Minutes of the North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board
Via Cisco Webex Remote Meeting
July 13, 2020 9:00 am

CALL TO ORDER

- The North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board (CSAB) meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman Alex Quigley who read the Ethics Statement and CSAB Mission Statement. Mr. Quigley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- Mr. Quigley recused himself from discussion and voting on the PAVE amendment request.

Motion: Approve the July 2020 agenda.
Motion: Lynn Kroeger
Second: Hilda Parlér
Vote: Unanimous
☑ Passed ☐ Failed

Motion: Approve the June 8th and July 7th 2020 CSAB minutes.
Motion: Steven Walker
Second: Sherry Reeves
Vote: Unanimous
☒ Passed  ☐ Failed

myFutureNC Presentation

- Mr. Dave Machado, Office of Charter Schools (OCS) Director, introduced the speaker. Ms. Cecilia Holden, President and CEO of myFutureNC, gave a presentation regarding her organization’s mission and work. Ms. Holden spoke about the history of the organization and the vision of having the workforce talent needed to meet the demands of the state by 2030.

- She stated the goal is to have two million North Carolinians attain post-secondary degrees or credentials by 2030. She spoke about bipartisan support for the effort. She stated the goal is now codified into law. Ms. Holden spoke about the organization’s board.

- Ms. Holden explained leaks in the education pipeline by illustrating how many 9th graders eventually obtain post-secondary degrees or credentials. She stated thirty percent of those 9th graders are eventually what we have to fill the workforce. She spoke about the financial benefits of attaining a post-secondary degree or a credential.

- Ms. Holden spoke about the organization’s Strategic Plan. She spoke about county profiles that will be available for all counties to help facilitate the organization’s mission. She spoke about the high impact strategies needed to meet the organization’s goals.

- Ms. Holden spoke about the importance of FAFSA completion among high schoolers. She stated that last year North Carolina left $89 million on the table in terms of available Pell Grants. She explained the importance of data sharing agreements with charter schools to allow schools to help students complete the FAFSA process.

- Dr. Rita Haire asked about how the county profiles will be available. Ms. Holden stated they will be available on the website and will be included in a report to the General Assembly.

- Ms. Shaunda Cooper, OCS Consultant, asked Ms. Holden if she could share the information with the OCS Counselor Cohort. Ms. Holden stated absolutely.

- Ms. Cheryl Turner expressed her appreciation for the presentation and spoke about her experience trying to understand the data sharing agreement.

**AMENDMENTS**

- Ms. Ashley Baquero, OCS Consultant, explained this month’s amendment requests.
Telra Institute

- Ms. Baquero explained that this amendment was before the board last month and since that time Telra Institute has decided to rescind its request to relocate. Ms. Baquero stated the request before the board today is to implement a weighted lottery and increase enrollment. She stated the weighted lottery will target educationally disadvantaged students with a goal of 20% educationally disadvantaged students each year. She explained the grade level revision and enrollment increase requested. CSAB members expressed support for this request.

Motion: Approve the amendment request.
Motion: Steven Walker
Second: Bruce Friend
Vote: Unanimous
☑ Passed □ Failed

Sallie B. Howard

- Ms. Baquero explained that the school is recommended for a $900k NC ACCESS grant and is requesting the implementation of a weighted lottery. She spoke about the school’s long-term success as one of the state’s first charter schools. She stated the school is setting a goal to increase its economically disadvantaged student population from 62% to 80%.

Motion: Approve the amendment request.
Motion: Sherry Reeves
Second: Hilda Parlér
Vote: Unanimous
☑ Passed □ Failed

PAVE SE Raleigh

- Ms. Baquero stated that this charter school operates in Wake County and is seeking separation from its management company. She explained the reasons for the separation and the status of the separation.

Motion: Approve the amendment request.
Motion: Bruce Friend
Second: Sherry Reeves
Recused: Alex Quigley
Vote: Unanimous
☑ Passed □ Failed
STRATEGIC CALENDAR – CSAB CHAIR VOTING

• Ms. Baquero explained that each year OCS creates a strategic calendar to guide the work CSAB and OCS engages in throughout the year. She displayed the 2020-2021 Strategic Calendar and explained how it aligns to the new charter school application process and other major duties of the CSAB and OCS, as well as to SBE voting.

