

Horse Creek Academy
1200 Toolebeck Rd
Aiken SC 29840
803.226.0160 | F: 803.226.0202

Agenda

HCA Executive Board Meeting

9.20.2019

HCA Commons Area

Jake Edwards, President
Kevin Murray, Vice President
Jenny French, Secretary
Kim Fralick, Governance Chair – did not attend
Robert Fazekas, Facilities Chair
Yolanda Dortch, Education
Rosalyn Bowman, Treasure - participated by phone

KLM
approved 10/29/19

Meeting called to order - 6:00 PM

- Mr. Edwards
- Dr. Ann Marie Taylor (Invocation)
- Mr. Edwards (Pledge of Allegiance)
- Mr. Murray (Mission Statement)

Our mission is to create a challenging learning environment with high academic and social expectations through developmentally appropriate, flexible, and innovative instruction that allows each student to realize and confidently possess their full potential.

Approve minutes None

Parent Questions / Presentations: None

Finance Report: None

Executive Director Report: None

Education Report

Secretaries Report

Facilities Report

Governance Report

Executive Session, Pending Contractual Arrangements and Receipt of Legal Advice-Sponsorship

6:02 – French motioned to go into Executive session, Murray did 2nd motion, all approved

7:34 – Dortch moved to go into open session, Murray 2nd motion, all approved

Open Session:

Motion: "I move that we authorize our Board Chair to (1) send a letter to the Board Chair of Aiken County Public School District (the "District") expressing Horse Creek Academy's intent to transfer sponsors from the District to the Charter Institute at Erskine, and (2) complete and submit or authorize a designee to complete and submit a transfer request application to the Charter Institute at Erskine."

French did 1st motion, Murray did 2nd, all approved vote

Discussion

7:36 Dismissal – French 1st motion, Dortch 2nd motion, all approval

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Handwritten: KSM - email
gifts

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Handwritten: Cameron Whelan - CEO -
5956.67
6089.00

132.33
51,752.15
5622 74,369.46
505 61,624.15

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Approve minutes None

Parent Questions / Presentations: None

Finance Report: None

Executive Director Report: None

Education Report

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Executive Session, Pending Contractual Arrangements and Receipt of Legal Advice-Sponsorship

Open Session:

- 6:02 Jenny 1st
Murray 2nd

- Discussion - Infrastructure, Retention, then the next step.

- Mary Allison Candell - 6:42 call in
- 7:16 - join break
- 7:24 Rejoin meeting.
- Discussion
- 7:31 stop executive Robert 1st
Murray 2nd

7:33 - Motion - Jenny read statement and recommendations
Murray second

- discussion on motion
- clarify ~~the~~ motion as written
- all in favor.
- motion to adjourn - 1st
- 2nd motion - Dortch
- all in favor.

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Approve minutes None

Parent Questions / Presentations: None

Finance Report: None

Executive Director Report: None

Education Report

Secretaries Report

Facilities Report

Governance Report

Executive Session, Pending Contractual Arrangements and Receipt of Legal Advice-Sponsorship discussion-

Open Session:

6:02 - French/Murray - all

7:34 - Dortch/Fazekas - all

Motion - French/Murray - all

7:36 - French/Dortch - all

ATTORNEY-CLIENT CORRESPONDENCE
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Ann Marie,

I hope you are well and that the start of the school year has been smooth.

I want to start by saying that I echo Tyler's thoughts on a potential transfer to the Charter Institute at Erskine (the "Institute"). I think HCA will like working with the Institute's staff and will appreciate the Institute's philosophical views on sponsorship.

With regard to a special-called board meeting on Friday, September 20, 2019, the Board will need to post an agenda (on the door and online) 24-hours prior to the meeting. I would put the discussion of sponsorship and potential transfer in Executive Session under "Pending Contractual Arrangements and Receipt of Legal Advice-Sponsorship." During Executive Session, the Board will likely want to discuss the potential advantages of a transfer to the Institute. Either Tyler or I can be available by phone (or in person depending on the time) on Friday to discuss the transfer process and potential legal implications of a transfer if that would be helpful. Out of curiosity—is there a deadline from the Institute on a transfer application? I was just wondering if this was an item that could be on Tuesday's agenda or if there was a deadline to make the decision.

If the Board would like to move forward with a transfer request, a board member may make the following motion after returning to open session:

"I move that we authorize our Board Chair to (1) send a letter to the Board Chair of Aiken County Public School District (the "District") expressing Horse Creek Academy's intent to transfer sponsors from the District to the Charter Institute at Erskine, and (2) complete and submit or authorize a designee to complete and submit a transfer request application to the Charter Institute at Erskine."

As Tyler mentioned, we'll be glad to assist in drafting or reviewing a letter from HCA to the District regarding the school's intent to transfer. In general, our thought is to express gratitude and appreciation to the District for sponsorship and then highlight the potential advantages of transferring to an authorizer who solely sponsors charter schools. HCA will likely want to discuss the Institute's Shared Services Model, views on sponsorship, and charter empowerment.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. Our office number is 803-828-9708 and cell phones are 803-457-2105 (Tyler) and 803-240-6731 (Mary Allison).

Thank you,

Mary Allison



September 14, 2019

Dear Board of Directors for Aiken County School District,

First of all, I want to thank you for sponsoring our school's charter from the beginning of our Midland Valley Prep days, through our move into our new building almost six years ago, to the present day where we serve over 500 students. We are thankful for our partnership and relationship with Aiken County since 2002.

I am, however, writing this letter to ask for your blessing to transfer our charter to the Charter Institute at Erskine (the Institute), effective July 1, 2020. While we are thankful for the Aiken County School District partnership, we are expressing an interest in the charter sponsor change for a few reasons. Moving to the Institute would result in a funding increase for Horse Creek Academy. This increase would allow us to put more money in each classroom to improve instruction and technology. Additionally, we would like to have a charter sponsor that focuses exclusively on charter schools and understands best how to support us in our efforts. The Institute's mission aligns with ours, and we feel confident that the Institute will look for innovative ways to support Horse Creek Academy in delivering our school's mission to students.

Again, thank you for your dedication to Horse Creek Academy and for sponsoring our charter. We will keep an open line of communication throughout the ^{Possible}entire transfer process. If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything, please feel free to reach out to me at 803 646 3506.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ann Marie Taylor
Executive Director
Horse Creek Academy Public Charter School

Mr. Jake Edwards
Board President
Horse Creek Academy Public Charter School



September 14, 2019

Dear Board of Directors for The Charter Institute at Erskine and The Institute Leadership Team,

First of all, I would like to thank you for meeting with our team this past week. We appreciate your time and your dedication to the charter community in South Carolina.

I am writing this letter to ask to transfer our charter to the Charter Institute at Erskine (the Institute), effective July 1, 2020. While we are thankful for the Aiken County School District partnership, we are expressing an interest in the charter sponsor change for a few reasons. Moving to the Institute would result in a funding increase for Horse Creek Academy. This increase would allow us to put more money in each classroom to improve instruction and technology. Additionally, we would like to have a charter sponsor that focuses exclusively on charter schools and understands best how to support us in our efforts. The Institute's mission aligns with ours, and we feel confident that the Institute will look for innovative ways to support Horse Creek Academy in delivering our school's mission to students.

Again, thank you for your dedication to charter schools in South Carolina and for considering sponsoring our charter. We will keep an open line of communication throughout the entire transfer process. If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything, please feel free to reach out to me at 803 646 3506.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ann Marie Taylor
Executive Director
Horse Creek Academy Public Charter School

Mr. Jake Edwards
Board President
Horse Creek Academy Public Charter School