



1200 Toolebeck Rd  
Aiken SC 29840

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### HCA Board Meeting –04.26.23- HCA Commons-6pm

Kevin Murray, Chair- **Present**

Audrey Decker, Member-**Absent**

Caryn Butler, Member-**Present**

Michelle Bulmer, Vice Chair-**Absent**

Ashley Pitts, Secretary-**Present**

Phyllis Smith, Member-**Present**

Jared Chambliss, Treasurer-**Present**

Dana Cook, Member-**Present**

#### **Meeting called to order**- Called to order by Kevin at 0604pm.

- Dr. Ann Marie Taylor (Invocation)
- Pledge of Allegiance (K. Murray)
- Ashley Pitts (Mission Statement): "Our mission is to create an innovative and challenging learning environment that teaches the whole learner through the pillars of connection, flexibility, and service".
- **Ashley made a motion to amend the agenda to remove the Vice Chair's Report, Phyllis seconded and motion carried.**

#### **HCA Celebrations:**

- **Special Olympics- Dr. Taylor presented to the board in regards to the Special Olympics. Each special needs student had a student buddy. In attendance was about 100 students.**
- **Conference Highlights-Dr. Taylor present in regards to Reinvent Conference with Ron Clark, had about 260 educators in attendance.**

#### **Chair's Report:**

- **Special Election for vacant board seat-Kevin spoke to the vacant seat- Special Election would be in June- Caryn Butler agreed to run the election. Caryn to brief board at next month meeting on- application status and date. Caryn to meet with Admin team in regards to special election. Dr. Taylor suggested waiting til the beginning of the school year, discussion had surrounding getting a better response from parents at that time, questions regarding when to hold the special election and how to get more parent involvement. Decision made to have further discussion at next month's board meeting once Caryn meets with Admin team.**

#### **Vice Chair's Report:**

- ~~Update Bylaws Voting Item~~
- ~~Response to concerns from parents in February Board Meeting~~

#### **Committee Reports:**

- **Non Profit Committee- Phyllis did not have anything to report.**
- **Charter Rewrite Committee- New Charter is in Limestone's hands and we are awaiting to schedule the board meeting with them in June.**



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- Athletic Committee- Kevin reported that the fields will be tentatively done in September.

#### **Secretary's Report:**

- Approval of last month's meeting minutes- Ashley made a motion to approve last month's meeting minutes, Phyllis seconded, opened for discussion, motion passed.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Monthly Fiscal Updates from Veris- Jared presented financial report. Per Jared finances looked good. For the month of April we are in a slight deficit for the month, however we are still in a surplus for the end of year. Ashley asked about recouping money from the ReInvent conference and Dr. Taylor stated that she hasn't finished the financial report however she feels good that we did recoup a good bit.

#### **Executive Director's Report:**

- Last Audit Update/Summary and RFP Information- Current auditor is no longer available so we had to do an RFP for a new charter auditor. Final 2 pages of audit was provided to board in the One Drive. Per the audit we had a few issues:
  - Issue with accrual for payroll- This is an issue that HCA did not have control over and is meeting with Veris to fix
  - Accrual for Construction and Retaining- Another issue that HCA did not have control over and is meeting with Veris to fix
  - Custodial Credit Risk- The fiscal team has had several conversations face to face with Regions Bank to ensure our accounts collateralized. Our accounts are collateralized and we are protected 100% of our deposits.
    - Dana and Dr. Taylor spoke in length about banks and protecting \$250,000 since that's all the FDIC covers.
- Fiscal Policies – first reading (see the email sent)-Email sent and will be discussed at next meeting.
- The Collective Update- The Village Collective- Dr. Taylor has spoken with Russ this week, her lawyer for the 501C. Looking for 2 locations to get the charter in- Elgin and Blythewood.
- Collective Leadership Update (Systems, Leadership, Instruction)- Dr. Taylor spoke to the Collective Updates and what next year would look like. The new Collective Leadership has changed and moved in a different direction. Thus the process will look differently- Systems, Instruction and Vision/Leadership. Moving forward training for parents will be offered. The reason this works is that it is hard to find teachers in the state.
- Policy vs Handbook Update-Dr. Taylor spoke to the differences between policy vs Handbooks. Hand out provided. Dr. Taylor spoke to being able to find the policies. As a board we started creating policies and ensuring that it can be found.
  - Examples: Dress Code/Uniform, Discipline Policy, Fiscal Policies, Lottery and Enrollment, Early Graduation Policy, Attendance, Grading, Technology, Athletics, Pay Scales
  - In the month of May samples of the policies will be presented with changes and asked if the board approves.



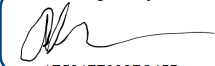
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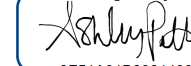
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#### Questions/Comments from Board Members:

- Caryn Butler
  - School Security- Caryn presented in regards to school security. Caryn stated that she had a lot of parents come to her about HCA's security policies. Debbie Grant presented on behalf of Caryn, she is a retire FBI agent and has students in Middle School. Debbie discussed the need for an active shooter policy. She is also sub in the school. She was unclear as a sub in HCA she was unaware of the active shooter policy, safety policies. Debbie stated that she is aware that the school has hired a security lead and has spoken to her, however as a parent she does not know what her exact responsibilities are. After the Nashville tragedy, she requested that an SRO was needed for HCA, however in her research there are not enough officers to fill an SRO agent. She inquired about other CWP holders- in her research she discovered that is not really the way to go due to liability, training, reactions during a stressful situation. Statistically 70-80% of all rounds fired from trained professionals are missed. The bigger question is how is staff going to react in a stressful situation? A lot scenarios that need to be discussed to allow staff members holding a CWP to be able to carry on campus. An alternative method is training and practice. Per Debbie "as a sub coming in I don't know what the policy is". Staff and parents unaware of safety policies. If there is a active shooter policy in place all staff/every adult needs to be trained and and aware of safety policies. Debbie presented that HoldFast Security Group because it specifically for places that do not have a known security system in place. Debbie stated that this particular security group is made of retired FBI agents trained in firearms and tactics. Aiken County just hired a new director of security, HCA does not fall under their jurisdiction, however they pair with the community to facilitate the conversations. DOJ through the COPS program they offer grants that help fund for 3 years for security. Debbie asked what Nancy, our Security Team Lead, what her exact responsibilities. Dr. Taylor responded by speaking to the things that we have done- we have applied the past 3 years for the grant for the SRO's however due to staffing needs have not been able to have one, \$300,000 camera systems, this past summer Chris Martinez and Johnny Spears attended a active shooter plan, over this past summer we had Sheriffs Office come and offer suggestions, Crisis plan needs to be submitted to Limestone, Dr. Taylor spoke that if we give up our Security Lead responsibilities and plan in place we don't need to give up our defensive positions. Debbie clarified that we could maybe just give an overview or just statement that we have these in place. Dr. Taylor suggested getting a committee together with our security team to discuss plans in order to share them with parents without being too vulnerable. Caryn spoke to as a parent this situation is the worst nightmare. Caryn said that it is just like having fire insurance. Caryn agreed that not everyone should know our tactics. Dr. Taylor gave a real example about that there was a guy walking down Toolebeck swinging a pocket knife, we went on a semi soft lock down- admin lined the entrance to the parking lot and other parents helped out, as well as having Nancy follow her with her truck. Dana stated that she is personally not comfortable with have a gun on campus, can we have a guard "shack" present? Dr. Taylor stated that our security system has an alert that someone is on campus unidentified. Large discussion had determining committee. Kevin stated that Caryn be present for the meetings with security team. Kevin made motion to create a Security Committee with Caryn Butler as the head of the committee, Dana volunteered to be on the committee, to



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include the Security Team of HCA, Phyllis seconded, motion carried.

**Executive Session:**

Kevin made a motion to end public session at 0714pm, Jared seconded, motion carried. Public session ended at 0714pm.