

Wayne Preparatory Academy  
Board of Directors Meeting  
September 20, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

I. OPENING

- A. Welcome and Call to Order – Ms. Amanda Wells
- a. The Meeting was called to order at 5:46pm by Chair Amanda Wells.
  - b. Present was Chair Wells, Charles Gaylor, Glenn Barfield, Donna Scott and Scott Mackey via telephone.
  - c. Representing administration and staff were Christine Smith, Natalie Barber, John Twitty, Samantha Schuler, Tina Hinson, and Anthony Wright.
- B. Notification of Conflicts of Interest
- a. Board members are reminded that it is our duty to avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest as we handle the work of the Board. Does any member of the Board know of any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict respect to any matters coming before us at this meeting? If so, please state them for the record. If during the course of the meeting you become aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest, please bring the matter to the attention of the Chair. It will then be your duty to abstain from participating in discussion on the matter and from voting on the matter.
  - b. Statement read aloud by Charles Gaylor. No conflicts were brought to the attention of the Chair.
- C. Motion to Approve the Agenda as Business Order of the Day
- a. Motion was made by Charles Gaylor and seconded by Scott Mackey to approve the agenda as amended as the business order of the day. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Approval of Minutes (If applicable)
- a. No minutes were presented for disposition at this time.

II. NEW BUSINESS

- A. New Board Member
- a. Ms. Donna Scott is presented for consideration. She is currently employed at the SJAB Chapel as an administrator but was at Greenwood Middle prior to that. She believes that students need exceptional standards and proper advocates. She believes that Wayne Preparatory Academy should, and must, be an elite establishment. She has been vetted by multiple board members and found to be a qualified and respected member of the education community.

- b. Motion was made to appoint Donna Scott to the board effective immediately by Charles Gaylor and Seconded by Scott Mackey. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. United Way Presentation

- a. Removed and postponed for a future meeting.

C. Federal Grants Presentation/Training

- a. Mrs. Hinson offered a presentation on the mechanics and requirements of Title I, Title II, and Title IV federal funding streams. This presentation discussed the multitude of ways that schools are expected to improve their performance and student learning through the use of these funds. She discussed that at WPA we are using the funds to, amongst other things, hire additional literacy coaches and other instructional staff. It was also discussed that these funds will be used with an eye to helping homeless families with students in the school. It was noted that WPA serves at least two unhoused families.
- b. The discussion moved to an outline of WPAs opportunities using ESSR funds, distributed in rounds referred to as ESSR I, II, and III. These funds have varying dates by which all monies must be encumbered. Administration is pleased with the opportunities offered by these funds and anticipates fully encumbering these funds well ahead of those deadlines.

III. ACADEMICS

A. Enrollment Update

- a. Mr. Twitty discussed the current state of enrollment. Current enrollment is 1019 which has the school in acceptable range from a financial standpoint. This number is also a number that is healthy with the current staffing levels.

B. Academic/School Updates

- a. Mr. Wright discussed progress within the high school grades and the challenges of getting back to a 5-day routine and a number of other administrative matters. All matters were headed toward an appropriate resolution. Upcoming dates of importance include ACT testing on November 4, 2022, and Graduation regalia purchases on October 10, 2022.
- b. Ms. Hinson discussed progress within the elementary school grades and upcoming activities. Also noted are letters being sent to families whose child is routinely late to school in the mornings or late to be picked up in the afternoon.
- c. Ms. Schuler discussed progress within the middle grades. She discussed a commitment to changes in culture and climate within the middle grades.

She discussed the necessity for students to feel safe (physically and emotionally) to allow the brain to operate in a learning state. She discussed upcoming i-Ready diagnostics, upcoming club activities, and the December 12 Christmas play to be held at Wayne Community College.

C. Test Scores

- a. The state's school scoring system shows WPA with a D letter grade. This is disappointing and not where the board will allow the school to remain. Mr. Twitty believes that this school can reasonable be a consistent B on the grading scale, and desires to remain in the Executive office to see this goal achieved. Staff and administration is being moved around to establish a future-focused culture and match strengths with weaknesses. The academic leadership team has a plan in place and believes the plan will work, given a non-COVID year for it to yield results.
  - i. WPA met its growth expectations, but is still seeing low overall performance on standardized testing.

IV. FINANCE

A. Fundraiser with BrewMasters in Goldsboro, NC

- a. *With great appreciation for the offer and much discussion on the matter,* the board decided to decline holding an evening fundraiser at BrewMasters. The funds raised would be tied exclusively to the sales of pints of beer. While no board member suggested anything negative about the establishment, it was noted that all high schoolers are under the legal drinking age and should be encouraged away from the consumption of alcohol at this stage of their lives. Therefore, the board acknowledge an appreciation for the offer of support but felt compelled to decline this opportunity at this time.

B. Account Updates

- a. Not reached, but current monthly statements were provided to the Board.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Handbooks

- a. Mr. Twitty advised that Handbooks have been finalized and will be posted/in process of being posted or distributed.

VI. OPERATIONS

- A. Facilities Update: The Board discussed High School building is complete with some final things to be installed. We are waiting on final billing.
- B. Personnel (Closed)

VII. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Motion was made by Donna Scott and seconded by Scott Mackey to go into Closed Session to discuss matters that are privileged and confidential under state or federal law, to discuss matters that are protected under attorney-client privilege, and to discuss personnel matters. The motion passed unanimously at 7:24 p.m.
  - B. A motion was made by Scott Mackey and seconded by Donna Scott to return to open session at 7:52pm. The motion was passed unanimously.
- VIII. Any motions to be heard resulting from Closed Session
- a. No motions resulting from Closed Session were considered.
- IX. ADJOURNMENT
- a. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board is October 18, 2022, at 5:30 on the campus of Wayne Preparatory Academy.
  - b. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm via motion by Donna Scott and seconded by Scott Mackey. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Charles Gaylor, IV  
Board Secretary and Treasurer  
October 18, 2022