

Mallard Creek and Southwest Charlotte STEM Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
Jan 18th 6:30 pm
ZOOM due to COVID

6:30 Call to Order

Mr. Garcia, MCSA/ SCSA Chairman, called the meeting to order. He welcomed the board and community members on Zoom.

6:35 Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Ms. Condon made a motion to approve November's board meeting minutes. Ms. Domenech seconded the motion. There were no additions or issues. The minutes were unanimously approved. 4/42

6:40 Principal Reports:

Ms. Deanna Smith, MCSA Principal

Enrollment Current: There has been some movement in our numbers due to families moving. Accepting applications for the lottery until January 19th. Information meetings will be held in February. February 8th at 5:00 p.m.

MTSS model is being used for current students. MCSA has moved to totally virtual. The students who are receiving intervention have shown improvements. Ms. Smith thanked the interventionists. Ms. Lucas said

PSAT for 7th and 8th grade students was talked about in previous meetings; however, when trying to apply Ms. Smith discovered they needed accreditation. MCSA will begin the accreditation program with SAACS.

Budgets and bond quarterly reports were presented by Ms. Lucas. Ms. Lucas presented the schools' monthly financials. The current budgets look great. Local funding is beginning to come in. COVID-19 relief funds will be revenue that comes in before the next meeting. They have put more cameras for security and doors for additional security. Applications for charter next year across the states are down 30%.

Ms. Smith discussed that all allowable CRF has been identified and will hit next month. Two new grants are pending for contracted support for instruction/tutoring and one to help cover the cost of our counselors. There are extra security cameras, additional technology for remote learning

Parent Partnership: Meetings are going to be continued online. Mrs. Smith explained that they were revamping their virtual learning space. Parents filled out surveys and MCSA team is using those to humanize virtual learning. There is a new PD series for teachers to share best practices in virtual instruction and how to expand their reach to students. MCSA team looked to other professionals for additional insights.

Nixon and Co. is partnering with MCSA. Their focus is looking more intentionally at parent involvement. They will be using a virtual office coming up. This is a space for people to come together as a MCSA community.

Technology has been distributed to everyone in need. There were 50 additional Chromebooks ordered.

Remote Learning: The Health Department gave guidance and school community was beginning to see spread through close contacts. MCSA is already planning to get 100% of students back into school. They are looking forward to seeing students for in-person learning beginning on February 2nd. We continue to forge ahead with discussion related to connecting with families and students outside of the brick and mortar space of the school. The school will continue to forge ahead with discussion related to connecting with families and students outside of the brick and mortar space of the school.

Ms. Sheikra Barnes, SCSA Principal

Board members have the numbers for round 1 of assessments. SCSA administration did get through round 1 (3 visits) of teacher observation.

Advanced Learning: Steering committee is putting together

Nixon and Co. is partnering with SCSA. Their focus is looking more intentionally at parent involvement. They will be using a virtual office coming up. This is a space for people to come together as a SCSA community.

Planning meeting this week with a Digi-Bridge. SCSA is very excited to see how they can contribute to the SCSA community.

Field development is on target despite all of the obstacles. Excited to get Rockets out

Planning 3.0 Orbit into the NEXT LEVEL for year three planning for the school.

Mrs. Lucas stated that one of the most pressing issues is return to school. It is the schools' intention to remain in remote learning until the recommended February 2nd date. MCSA/ SCSA will plan to pivot back to the previous model on February 8th. Families will still have the option to remain fully virtual until the end of the year. Mrs. Lucas is now in a place to provide all services to students.

There will be a need for board members to have state interviews and Ms. Lucas will send out more information about this.

7:50 New Business:

Community questions/ comments:

The administration stated that some questions that will not be answered at tonight's meeting will be answered by the appropriate person within a reasonable time frame. There were many questions about schools returning to the in-does not take NC Check Ins and the rationale is that the school's curriculum doesn't correlate to those assessments. They are using i-Ready assessments currently.

8:00 Adjourn

Ms. Condon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Domenech seconded it. The board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting.