**Failed**

### **2017-18 PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK PRESENTATION**

- Ms. Baquero stated the Office of Charter Schools is in the process of finalizing data used for the 2018 Performance Framework and therefore the data could be amended slightly. She gave an overview of the presentation.
- Ms. Baquero explained that the 2018 Performance Framework analyzes data from the 2017-18 school year and there were 173 operating charter schools during that school year. She reviewed charter school growth since 2011.
- Ms. Baquero spoke about the State Board of Education (SBE) Strategic Plan goals and the measures related to charter schools. Ms. Baquero presented the data from the 2018 Performance Framework compared to the SBE targets.
- Ms. Turner asked what led to a decrease in operational compliance. Ms. Baquero stated she believes it is due to the review process in the Office of Charter Schools (OCS). She explained that OCS conducted a thorough review during last year's submission process to ensure all school policies and documentation were in compliance with statute, charter agreement, and policy.
- Ms. Baquero explained areas for growth identified in the 2018 Performance Framework data.
- Ms. Turner and Ms. Reeves spoke about using CSADM projections as a compliance measure. They stated that schools fear under-projecting and not getting fully funded for students. Ms. Baquero stated this could be an area to review going forward as a compliance measure.
- Ms. Baquero spoke about the Annual Charter School Health Report and the data that is pulled from that report for the A17 measure. Ms. Kakadelis stated charter schools have flexibility and she would like to see the DHHS compliance list. The board discussed the compliance requirements under this measure. Ms. Baquero stated that OCS is working to improve communication around this measure to improve compliance. Mr. Letterio-Maimone

stated that overwhelmingly the noncompliance issue was a failure to have a Return to Learn plan. The board expressed concerns about what was required for Return to Learn compliance.

- Ms. Baquero stated renewal compliance was at 100% and financial compliance was at 97.7%.
- Ms. Baquero reviewed the academic outcomes data. Ms. Kakadelis stated that the longer a charter school is in existence, the better the academic outcomes. Ms. Baquero reviewed areas for growth in the academic outcomes data. Ms. Baquero reviewed overall compliance percentages.
- Ms. Kakadelis asked about the academic outcomes subgroups. She asked if the percentages were a target in the Performance Framework, or targets from ESSA. The board discussed the use of the word “compliance.” Ms. Baquero clarified that for academic data, the language is “met” and “not met.”

### **SCHOOL PRESENTATION: CHATHAM CHARTER SCHOOL**

- Dr. John Eldridge, Head of School for Chatham Charter School, introduced himself and accompanying presenters.
- Dr. Eldridge introduced the school’s Career and College Promise program. He spoke about the school's goal to have a college ready curriculum. He spoke about the various opportunities this program provides to students. He explained the school’s use of creative scheduling to maximize the opportunity for students to obtain college credit.
- Dr. Brian Merritt, Central Carolina Community College, introduced the school and explained the school’s dedication to dual enrollment. He stated Central Carolina’s focus is on career and technical education pathways.
- Mr. Maimone clarified that students need twelve college credits to qualify for the Career and College Promise program. Dr. Merritt stated yes.
- Ms. Reeves asked if the dual enrollment students are in face-to-face classes or online. Dr. Merritt stated it is a combination. Dr. Eldridge stated there is a good balance of both formats.
- Ms. Reeves asked how many students Chatham Charter School enrolls in the high school. Dr. Eldridge stated about 200.
- Dr. Eldridge stated Chatham Charter School pays for all books and student fees. He stated this is a state funded program so it’s free tuition for the students.
- Ms. Turner asked about the criteria students use to enter the program. Ms. Rynn Nicks stated they use the unweighted GPA currently and the minimum is a 2.8 unweighted GPA.