• Ms. Reeves made a motion to nominate for Alex Quigley to remain as CSAB Chair and Cheryl Turner be appointed as Vice Chair. Mr. Walker seconded that motion and asked that nominations be closed.

Motion: Approve Alex Quigley as Chair and Cheryl Turner as Vice Chair of the CSAB.
Motion: Sherry Reeves
Second: Steven Walker

• Mr. Walker praised Mr. Quigley for his work as CSAB Chair and stated his term on the CSAB ends effective December 31st. Mr. Walker expressed his support for Ms. Turner as Vice Chair.

• CSAB members expressed gratitude for the many years of service Mr. Walker has given to the board.

Vote: Unanimous
☑ Passed ☐ Failed

• CSAB members reviewed the 2020-2021 Committee Assignments and the board terms for CSAB members. Mr. Quigley asked the OCS to be mindful that eight board members’ terms expire in June 2021. Mr. Quigley reviewed the meeting calendar and stated there will be no August meeting, but right now we hope to meet in person in the near future and asked board members to mark calendars for the upcoming meeting dates.

NC CYBER ACADEMY MONTHLY UPDATE

• Mr. Martez Hill, Superintendent, asked Mr. Bo Mullins, the Chief Operating Officer, and Ms. Jill Hammergren, Board President, to give an update to CSAB. Mr. Mullins stated they expect to fill enrollment up to the statutory cap. Mr. Mullins spoke about changes in vendors and change in administrative positions.

• Ms. Hammergren spoke about growth and the school’s desire to request an exemption from the statutory enrollment cap. Ms. Hammergren spoke about changes to the school’s staffing. Mr. Quigley asked why the school hadn’t requested an amendment. Ms. Hammergren stated they were waiting to see how things worked out and there was a lot of uncertainty with the
COVID situation. Mr. Quigley stated that is a significant request to make and the CSAB does not have an August meeting planned so timing would be difficult. Ms. Hammergren stated this is something the school just started to think about. Ms. Lynn Kroeger stated she wondered if this would cause any issues with the CSADM as she believes the schools should have already input their initial CSADM and funding may be ready to go out.

- Ms. Baquero stated that if the school wanted it to go to the SBE in August, she would need materials by this Wednesday. She explained how the timeline works. She also discussed background on requests related to enrollment above the virtual charter school pilot cap set in statute. Ms. Hammergren stated they are not asking for a vote today.

- CSAB members discussed concerns with enrollment increases at this point. Ms. Hammergren stated they will pull together some more information and start discussions on what a request may look like in the future.

2019 PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK REPORT

- Mr. Joseph Letterio, OCS Consultant, presented the 2019 Performance Framework results. Mr. Letterio began by discussing the SBE goals and the Performance Framework used as a monitoring and accountability tool for charter schools.

- Mr. Letterio discussed the academic data from the 2018-2019 school year. He then reviewed the operational and financial compliance data for charter schools. Mr. Letterio also gave a brief overview of the NC virtual charter schools pilot program charter schools’ performance and enrollment trends.

- CSAB members expressed praise for the report and detailed data presented.

Motion: Approve the 2019 Performance Framework Report.
Motion: Cheryl Turner
Second: Hilda Parlér
Vote: Unanimous
☒Passed ☐Failed

RENEWAL POLICY DISCUSSION

- Ms. Cooper explained that following more discussion regarding the renewal process for the next cohort, it was determined that it would be best to move forward with the current data on renewals. She stated that allows the CSAB to use its guidelines and flexibility in making renewal decisions. She explained that COVID legislation provided a stay for low-performing schools, they remain the same status, and so allowing a waiver would contrast with that. She
explained the renewal presentation would take place in October, as in previous years, and recommendations take place in December.

**DIRECTOR’S UPDATE**

- Mr. Machado spoke about recent State Board of Education (SBE) actions. He reviewed SBE RTO approvals, as well as amendment approvals and discussions at its July meeting.

- Mr. Machado stated that charter schools that had not previously been allocated funding from the CARES ACT due to Title I participation, will now receive funding from the CARES ACT.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Mr. Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:00AM. Dr. Haire seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned via acclamation.