

**WALTON ACADEMY, INC.  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MINUTES**

**Date:** Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
**Time:** 10:00 am  
**Location:** Walton Academy - Classroom Building 13  
389 Dorsey Avenue  
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435

- I. **Call to Order, Review of Public Notice, Roll Call**  
The meeting was called to order by acting Chairperson Carlene Anderson at 10:03 am. Board members present were: Carlene Anderson (on phone) and Wayne Graham. Guests in attendance were: Dr. Bill Rader, Terri Roberts, David Schmidt, Shekima Fields, Marie Laurino, Ray Sansom, Jessica Swanson, Tammie Braden and Amy Pupo. Before the meeting began, it was announced that Ms. Jo Henderson would be resigning from the board effective this meeting and a proposed new board member, Jessica Swanson, was in attendance for approval. Both action items were discussed and approved later in the meeting (the draft agenda was revised).
- II. **Approval of Minutes, June 20, 2019 - The last meeting's minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Graham, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Anderson.**
- III. **Approval of Agenda - The meeting's revised agenda was approved with edits on a motion by Ms. Anderson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Graham.**
- IV. **Public Comment for registered speaker, if any - N/A**
- V. **Reports**
  - A. **Directors' Reports - presented by David Schmidt/Shekima Fields**  
Walton Academy - Ms. Laurino introduced two students who talked about their experience how they have benefitted from blended learning. Both students reported that the concept helped them build good habits to set goals throughout the week and one actually graduated early. Both students reported that their experience has been "awesome" and since they were able to work at their own pace, it really helped them. Mr. Schmidt then began his report, stating that he appreciated Ms. Henderson's service over the years and a thank you to the board for their service as well. He said this school year was off to a great start and that he advises students to "strive for excellence." He cited the Leader in Me program with helping students gain confidence. He also mentioned that he had 26 students take the SAT and he's proud of what the school has done for students.  
Walton Learning Center - Ms. Fields spoke regarding Walton Learning Center and how proud she is of the success of the facility. They have implemented some new items, including ACT administration, GED assistance and things are moving smoothly. She also cited having two graduates in the past week from WLC.
  - B. **Management Report - presented by Dr. Rader and Ray Sansom**
    - i. **Mr. Sansom spoke regarding the district coming for a visit to Walton Academy and that it went well. He said also that teachers and students are modeling blended learning and that it's been successful. He also stated that Walton Learning Center has had great test scores recently and that the staff is doing an excellent job so far this school year.**
    - ii. **Safety/facility update: Dr. Rader spoke regarding the campus security. He is currently researching facilities needs and planning for long term.**

He provided an estimate of potential new building pods (15 classrooms; 4 pods) and stated that the modular/portables on campus will remain for now but will eventually be removed. Ms. Anderson had some general questions regarding a new building – whether the school would lease versus purchase and how it would be structured. Dr. Rader said he would plan to have an initial plan in place for the next board meeting in early 2020. Some other questions were raised as to whether the district would be able to partner with the school and if parts of a new building could be rented out to others using the facility.

**VI. Action Items**

Ms. Jo Henderson's resignation from the board was accepted and Ms. Jessica Swanson, new board member, was approved on a motion from Ms. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Graham.

**A. Personnel Recommendations/Changes – presented by Amy Pupo**  
The personnel reports for both schools were discussed and approved on a motion by Ms. Anderson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Graham.

**B. Financial Reports – presented by Terri Roberts/Tammie Braden**

**Walton Academy:**

- i. **Audited Financial Statements 18-19 – Ms. Roberts stated to everyone as this is her last meeting she is “passing the baton” to Tammie and how proud she is over always having clean audits. She presented the final audit for the last school year and there were no findings. We also mentioned that the school will need to select a new auditor, as our existing one is leaving the firm. An audit committee will select firms and request RFPs soon. As a CPA, new board member Jessica Swanson will serve on the committee and a new firm would need to be selected for early May 2020.**
- ii. **Monthly Financial Statement – Ms. Braden presented the financial statement and gave a brief overview on all funds. The statements are sent to the county.**
- iii. **Budget Amendment 2019-2020 – Ms. Braden also presented the amendment. Enrollment is down; the question is to how will the enrollment trend (?) going forward. The financial statement and budget amendment were approved on a motion by Ms. Anderson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Graham.**

**Walton Learning Center:**

- i. **Financial Statements - Per the Profit and Loss statement and balance sheet, it was mentioned that both schools are financially sound.**
- ii. **Budget Amendment 2018-2019 – the financial statements and budget amendment were approved on a motion by Ms. Anderson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Graham.**

**VII. Other Action Items**

**A. Best and Brightest Award policy – Ms. Braden explained that this is a bonus system to give to teachers. The district and charter schools can determine their own criteria to determine award calculations. She proposed following the district's policy with regard to this when the funds are sent to us for distribution. This recommendation was approved on a motion by Mr. Graham and seconded by Ms. Anderson.**

**B. Bank signature changes/Registered Agent changes – with Ms. Roberts's retirement from BTR, there are necessary bank account changes to be made. It was determined that the school directors will be added and Ms. Roberts will be removed. The changes were discussed and approved on a motion by Ms. Anderson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Graham.**

**VIII. Emergency Items**

**IX. Board Member Matters - With Ms. Henderson's resignation, a new board secretary will need to be selected. Ms. Jessica Swanson was approved as the new secretary on a motion by Mr. Graham, seconded by Ms. Anderson. The next meeting is set for Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 10:00 am.**

**X. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

***Amy Pupo, Acting Recorder***