- Mr. Maimone asked if Chatham Charter School has teachers that teach the community college courses. Dr. Eldridge stated no – Central Carolina Community College handles the college courses exclusively and Chatham Charter School handles the high school courses.
- Mr. Maimone asked if the program has impacted AP enrollment. Dr. Eldridge stated AP courses were never a focus at Chatham Charter School. He doesn't feel AP courses are the solution for getting students ready for college curriculum.
- Ms. Beth McCullough spoke about the master scheduling composition. She explained that afternoon middle school electives are taught by high school teachers. She stated the key to the complicated schedule is having associates that understand the schedule and how to effectively run a complex schedule.
- Ms. Rynn Nicks spoke about the college transfer options leading to an associate in arts, associate in science, or associate in engineering. She stated most students complete the arts pathway. She stated other students choose career and technical pathways. She explained the many opportunities through the career and technical pathways. She stated some are taking the arts pathway and a career and technical pathway.
- Ms. Nicks stated students typically earn 32 to as many as over 45 transferable college credits. She explained the 145 students that have participated in the program have earned a combined 4,979 credits. She stated the possibilities of the program are numerous.
- Dr. Eldridge spoke about the program benefits including exposure to rigorous coursework with support, graduating with many transferable college credits, and learning “unwritten curriculum” such as interacting with adults and advocating for themselves.
- Dr. Eldridge spoke about extracurricular and sporting opportunities.
- Ms. McCullough spoke about how the school has adapted over time including adjusting the CCP college transfer course order to be better balanced. She spoke about the expansion of electives and making this program work for EC students.
- Dr. Eldridge spoke about the things a school must do to make a program such as this work – be creative, out-of-the-box thinkers; stand firm that students can rise to your expectations; know when to be flexible; employ an innovative staff; have more than building level experience; have a balance between rigor and student support; and be passionate and committed to the partnership.
- Mr. Walker stated he believes a partnership should be underway between community colleges and private higher ed institutions.
- Ms. Reeves asked what campuses the students attend. Dr. Eldridge stated all three of the CCP campuses.

- Ms. Kakadelis stated it looks like K-12 education is moving toward the European model where students decide their career path beginning in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Dr. Eldridge stated that the courses taken don't lock the students into a certain path because the courses tend to be general ed courses. He continued that a lot of students are thinking about finishing their associate degree before going on to college.

### **CSP GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Mr. Jay Whalen, OCS Consultant, stated he is here to present the first NC ACCESS subgrant recommendations. He explained the four categories in which applicants could apply. Mr. Whalen stated there were 26 letters of intent submitted, 23 of which were eligible to apply. He stated that as of the March deadline, there were twelve applications received. He stated there were no replication applicants.
- He stated each application was reviewed by four evaluators using the CSAB and SBE scoring rubric. The scored rubrics were then used to determine recommendations on the applications. He explained what merits a recommendation of approval. He stated the CSAB has a full recommendation report for each applicant.
- He explained that recommendations for schools in the planning and implementation category are contingent on approval of the charter school application by the SBE at its June meeting. Mr. Whalen continued by explaining how the subgrant funding will work. He stated the NC ACCESS/CSP Grant team will meet with each applicant to discuss the plan the applicant has proposed and explain the monitoring process and subgrant funding.
- Mr. Whalen stated there are three types of recommendation – not recommended for approval, recommended for approval, or conditionally recommended for approval. He stated schools that are not recommended for approval can apply again in later years. He stated some applicants have been conditionally approved. He explained this is part of a larger revision to the program requested from the U.S. Department of Education regarding the allotment of subgrants. Mr. Whalen continued, that if the revision is approved by the June SBE meeting, we will recommend those two conditionally approved schools. If the Department of Education does not approve the revision by the June SBE meeting, the applicants will be able to apply for future subgrants.
- Mr. Maimone asked for clarification about which schools need to be approved by the SBE. Mr. Whalen stated that every applicant listed as “recommended for approval” can be approved by the SBE. He continued that the team will have a decision prior to the June SBE meeting as to whether the conditionally recommended schools can be approved.
- Mr. Whalen stated that in order to be recommended for approval, an applicant must meet all general standards and have at least 80 points on the rubric. He stated planning and implementation subgrants are for newly approved schools going into the planning year. He stated there are three allotted subgrants and five eligible applicants for this category. The three recommended for approval are MINA Charter School of Lee County, Movement East Charter School, and Wilmington School of the Arts. Mr. Whalen spoke briefly about the



three recommended for approval. Mr. Whalen explained what was lacking in the two applications that were not recommended.

- Mr. Friend asked if Robert J. Brown Leadership Academy had scored 80 points would they be approved. Mr. Whalen stated not necessarily. He stated that scoring 80 points is not the sole criteria for approval. He stated the approval is based on the totality of the application.
- Mr. Maimone asked if the educationally disadvantaged (ED) numbers projected match the numbers in the weighted lottery. Mr. Whalen stated in most cases the ED numbers mirror weighted lottery numbers.
- Ms. Kakadelis asked about what happens if the schools don't meet enrollment expectations. Mr. Whalen stated there will be check points for monitoring expectations including enrollment.
- Ms. Turner and Ms. Kakadelis asked how the funding works. Mr. Whalen stated the grants are reimbursements that are made over the five-year program period.
- Ms. Gibbs asked how much the subgrants are for. Mr. Whalen stated that planning and implementation grants are up to \$400,000. Ms. Reeves asked what types of costs are used for the program. Mr. Whalen stated some major costs may be staffing during the planning year, professional development, marketing, transportation.
- Mr. Maimone asked if schools can get kicked out of the program if they don't meet the ED numbers in the weighted lottery goals. Mr. Whalen stated issues such as this will be addressed with schools during the monitoring process and speaking to applicants about why goals are not met.
- Mr. Whalen clarified that the ED numbers in this program are based on the federal definition of educationally disadvantaged which includes economically disadvantaged, English language learners, students with disabilities, or homeless students.
- Mr. Whalen stated the implementation subgrants recommended for approval are for TeamCFA: Bonnie Cone Classical Academy and TeamCFA: Community Public Charter. He stated East Voyager Academy and Tillery Charter Academy are conditionally recommended. He stated Next Generation Academy was not recommended for approval.
- Mr. Maimone asked for clarification on the conditional recommendation. Mr. Whalen stated the condition is on the U.S. Department of Education to approve two more schools for the implementation only category.
- Mr. Whalen stated the final category is the expansion category. He stated schools are eligible to receive up to \$600,000. He stated three applications were received for this subgrant. He stated The Exploris School and Invest Collegiate Imagine are both recommended for approval. He explained why these schools were selected for approval.

- Ms. Reeves asked how many staff are on the NC ACCESS team. Mr. Whalen stated there will be four staff members. Ms. Reeves asked if this will happen each year. Mr. Whalen stated yes, this will be an annual cycle for the five-year grant program.
- Mr. Friend asked if a school entering their third year that has been an A or B school for the prior two years could apply. Mr. Whalen stated yes.

**Motion: The CSAB recommends approval of the implementation only and expansion subgrants.**

**Motion: Cheryl Turner**

**Second: Sherry Reeves**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**                       **Failed**

**Motion: The CSAB recommends approval of the planning and implementation subgrants.**

**Motion: Sherry Reeves**

**Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis**

**Recused: Cheryl Turner**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**                       **Failed**

***\*\*The CSAB broke for lunch at 11:55pm and reconvened at 1:00pm.***

**DR. THOMAS TOMBERLIN**

- Dr. Tomberlin, NC DPI Educator Recruitment and Support, stated Senate Bill 599 put a time limit on the lateral entry process – June 30, 2019 – and after that date, no lateral entry licenses can be issued by the state of North Carolina. He stated SB 599 froze all policies related to lateral entry licenses at the time of its passage. He stated there can be no revisions to the lateral entry policy. He stated the alternative is becoming the dominant entry for teaching which will be the residency model. He stated it is built for those educators that come in with a BA/BS degree but no formal teaching degree. Dr. Tomberlin continued that those applicants will need to work with an educator prep program (EPP).
- He continued that each employing agency – LEA or charter school – must have a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the EPP about what types of support the EPP will have for their applicant. He stated those are not clearly established in law. The understanding is that the EPP exercises some oversight of the candidate in the classroom. Dr. Tomberlin stated this could look different for every LEA and charter school. He stated we want to allow as much flexibility as possible, but schools are definitely looking for guidance regarding these MOUs.
- Mr. Maimone asked if there has been any talk about a sample MOU for charters and LEAs. Eric Snider, SBE Attorney, stated that work has not been done, nor has it been requested.

- Mr. Maimone asked if the residency license is a full license. Dr. Tomberlin stated that the residency license will be a full license comparable to an initial professional license. Dr. Tomberlin spoke about the ESSA out-of-field designations.
- Dr. Tomberlin stated at its April meeting, the SBE approved several policies related to out of state teachers in relation to testing requirements. He continued that there are two categories – Elementary and Exceptional Children General Curriculum (ECGC) and everyone else. He stated that if you are coming from out of state, and are not Elementary or ECGC, we will grant you a license and not require additional tests. He continued if you are coming from out of state and seeking a license in Elementary or ECGC and have a license with a passing subscore in math/reading with three or more years of experience, you will not need to test. If you come in for Elementary or ECGC, with less than three years, you will take the test regardless of whether the teacher took a test in another state.
- Dr. Tomberlin stated licensure is in a state of extreme flux because there are several bills pending that would impact licensure. Dr. Tomberlin stated it is increasingly hard to keep up with the licensure changes. He continued that to that end, his division is beginning to hold webinars following SBE meetings to address licensure updates.
- Ms. Turner stated that you cannot put an HR representative into the EDDIE system. Dr. Tomberlin stated he doesn't care who comes to the webinar. He stated all a charter school needs to do is have the director send an email and designate someone and Dr. Tomberlin's division will provide a link to the webinar.
- Ms. Kakadelis asked if the cut scores in the licensure policies are the vendor cut scores. Dr. Tomberlin stated in almost all cases, yes.
- Ms. Turner asked what the requirement is now to get an elementary license. Dr. Tomberlin stated if you have completed an EPP, you can get a license without taking a test so long as you pass by the end of the second year. He continued if you are lateral entry you have three years to pass the test. He stated so it is possible to enter the profession without taking the test.
- Dr. Tomberlin stated Senate Bill 219, currently pending, would change licensure in the state. He stated there is an understanding that districts are having a hard time hiring people or that quality teachers can't pass the tests. In that case, there is a possibility for the charter or LEA to issue a limited license for three years, but it is nontransferable and expires after the three years. He continued that allows the teacher three years to pass the test. He stated that there is also a provision that any teacher with a license that expires June 30, 2019, and hasn't met testing requirements, will get an extension to June 30, 2020. He continued this extension is for Elementary and Exceptional Children General Curriculum licenses. Dr. Tomberlin stated there are a few exceptions to who can issue those limited licenses including Wake County and Wake County charter schools. He stated there are about fourteen counties in the state excluded based on the economic development rating by the Commerce Department. He stated he has a list of those counties.

- Ms. Reeves asked about teachers that pass the test, but don't have EPP coursework. Dr. Tomberlin stated those teachers would fall under another process.

**NC CONNECTIONS ACADEMY**

- Mr. Quigley stated the SBE sent back the CSAB's nonrecommendation and asked the CSAB to make a recommendation.

**Motion: The CSAB moves to enter closed session to discuss attorney privileged matters. (1:30pm)**

**Motion: Steven Walker**

**Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis**

**Recused: Cheryl Turner**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**                       **Failed**

**Motion: The CSAB moves to leave closed session and enter open session. (1:56pm)**

**Motion: Tammi Sutton**

**Second: Sherry Reeves**

**Recused: Cheryl Turner**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**                       **Failed**

- Mr. Walker stated this is the third month this board has considered this issue. He stated there are two options – recommend approval or not recommend approval, which would mean the termination of a charter. He stated the pilot was extended by four years and although he has some concerns about the plan moving forward and the board's experience in virtual schools, he believes the best course of action would be to approve with some stipulations. He stated one stipulation would be to attend the monthly CSAB meetings with updates and to provide any information requested by the Office of Charter Schools. He stated he is highly recommending that the board find a board member that is experienced in virtual education.

**Motion: The CSAB recommends approval of this amendment with the following stipulations: 1) A NC Quality Virtual Education board representative attend the monthly CSAB meetings until which time the CSAB determines that is no longer necessary and 2) the NC Quality Virtual Education board provide any information as requested by the Office of Charter Schools.**

**Motion: Steven Walker**

**Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis**

- Mr. Friend stated this is a difficult decision. He stated he doesn't believe it is the role of the CSAB to require a board to work with a CMO or EMO it no longer wants to work with. He does however have concerns about the capability of the NC Quality Virtual Education board to handle this type of transition.

- Ms. Kakadelis stated she has grave concerns about the tasks in front of this board and the fact that this board is completely different than the board that received the charter. Ms. Sutton asked why Ms. Kakadelis is voting yes if she has those concerns. Ms. Kakadelis stated because she doesn't believe we can force the board to work with Pearson.
- Mr. Quigley stated this is a unique situation and this is a pilot. Although he shares some of the concerns, this is not a decision to grant a new charter. He stated he doesn't like the idea that EMOs can come forward when they have difficulty with a board and suggest the CSAB give the charter to another board on the behest of the EMO. He stated this gives the board the opportunity to show they can be successful without Pearson. If the school can improve performance, this is the chance to show it. He continued both virtual schools are not making growth, so there are questions that will need to be addressed as the pilot enters this second phase. He stated this is a huge task and the board will be under a microscope.
- Ms. Kroeger stated she agrees with the previous sentiments and that this is a difficult decision, but believes it is the right decision for the students.

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Recused: Cheryl Turner**

**Passed**

**Failed**

- Mr. Quigley stated this is about two groups that are not able to work together, but we recognize the good work Pearson does around the state and country.

### **RTO UPDATE AND PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Dr. Kebbler Williams, OCS Consultant, provided an update on the fourteen schools scheduled to open in the fall of 2019.
- She reviewed application figures for the fourteen schools. She stated one school has enough applications to fill its enrollment projections. She stated five schools are currently below the 75% enrollment threshold, based on number of applications, that we would normally expect by June 1<sup>st</sup>. She explained one school, West Lake, has requested an amendment to decrease enrollment projections.
- She stated the next enrollment report is due May 24, 2019 along with part two of the regular RTO progress report. She stated the next report will indicate actual enrollment.
- Ms. Reeves asked which schools were in a delay year. Dr. Williams stated several schools – Apprentice, Bonnie Cone, Monroe, West Lake, and Discovery (in a second year delay).
- Mr. Quigley asked which Dr. Williams finds most important – enrollment numbers or facility updates. Dr. Williams stated the facility update will give you two pieces of information – actual facility information and RTO progress report status. She stated one school – Discovery – has a certificate of occupancy. She stated one school has not identified its temporary space

– Bonnie Cone. She stated they are building a new facility, but just found out that facility will not be available until October 2019 so they are in the process of finding a temporary facility and they have three options.

- Dr. Williams reviewed the RTO Progress Report for the schools. She stated there were six categories in the part one of the RTO Progress Report. She stated seven were rated satisfactory, three were rated exceptional, and four were rated below standard.
- Ms. Reeves asked for details about the insufficient ratings. Dr. Williams stated Pocosin’s insufficient rating stemmed from its policy manual. She continued that for Ridgeview Charter School the insufficient rating was related to board governance and deficiencies in the board meeting minutes. She stated that the bylaws were also in poor condition. She stated for Steele Creek and West Lake, they both received insufficient ratings in the employee handbook category.
- Mr. Quigley asked how concerned the CSAB should be with insufficient schools. Dr. Williams stated she doesn’t believe there is enough evidence at this point to delay any schools. She stated the next RTO evidences will provide more information.
- Ms. Turner asked how confident Dr. Williams is that the schools will have a facility prepared. Dr. Williams stated she is confident that things are moving along and is looking forward to receiving concrete evidences of facilities in the next RTO submissions.

**Motion: The CSAB preliminarily recommends these schools to the State Board of Education (SBE) to continue with the Ready to Open Process with the exception of B.L.U.E. – G.R.E.E.N. Academy.**

**Motion: Sherry Reeves**

**Second: Steven Walker**

**Vote: Unanimous**

Passed                       Failed

**Motion: The CSAB preliminarily recommends B.L.U.E. – G.R.E.E.N. Academy to the State Board of Education (SBE) to continue with the Ready to Open Process.**

**Motion: Steven Walker**

**Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Recused: Cheryl Turner**

Passed                       Failed

### **ADJOURN**

- Mr. Walker would like the Office of Charter Schools to inform schools of the public comment possibility regarding the rules process. Mr. Snider stated there will be five public hearings and public comment periods and they are currently working out the communication strategy for informing stakeholders.

**Motion: The CSAB moves to adjourn. (2:30pm)**

**Motion: Steven Walker**

**Second: Lindalyn Kakadelis**

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Passed**

**Failed**